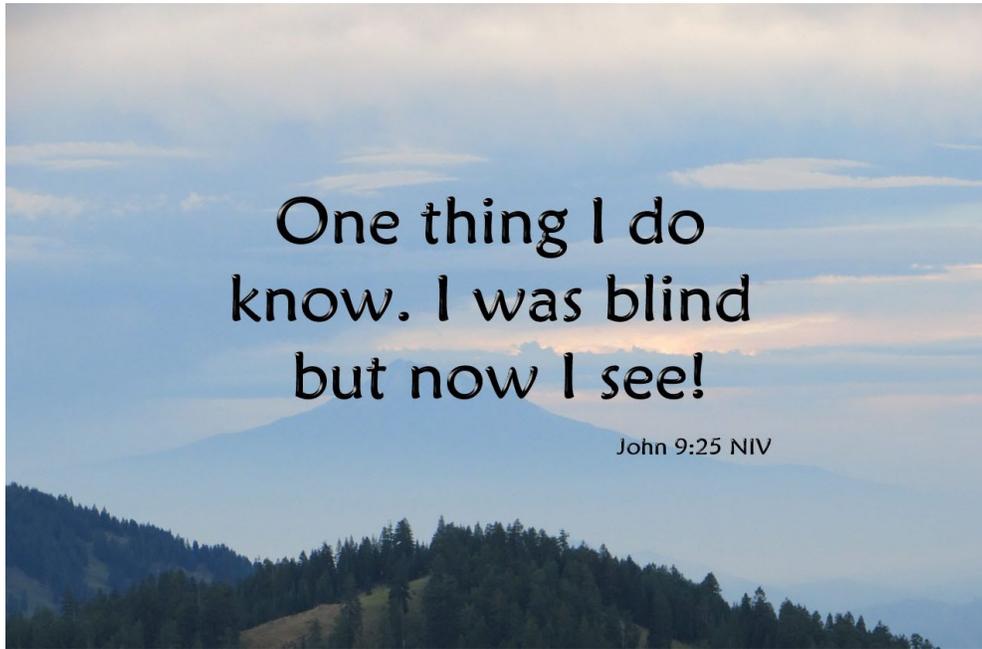


March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent



St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
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www.stpeterfmb.com

Facebook – St. Peter Lutheran ELCA, Ft. Myers Beach

Instagram - st_peter_lutheran_ftmyersbeach

Streaming – **Sunday Service 9:00 am** on

YouTube - St Peter Lutheran Church Ft Myers Beach FL

**In cooperation with Chapel by the Sea Presbyterian Church
and former Beach United Methodist Church**

*Throughout the service
the congregation reads aloud the bold print*

Prelude/Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

We gather and worship in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to Whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

Most Merciful God,

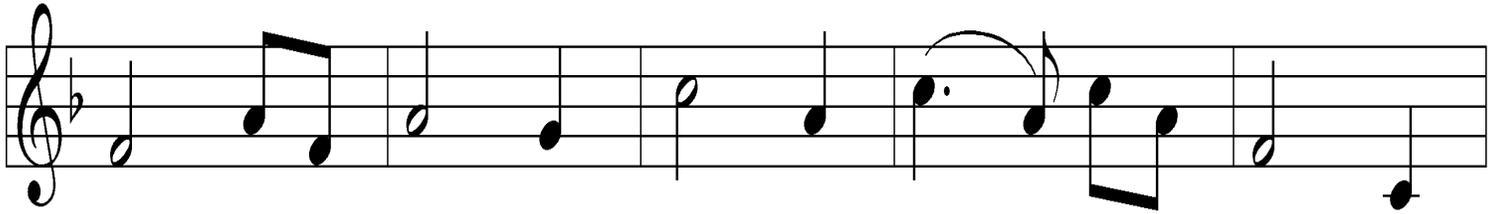
We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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!

Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us and, for His sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

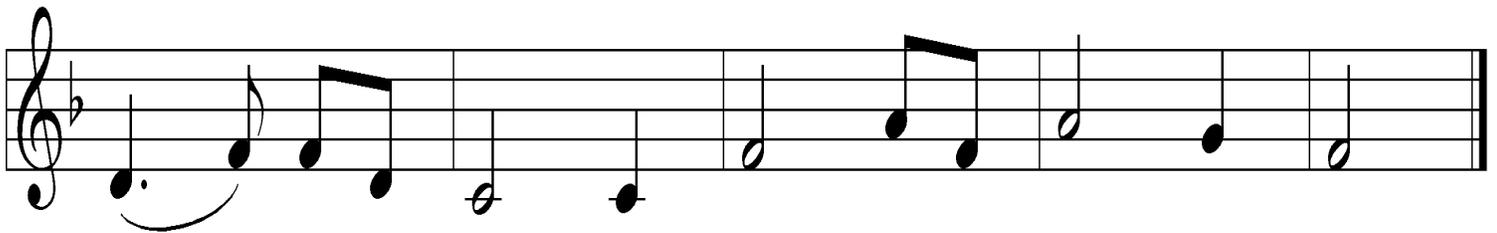
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Greeting The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you

Prayer of the Day

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Glory Be to the Father

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly".

6 Ghost; As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It starts with a measure rest in the treble staff, indicated by the number '6'. The melody continues in the treble staff with accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "Ghost; As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er".

10 shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. It starts with a measure rest in the treble staff, indicated by the number '10'. The melody continues in the treble staff with accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men." The piece ends with a double bar line.

Call to Worship is Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running
over.

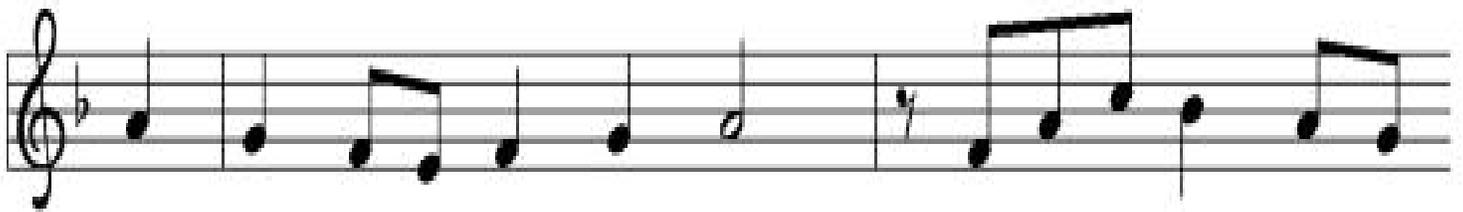
⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever**

The first reading is from Ephesians, the 5th chapter

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

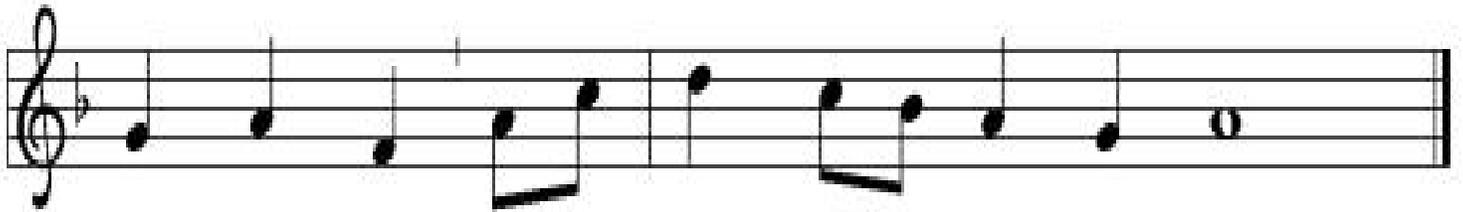
PLEASE STAND FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 4th chapter

