

# THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 2 & 3, 2024



Peace  
Lutheran Church  
NEENAH, WISCONSIN—LCMS

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

### STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS 2: OVERALL THEME: FELLOW WORKERS ON GOD'S TEAM

#### "YOUR ROLE ON GOD'S TEAM"

#### AS WE GATHER

This is the second week in our stewardship emphasis, **Fellow Workers on God's Team**. Our theme for this week is "Your Role on God's Team. "When God calls us to follow Him and become disciples, we become an important part of His team. As part of God's team, we participate with Him in His work to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). We are His hands, feet, and mouth through which He works. A good team member is loyal, trustworthy, hard-working, and does what the team leader directs. Through faith, we submit our will to Jesus Who is the leader of our team. What a joy it is be part of His team and to be a team member of the most important team ever! Thanks be to God that He calls us to be part of His amazing team!

#### PRELUDE

#### RINGING OF THE BELLS

#### GREETING

P: Peace be with you,

C: **And also with you.**

#### OPENING HYMN "O God of Light"

LSB 836



1 O God of light, Your Word, a lamp un - fail - ing,  
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,  
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing  
4 To all the world Your sum - mons You are send - ing,



Shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way  
Though we re - belled, You gent - ly sought a - gain  
To sin - ful hearts Your jus - tice and Your grace;  
Through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,



And show Your grace, Your plan for us un - veil - ing,  
And spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,  
And quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for Your heal - ing,  
That myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,



And guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.  
Who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.  
See Your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.  
May praise and cel - e - brate Your gift of grace.

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*stand*

## INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## CONFESSION

P: In the presence of Almighty God, Whose Word shines the light of grace into our sin-darkened lives, let us confess our sins.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Let us pray... O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

*sit*

## **CHOIR** "Upon This Rock" (*Sunday*)

### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

*Numbers 13:1-2, 30-32; 14:6-10*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a chief among them."

<sup>30</sup>But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it." <sup>31</sup>Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are." <sup>32</sup>So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height.

<sup>6</sup>And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes <sup>7</sup>and said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, "The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land. <sup>8</sup>If the LORD delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. <sup>9</sup>Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them." <sup>10</sup>Then all the congregation said to stone them with stones. But the glory of the LORD appeared at the tent of meeting to all the people of Israel.

**E/P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God

## **EPISTLE LESSON I Corinthians 12:12-31**

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

<sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup>which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup>And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup>Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup>Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup>But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

And I will show you a still more excellent way.

E/P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

*stand*

## GOSPEL LESSON Luke 9:1-6

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, <sup>2</sup>and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. <sup>3</sup>And he said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. <sup>4</sup>And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. <sup>5</sup>And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." <sup>6</sup>And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*sit*

## HYMN "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives"

LSB 602



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me  
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;  
3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;  
4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!  
New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.  
The pas - tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.  
God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim  
Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;  
For - give - ness that we need Is grant - ed to us there;  
Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.  
The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.  
The Lord of mer - cy sends Us forth in His blest care.  
Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.

- 5 The gifts are in the feast, Gifts far more than we see;  
Beneath the bread and wine Is food from Calvary.  
The body and the blood Remove our ev'ry sin;  
We leave His presence in His peace, renewed again.
- 6 All glory to the One Who lavishes such love;  
The triune God in love Assures our life above.  
His means of grace for us Are gifts He loves to give;  
All thanks and praise for His Great love by which we live!

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## **SERMON “Your Role On God’s Team”**

*Luke 9:1-6*

*stand*

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed**

**ALL:** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, light of light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.  
**Amen.**

*sit*

## **A WORD FROM THE STEWARDSHIP BOARD**

# GATHERING OF THE OFFERING

*stand*

## OFFERTORY "Praise and Thanksgiving"

LSB 789



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things  
2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve You That with our  
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise



liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the  
neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work  
guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -



or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Bloss - om and wood.  
with You, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.  
joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-84. Tune: Gaelic, 19th cent.. Text: © 1987 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005744. Tune: Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: On our hearts imprint Your image,

**C: blessed Jesus, King of grace.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, lead Your church on earth to be a house of prayer for all the nations. Disrupt our petty preferences and cultural bias so that we might welcome people from every nation, language, and background.

