



Scattered Sheep

PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan
Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Welcome to Worship

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we — the pastor and members of Peace! Jesus Christ is the only Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death and triumphant resurrection, Jesus saves all sinners. We learn these truths from the Bible — God's complete plan for our salvation and his guidebook for our lives. Peace greets you with a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you again soon.

MIDWEEK SERIES: IT IS FINISHED

During this midweek Lenten series, we turn to the Old Testament book of Zechariah to hear God's promises spoken centuries before Holy Week. Through vivid and specific prophecies, Zechariah points us to the final days of Jesus' life—His humble entry into Jerusalem, His betrayal, the scattering of His disciples, and His piercing on the cross. These are not vague predictions, but precise promises that unfold as Jesus walks the road to the cross. With each step toward His suffering, another word of God is fulfilled, moving us closer to the moment when Jesus will finally declare, "*It is finished.*" As we listen to these ancient words during Lent, we see that Christ's suffering was no accident or detour, but part of God's saving plan from the beginning. Zechariah helps us slow down and see Holy Week not as a tragedy spiraling out of control, but as the faithful completion of God's Word. In this series, we are invited to repent, to trust, and to marvel that when Jesus says, "*It is finished,*" our salvation truly is complete.

February 25: What's He Worth to You?

March 4: Scattered Sheep

March 11: The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth

March 18: The Kingly Priest

March 25: Look at the One Who Was Pierced



Order of Service

TONIGHT'S FOCUS: SCATTERED SHEEP

Opening Hymn

570 God Loved the World So That He Gave



- 1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; his Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives the



- Son the lost to save that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
sins that you have done. You're jus - ti - fied by



- him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
him a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares that we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood; bap - tized, you are a child of God.

- 5 If you are sick, if death is near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death;
this is the anchor of my faith!
- 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessèd Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

Confession of Sins

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for personal reflection

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in newness of life.

Amen.

Passion Reading From the Gospel of Matthew - Matthew 26:36-56

³⁶ Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

⁴⁰ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. ⁴¹ “Watch and pray

so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

⁴² He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”

⁴³ When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

⁴⁵ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.” ⁴⁹ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him.

⁵⁰ Jesus replied, “Do what you came for, friend.”

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. ⁵¹ With that, one of Jesus’ companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

⁵² “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?”

⁵⁵ In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶ But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Reading Response

All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

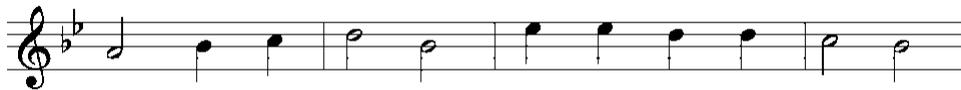
By His wounds we are healed.

Hymn of the Day

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Have You Broken sts. 1-4, 6



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law have you bro - ken
2 They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!
6 I'll think up - on your mer - cy with - out ceas - ing,



that such sharp sen - tence should on you be spo - ken?
with cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge you;
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;
that earth's vain joys to me no more be pleas - ing;



Of what great crime have you to make con -
they give you gall to drink, they still de -
yes, all the wrath, the woe that you in -
the Mas - ter pays the debt his ser - vants
to do your will shall be my sole en -



fes - sion, what dark trans - gres - sion?
cry you; they cru - ci - fy you.
her - it, this I do mer - it.
owe him, who would not know him.
deav - or hence - forth for - ev - er.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662 Text and tune: Public domain

⁷So I shepherded the flock marked for slaughter, particularly the oppressed of the flock. Then I took two staffs and called one Favor and the other Union, and I shepherded the flock. ⁸In one month I got rid of the three shepherds.

The flock detested me, and I grew weary of them ⁹and said, “I will not be your shepherd. Let the dying die, and the perishing perish. Let those who are left eat one another’s flesh.”

¹⁰Then I took my staff called Favor and broke it, revoking the covenant I had made with all the nations. ¹¹It was revoked on that day, and so the oppressed of the flock who were watching me knew it was the word of the LORD.

¹²I told them, “If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.” So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.

¹³And the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the LORD.

Sermon

Confession of Faith: The Second Article (Redemption)

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

Offering

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for Us



1 How deep the Fa-ther's love for us, how vast be-yond all
2 Be-hold the Man up-on a cross, my sin up-on his
3 I will not boast in an-y-thing: no gifts, no pow'r, no



mea-sure, that he should give his on-ly Son to
shoul-ders. A-shamed, I hear my mock-ing voice call
wis-dom. But I will boast in Je-sus Christ: his



make a wretch his trea-sure. How great the pain of sear-ing loss.
out a-mong the scof-fers. It was my sin that held him there
death and res-ur-rec-tion. Why should I gain from his re-ward?



The Fa-ther turns his face a-way as wounds which mar the
un-til it was ac-com-plished; his dy-ing breath has
I can-not give an an-swer. But this I know with



Cho-sen One bring man-y sons to glo-ry.
brought me life. I know that it is fin-ished.
all my heart: his wounds have paid my ran-som.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ, to gather college students and the local community into a family of believers, and to share the message of hope and the promise of salvation through grace.