

THE PEACE RELEASE

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

3828 Cleveland Ave. SW Canton, Ohio 44707

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February 2024



Beloved Members and Friends of Peace Lutheran Church,
The Holy Season of Lent is fast approaching. It begins on
February 14th.

I have been with you, as your Intentional Interim Pastor for nine months now. You now know, my passion (pun intended), expertise and experience for worship, liturgy, and liturgical practices. I have always worked extremely hard throughout my pastoral ministry, to focus on the worship and spiritual life of a congregation. Even to this day, during Lent, Holy Week, and the Triduum, I often hear from people remembering their worship experiences during this time, while I was their pastor.


I do have specific feedback from members of previous congregations that I have served. They shared *what they got out*

of the worship experiences that were offered. Again, this is the basic and foundational piece of the definition of “liturgy” = the work of the people. What you put into worship, is what you will get out of it, even if it is “different.”

However, you are not aware that LENT, Holy Week and the Triduum **are my ultimate favorite time in the liturgical year.** Why? I thought you would never ask

Lent is a Holy Season. It is THE time to be actively engaged in, to reflect upon the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Our Lord! Holy Week is the very “crux” of our faith as Christians.

Webster dictionary’s second and third definition of “crux” as “an essential point requiring resolution or resolving an outcome” and “a main or central feature” Synonyms: bottom line, centerpiece, core, essence, gist, heart, to name a few.

All that being said, it would be appropriate and reasonable to expect that our Lenten Journey this year will be different, but solidly based upon historical, theological, liturgical practices that are shared with mainline liturgical faith traditions. In fact, the Triduum in the past 25+ years has  been re-discovered not only by Lutherans.

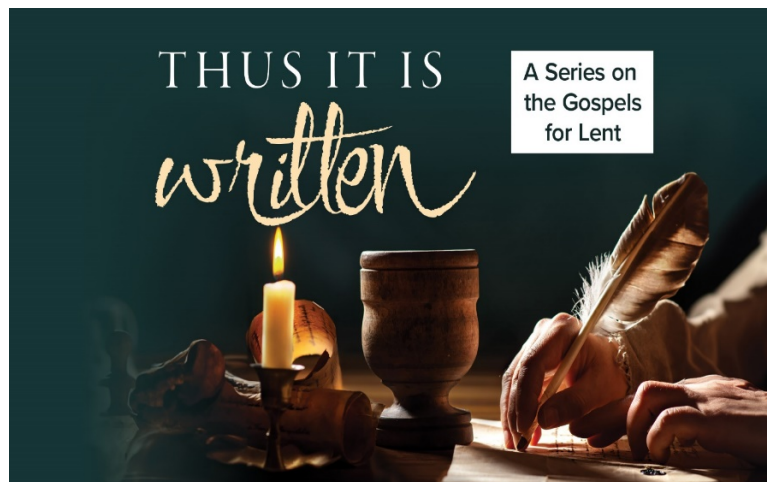
I always spend time sharing the purpose and meaning of why we do the things we do in worship.

I will be providing “**Our Parish Handbook For the Discipline of Lent.**” This will be available on Sunday, January 28th. If you

wish to have a copy, you can pick them up after worship, or they can be mailed to you. (What is the Triduum, and much more will be shared and explained in the Handbook). If you have any questions, please feel free to directly ask me.

It is my sincere hope that you give serious consideration this year to avail yourselves during this Holy Season of Lent. Especially if you have never experienced it. My other hope is that you have open hearts and minds to experience these liturgies. What follows on the next two pages, is our Mid-Week Lenten Worship/Sermon series on Wednesday's @ 7pm.

In Christ, Pastor Phil+



Worship at 7pm

*Preceded by Soup and Bread at 6pm**

**except Ash Wednesday*

Ash Wednesday 2.14.24---THY WILL BE DONE

In this service for Week 1 of Lent, we listen to Mark tell about what he wrote in his Gospel about Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

2.21.24---TRULY THE SON OF GOD

In this service for Week 2 of Lent, we listen to Mark tell about what he wrote in his Gospel about the crucifixion of Jesus.

2.28.24- --I HAVE PRAYED FOR YOU

In this service for Week 3 of Lent, we listen to Luke tell about what he wrote in his Gospel about Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

3.6.24--- FATHER, FORGIVE THEM

In this service for Week 4 of Lent, we listen to Luke tell about what he wrote in his Gospel about the crucifixion of Jesus.

