WELCOME How

THE LOST ARE NOW FOUND



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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W elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

- **Guest Book:** Before you leave today, please sign our guest book. It is located in the Narthex.
- Style: For those not familiar with the historic liturgical worship style, the interactive nature of the service may seem quite different. We agree with the ancient church that this style allows us to receive the blessings of God's word and offer thanks in response.
- Amplifiers: Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.
- **Broadcast:** Today's Service is being broadcast at www.peacewithgod.com. Click on the blue box labeled "Live Online Services." It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

🗷 🗷 Before participating in Communion 🕱 🕸

We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES

Read through Scripture and count the times it refers to believers as "brothers and sisters." You will reach the triple digits quickly. The Holy Spirit is deliberate with his choice of words. If he frequently refers to the Church in those terms, there can be only one explanation. He wants us to think of each other as family. Scripture teaches that what unites us to our spiritual family is infinitely more powerful than any biological bond. Moreover, you can lose a blood relative. They can be taken away from you by death. But you will enjoy the companionship of your spiritual family for all eternity.

In this worship series, we will look at how our Father knits us together in love and unity into a spiritual family. We will see the benefits of being part of this family. In the Church, Christ has given us a better home.

WELCOME HOME!

Our Need for Christian Community

The Lost Are Now Found

You Are Free to Be Yourself
You Are Perfectly Safe Here
You Have an Everlasting Family
You are Part of Christ's Glorious Kingdom

OUR THEME FOR TODAY

Is the church more of a country club or a hospital? Is a Christian community full of people who have it all together, whose lives are perfectly in line with God's will? Or is the family of God an assembly of individuals who are all flawed and broken in multiple ways? Scripture answers that question. God's Word tells us everyone within the church was at one point deeply lost. What changed that? How were we "found"? Amazing grace! God, in his grace, sought us out, called us to faith, adopted us into his family, and welcomed us home into his Church. Think of what this means. If the church is a collection of people who were lost in their sin, it is unrealistic to think that in the church everyone will be a perfect model of righteous behavior. No one is like that except Christ! Our salvation is an accomplished fact. But our Christian life is going to be one that often takes two steps forward and then at least one step back.

This is another reason we need Christian community! As a loving Christian family, we love one another, forgive one another, proclaim God's forgiveness to one another. And when a brother or sister drifts backs towards lostness, we give chase, striving to bring them back home.



SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

This service offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word and the celebration of Holy Communion.

▼ Gathering **▼**

Stand as directed

OPENING HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is | 375

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the \$\P\$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

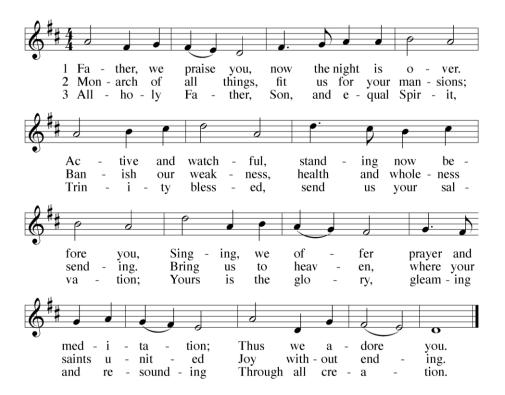
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- M: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

 But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins

 And cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

 1 John 1:8-9
- C: For the wrong we have done, and all the good we have failed to do; for angry deeds, for hurtful words, for uncharitable thoughts; for self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness; for longing to have what is not ours, and for failing to give thanks for what is ours; for those sins we do not even remember committing:
 Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.
- M: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
- C: Amen.
- **M:** In that peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

We worship our God this morning with the ancient song of praise, Christe Sanctorum. This hymn was written by Gregory the Great in the 6th century A.D. It was used by Christians to begin worship during the Sundays after Pentecost. Utilizing this song celebrates the wonderful legacy that historic Christianity has left for the Church today.

★ The Word ▼

FIRST LESSON Hosea 3:1-5

The LORD asked the prophet Hosea to turn his entire life into an object lesson. Hosea was to marry a prostitute, to love her and bring her into his home, in spite of her adulteries. This illustrates our God's love. We all often love other things more than our God. Yet he forgives us and welcomes us lost and broken people back into his home.

'The LORD said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes."

² So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. ³ Then I told her, "You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you."

⁴For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. ⁵Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 51a





Have mercy on <u>me</u>, O God,* according to your un<u>failing</u> love.

Wash away all my in<u>iq</u>uity,* and cleanse me <u>from</u> my sin.

For I know my transgressions,* and my sin is always before me.

Refrain

Against you, you only, <u>have</u> I sinned* and done what is evil <u>in</u> your sight.

Surely I was sin<u>ful</u> at birth,* sinful from the time my mother con<u>ceived</u> me.

Hide your face <u>from</u> my sins,* and blot out all my in<u>iquity</u>.

Restore to me the joy of your sal<u>vation</u>,* and grant me a willing spirit, to sus<u>tain</u> me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son* and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Children come forward

SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 2:5-11

A member of the Corinthian congregation had scandalized the congregation by living in public sin. He had repented. St. Paul urges the Corinthians to welcome him home with open arms, to forgive and comfort him. Why? Because Christ has forgiven us our countless sins and welcomed us into his eternal home.

⁵ If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. ⁶ The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. ⁷ Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸ I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹ Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰ Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹ in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE OF THE DAY Hebrews 2:11

M: Alleluia! Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. Alleluia!



GOSPEL Luke 15:1-10

There is rejoicing in heaven when the lost are found.

- ¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- ³Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?
- ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need

to repent.

⁸"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' ¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

- **M:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.
- C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven | 388



Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.

Tune: KUORTANE (76 76 D) Finnish folk tune, c. 19th century.

Be Seated

Stand

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

OFFERING - remain seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Prayers and petitions are made on behalf of the Church

- M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.
- C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.
- M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people.

Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: ... Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

M: We pray in Jesus' name and as he taught.

C: Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

▼ Holy Communion **▼**

OPENING SENTENCES

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends his Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strength us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY Sanctus



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \$\frac{1}{2}\$ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

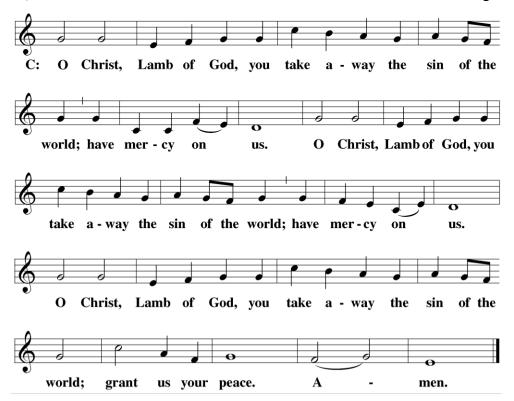
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \$\P\$ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face | 315

CLOSING PRAYER

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Stand

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give ₱ you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Amazing Grace | 379



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1-3, abr.; John P. Rees, 19th century, st. 4. Tune: NEW BRITAIN (CM) *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829, alt.

Silent prayer

Announcements after the close of Service



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