



**St. Peder's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
March 8, 2026**

Welcome to St. Peder's! All people are welcome to fully participate in worship, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, physical and mental abilities, and socio-economic status. If you are a visitor, please fill out a visitor card available in the pews or fill out the guestbook in the entryway. We would love to know who you are and what brings you in today! We offer large print and braille copies of our bulletin for those with vision impairment. For your convenience, we also offer opportunities to worship online!

Introduction to the Third Sunday in Lent

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

GATHERING

Prelude	<i>Lenten Partita on "Heinlein"</i>	by Craig A. Penfield
Call to Worship		
Welcome, Peace, and Announcements		
Opening Prayer		Back cover of hymnal
Gathering Hymn	<i>Come to Me All Pilgrims Thirsty</i>	ELW 777
Gathering of Children		
Confession and Forgiveness		

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

Kyrie (Hymn of Prayer)	ELW pg. 184
Prayer of the Day	

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, **you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

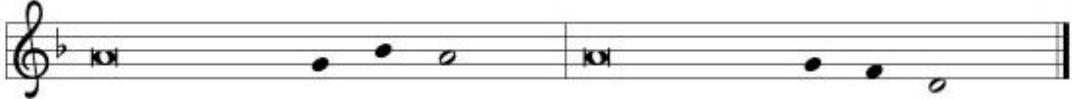
First Lesson	<i>Exodus 17:1-17</i>
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¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front

of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

The Word of the Lord. C. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95



¹ Come, let us sing | to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

² **Let us come before God’s presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.**

³ For you, Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

⁴ **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

⁵ The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker.**

⁷ For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep | of
God’s hand.

Oh, that today you would | hear God’s voice!

⁸ **“Harden | not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**

⁹ There your ancestors | tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.

¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.’**

¹¹ Indeed I swore | in my anger,
‘They shall never come | to my rest.’”

Second Lesson

Romans 5:1-11

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance

produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

ELW pg. 189

Holy Gospel

John 4:5-42

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place

where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word.⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The Word of the Lord. **C. Thanks to be God.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Apostles’ Creed

Prayers of the People:

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Response: Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

ELW 611

Back cover of hymnal

Offering: *In this moment, we reflect upon the many gifts in our lives – our time, our talent, and our treasures. In sharing these gifts, you bless others in the name of God’s glory. If you would like to donate digitally, please use your smartphone to take a picture of this QR code or click on it if you are reading this online.*



Gift of Music

Wendy Legge, Violin

Offering Prayer

God who equips us for the journey, **we offer back to you what you have given us. Use it to serve fellow travelers as we journey to the cross and the empty tomb and help us always to trust in your care. Amen.**

Benediction

Sending Hymn

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 618

Sending

Knowing God is behind us, **we are rooted in our heritage.**
Knowing God goes before us, **we embrace the future.**
Knowing Christ forgives us, **we joyfully live the gospel**
We engage the world around us **with open hearts, open hands, and open doors. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Postlude

Let Your Light So Shine

Tom Birchwood

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**Serving in Worship this Morning**

**Greeters:** Darrick Jensen

**Ushers:** Lisa Jensen & John Skraba

**Acolyte: Reader:** Gordon Legge

**Counters:** Lisa Jensen

**Livestream Tech:** Darrick Jensen

**LSS Safehouse March 9:** Bill & Judy Anderson

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group:** 4

## Announcements

### **Weekly Bible Service**

Throughout Lent, we will not have our weekly Tuesday Prayer Service. We will continue to hold Bible Study at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays. We encourage all to attend the weekly Lenten worship services on Wednesdays.

### **Monthly Potluck**

Our monthly potluck is on Tuesday, March 10 at 12 p.m. All are welcome!

### **Lenten Schedule**

Lent began with Ash Wednesday on February 18<sup>th</sup>, when we entered into a traditional time of fasting and repentance, and ends with Holy Week's journey to the cross. Soup supper will be served at 5:30 p.m., followed by Healing of the Nations worship service at 6:45 p.m.

### **Easter Flowers**

Order Easter Lilies or Hydrangeas to dedicate to a loved one. The deadline to order is Friday, March 13. Add your name and dedication to the sign-up sheet outside the church office or email Office Coordinator, Frances at [office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org).

### **Codfish Dinner**

Thank you all who volunteered and attended the Annual Codfish Dinner on Friday!

*\*This week's coffee hour proceeds are being donated to Pastor's Discretionary Fund.\**

### **This Week at St. Peder's:**

**Sunday, March 8:** 9 am Worship, 10am Coffee & Fellowship, 3 pm Crash Chorus

**Monday, March 9:** 6 pm White Men for Racial Justice

**Tuesday, March 10:** 12 pm Potluck, 6 pm Bible Study

**Wednesday, March 11:** 5:30 pm Lenten Soup Supper, 6:45 pm Lenten Worship Service

**Thursday, March 12:** 7 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, March 14:** 10:30 am Brownies Group

**Sunday, March 15:** 9 am Worship, 10am Coffee & Fellowship, 3 pm Crash Chorus



**St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)  
4600 East 42<sup>nd</sup> St. Minneapolis, MN 55406**

**Phone: (612) 722-8000 [www.stpeders.org](http://www.stpeders.org)**

*Rooted in our heritage and embracing the future, we joyfully live the  
gospel with open hearts, open hands and open doors.*

**Church Staff:**

|                                 |                   |                                                                        |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pastor:</b>                  | Rev. Bryan Odeen  | <a href="mailto:pastorbryan@stpeders.org">pastorbryan@stpeders.org</a> |
| <b>Organist/Music Ministry:</b> | Mia Kruse         | <a href="mailto:mia@stpeders.org">mia@stpeders.org</a>                 |
| <b>Office Coordinator:</b>      | Frances Stevenson | <a href="mailto:office@stpeders.org">office@stpeders.org</a>           |
| <b>Caretaker:</b>               | Jim Austin        |                                                                        |