3.13.24--- I AM HE

In this service for Week 5 of Lent, we listen to John tell about what he wrote in his Gospel about Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

3.20.24---BEHOLD YOUR KING

In this service for Week 6 of Lent, we listen to John tell about what he wrote in his Gospel about the crucifixion of Jesus.

HELLO EVERYONE!

Council is scheduled to meet February 3 for a workshop to build our Mission and Vision. Expect updates to the bulletin board with our findings. We will then create the strategy to fulfill the Mission and Vision. The date of that activity has not been scheduled yet. Please begin to discern in your hearts in prayer if you are interested in being part of the call committee. This will be a group of people who are not on council, have passion for our church future, are open-minded, and will be dedicated and able to work collaboratively with others. This is the time to lean into your prayer to hear if this is a place where your specific gifts are needed for our church.

Thank you and as always please let me know if you have any thoughts, feedback, or questions!

Angela

SHROVE TUESDAY

Tuesday, February 13, Peace will host a pancake, sausage dinner at 6 p.m. in fellowship Hall.

LENTEN PROJECT FOR PEACE LUTHERAN

The Lenten service project from our Service Committee begins February 18 and continues through March 24 to benefit The Diaper Bank. Collect quarters in an empty pill bottle and drop it in the container near the project poster (empty pill bottles are available near the poster). Personal care items are also appreciated. Let's do our part to support a worthy cause.

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGES

Church council will meet one week earlier due to Ash Wednesday. Wednesday, **February 7 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.**

Other meeting date changes for February are:

Worship Committee meeting Monday, February 29 at 6 p.m., café

Service Committee meeting, 4 p.m. café

Council Transitional meeting, Saturday, February 3 at 9 a.m. FH

Executive Committee meeting, Monday, February 5 at 4:30 p.m.

FIRST COMMUNION PLANS

If you are interested in having your child or grandchild receive First Communion, please contact Pastor Phil (330/316-3919) by Sunday, February 4, 2024. Thank you.

POLICY FOR CANCELLATION OF A MEETING

If you need to cancel a meeting, please let the office or Pastor know in a timely fashion. Thank you.



OUTREACH UPDATE

A redesign of communion cards to reflect an invitational attitude toward guests and double sided for use by members, as well, was initiated. There's space to request a Pastoral call, make a prayer request, change/update contact information and indicate if communion was taken. The committee requests you fill a card out weekly (weekly communion began January 7, 2024).

Outreach has established a Greeter Ministry that serves as an adjunct to our Usher ministry. A member is stationed in the Narthex each week, to greet members and guests. If you'd be interested in being a Greeter, please let a member of Outreach know and we'll happily get you on the schedule! We felt it



important to reach our guests as they arrive, taking the opportunity to introduce ourselves and see if they'd like any assistance during their first visit.

Another endeavor of Outreach is to hold our second community collection for Fishes and Loaves to replenish their most needed items: socks, hats/gloves, blankets (new or gently used, clean), coats, sleeping bags and items that are very useful are backpacks/suitcases. It will be Share the Love and will be a drive through/drop off event again, on Friday, February 9 and Sunday February 11, in case any members of Peace would like to donate.

We already have plans for 2024, looking as far ahead as Christmas! It's important to always look forward, evaluate what we do and listen for the sound of God's voice, in order to discern His direction for us. We thank members who have worked alongside us thus far: Lois, Linda and Rich, and we welcome you to join us.

Outreach Committee: Donna, Gail, Mary Kay, Don & Sally, Ann, Pastor Phil

SECRETARY OUT OF OFFICE

Claudia will be out of the office February 15 - 19. You can leave your information for the March Peace Release in her mailbox or email your article to office@peacecanton.org. All information for the March issue is due February 20. Thank you.

THE PEACE RELEASE IS NOW MONTHLY!

All news items, thank you notes, and special announcements must be received by the office no later than the 20th of the preceding month to be included in the new monthly Peace Release. The March issue will be distributed February 25. Be sure to get your **March information** to the office no later than **February 20 (Tuesday)**.



OUR PRAYER CHAIN

Peace Lutheran Church has a faithful group of people who serve on our prayer chain and lift our prayer concerns to God. If you would like to be part of this group, contact the office, or let Pastor know.

ALTAR FLOWERS

During the Season of Lent, we will not display altar flowers. If you provided altar flowers during that time in former years, you may want to consider the dates we have available this year:

March 31, Easter Sunday

April 28

June 30

September 29

December 29

Let the church office know if you would like to provide the altar flowers for one of those date. Thank you.

