



Reach out to all

Embrace His Gifts

Announce His coming

Commit to Christian Living

Honor His Word

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Pastor Ron Moritz, Deacon Ed Smallcombe

Opening Hymn: "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days"

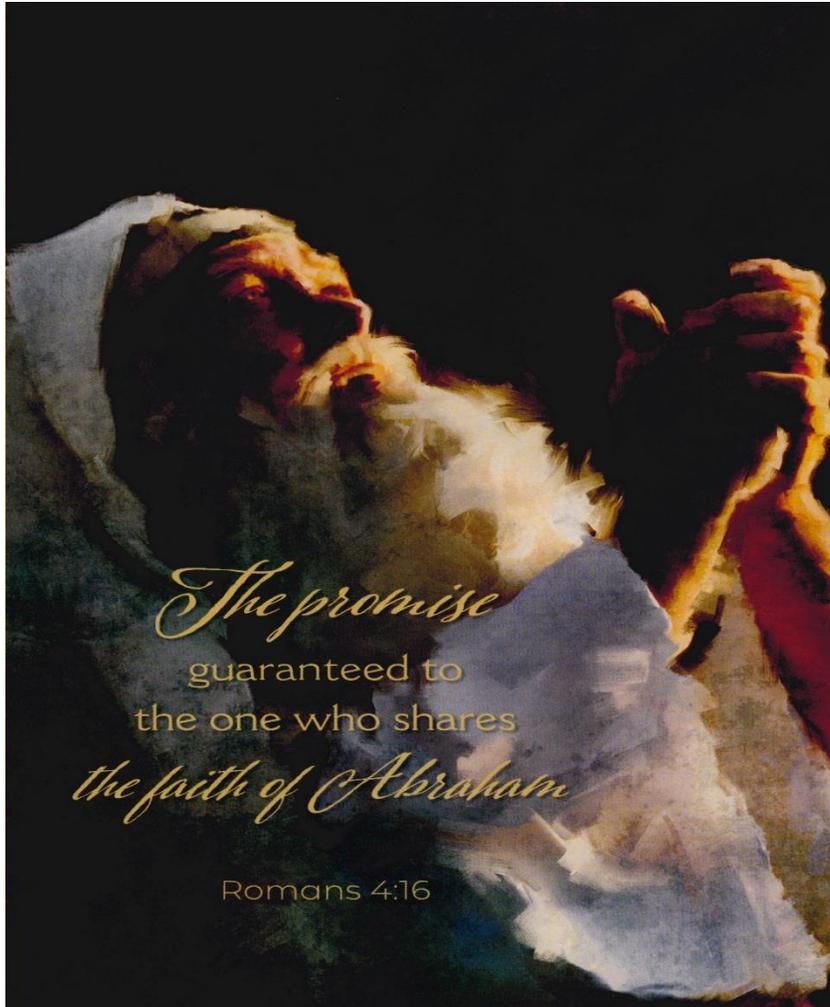
CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Let us then confess our sins to God the Father.

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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.



2nd Sunday in Lent

OT- Genesis 12:1-9 The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. ²“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. ⁵ He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. ⁶ Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ The Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring^[c] I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸ From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord. ⁹ Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

Epistle- Romans 4:1-8,13-17 - The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. ²“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

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Gospel: John 3:1-17 -. Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.” ³ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again” ⁴ “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be

born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” ⁹ “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.^[e] ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,^[f] ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn: “God Loved The World So That He Gave”

Sermon: “The Parable of the Sower” Matthew 13:1-23



Pray for our country, for our military, for our healthcare workers & first responders, for those that are sick, for those in need, for those who have lost loved ones, for our home-bound, for wisdom for our leaders, and for all of your concerns. Prayers of Strength and Comfort for the Ukrainian People and wisdom for all NATO Members. Pray for all your concerns.



The Lord’s Prayer

Communion

Benediction

Closing Hymn: “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

SERMON REVIEW FOR March 1, 2026

“The Parable of the Sower” Matthew 13:1-23

Introduction: We begin a 5 week sermon series of Kingdom Parables in Matthew 13

Why did Jesus teach in parables? (Read Matthew 13:10-17)

1. To R_____ the truth to believers
2. To C_____ the truth to unbelievers.

The Key to interpreting a parable is finding the ‘Point of C_____’ - (Often at the very end of the Parable)

Today’s Parable concludes with reference to the H_____ (100,60,30 fold).

Despite hazards and losses, the one who spreads the seed reaps abundantly. This is a Parable of H_____ and E_____.

God's Word will have a positive effect of each of us!

I. What kind of soil receives the seed?

- A. Seed on the P_____, (the birds devour)
- those who do not respond to God's Word.
- B. Seed on the R_____ G_____, (not roots)
- those who refuse to allow the Word to rule their life=
"S_____ Christianity"
- C. Seed among the W_____, (choked out)
- the affairs of this world dominate one's spiritual life.
- D. Seed on the G_____ Soil.
- those who receive the Word with believing hearts.

II. What kind of soil am I?

- A. We can identify times when we are ALL FOUR!
- B. Disciples take heart in knowing the Word will bring G_____!
 - 1. As H_____ of the Word, God works in our heart.
 - 2. As P_____ of the Word, we press on despite setbacks.
 - 3. As God R_____, each disciple produces a unique harvest.
 - 4. Our call to rejoice in the P_____ of God's Word!



ADULT BIBLE CLASS meets downstairs in Zimmerman Hall. **Jr. Bible Class:** Classes will meet Mar 8th, 22nd, Apr 19th & May 3rd, 17th & 31st.



LWML/Ladies Aid will meet on March 10th at 10:00 am.

The ground level door will be open on Sunday mornings for those who wish to avoid climbing the hill. Also shortly after service begins both doors will be locked for security reasons.



Flowers for the altar on Easter Sunday may be purchased by a donation and can be "in honor" or "in memory: of a loved one. Find forms on the table in the Narthex.

Orders & money will be due by Palm Sunday



March – Mission of the Month

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of Bringing Christ to the Nations and the Nations to the Church. LHM produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast, as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials for use in more than 50 countries. LHM's flagship program is The Lutheran Hour, the world's longest running, Christian outreach radio program. It airs weekly on more than 800 stations.