On our hearts imprint Your image,

**C: blessed Jesus, King of grace.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, as You delivered the people out of slavery in Egypt and taught them how to live as Your people, so teach us to live according to Your righteous instructions so that we may live peacefully with You and our neighbors. On our hearts imprint Your image,

**C: blessed Jesus, King of grace.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You are well acquainted with grief and death. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief. Point them to the hope that in Your Father's house are many rooms and that You have gone to prepare a place for us. On our hearts imprint Your image,

**C: blessed Jesus, King of grace.**



P: Lord Jesus Christ, intercede for all those struggling with relationship issues, whether in friendships, family dynamics, marital struggles, or relationships within the church. We pray that You would bring repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation in the midst of such struggle. On our hearts imprint Your image,

**C: blessed Jesus, King of grace.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, send Your strength to all missionaries. Embolden them to preach the power of Your cross. Encourage them in their service by the same message they proclaim that You have died and are risen for us and our salvation. On our hearts imprint Your image,

**C: blessed Jesus, King of grace.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your good and gracious will. On our hearts imprint Your image,

**C: blessed Jesus, King of grace.**

### *Special Prayers*

P: Lord Jesus, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede for us, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, so that we be renewed as Your sons and daughters. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL:** Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name;  
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in  
heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our  
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil;  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD** *(spoken by the pastor)*

**P:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread,  
and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples  
and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in  
remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had  
given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup  
is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the  
forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance  
of Me."

## **THE PAX DOMINI**

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** Amen.

*sit*

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

"Blessed Assurance" SGBK 10

"Here I am Lord" SGBK 26

"I Love to Tell the Story" SGBK 39 st. 1-9 & 14

*stand*

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P:** Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the Day of His coming, we may, together, with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

**P:** May God go before you to lead you, behind you to protect you, beneath you to uphold you. May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; go with you to bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*sit*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN OF DEPARTURE "On What Has Now Been Sown"

LSB 921



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;  
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou  
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -  
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!  
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.  
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731-89. Text and tune: Public domain

## THE SENDING

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE(S)

**Welcome to Peace** in the name of the Risen Savior!

**We request that visitors register** by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. We ask that you share your name and address so that we can recognize your visit with us. All members are requested to register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. Members, please indicate all family members present and those who took communion, so that the Pastor and Elders can be spiritually accountable for you and your family.

**Are your cell phones turned off?** Cell phones are indeed a great convenience in life these days. However, please, out of courtesy, silence cell phones during the worship service. Thank you!

**Hearing assist devices and large print bulletins** are available for those who may need them. Please see an Usher or the Elder who will be happy to assist you.

**A Mother's Room is available** for parents of young children if the need arises. The Mother's Room in the west hallway. The worship service is able to be heard in the Mother's Room.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion. Scripture teaches that Holy Communion is a sacred act, established by Christ Himself and is given to His Church. As members of **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**, we hold the doctrine of the Real Presence, in with and under; meaning that Jesus gives His Body and Blood with the bread and wine, as He Himself says, *"This is my body... This is my blood... for the forgiveness of sins."* (Matthew 26:26ff)

The Holy Scriptures also teach us to receive this meal in a way that is responsible and healthy. As overseer, St. Paul wrote- *"let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself"* (1 Cor. 11:28-29). Out of genuine care for God's people we ask that those (1) who have not been baptized and instructed in the faith or (2) who come from another church body, not in altar or pulpit fellowship with us, refrain from receiving Holy Communion.

For those preparing to receive Holy Communion, Luther encourages us to ask ourselves these questions:

Do **I repent** of my sins, desiring to turn away from them, back to the Lord?

Do **I believe** Jesus died and rose for me and gives me His Body and Blood this day "for the forgiveness of sins"?

Do **I intend** to use this means of grace to change my life, following His will and way?

We ask that all who receive the Lord's Supper fill out a "Care Card" and place it in the offering plate. Please note that reduced-alcoholic white wine is available in the center cups of the communion tray.

**Peace Lutheran Church  
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**

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**WORSHIP SERVICES:**

Holy Communion Celebrated at all Services  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00a.m.  
Sunday Bible Study 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School (Sept. –May) 10:30 a.m.

Website: [www.peaceneenah.com](http://www.peaceneenah.com)

YouTube: Peace Neenah