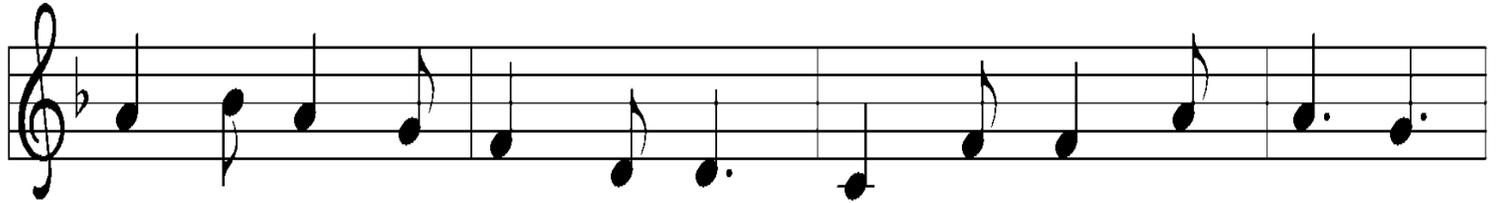
Glory to you, O Lord

See insert for the Gospel Lesson

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon – Rev. Tom Frey

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

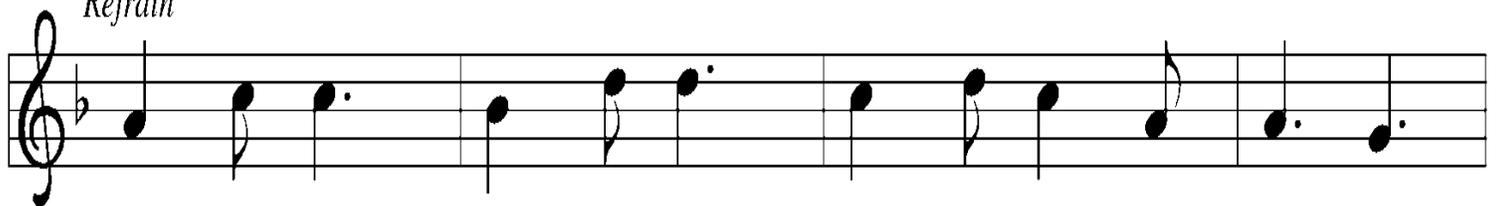


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

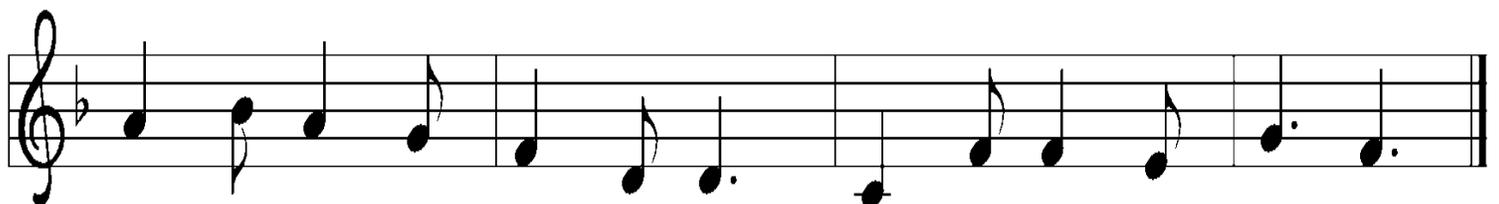


free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Let us affirm our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.**

Prayers of the People

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence,
let us pray for the world and its needs.

(Congregation will respond to each petition with
Your mercy is great)

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and
salvation. **Amen.**

Offering & Special Music

Choir offering – This is the Time of Fulfillment

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

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.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

All are welcome

PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Blessing The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his Grace.

Prayer after Communion

God of our salvation,

we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.

Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Benediction

As you go on your way,

May God go with you!

May He go before you..to show you the way;

May He go behind you...to encourage you;

Beside you...to befriend you;

Above you...to watch over you;

And within you...to give you His Peace!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

God of endings and beginnings,

God in the darkness and the light,

God, our hope for the journey,

✠ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

"Go Now in Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, Amen, Amen

Go in peace. Serve the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY

Pastor

Rev. Tom Frey

Worship Assistant

Trudy Archer

Organist/Choir Director

Carl Lauderman

Flautist

Courtney Eckmann

Ushers

John & Marilyn Torstveit

Digital Ministry Coordinator

Deacon Lisa Miller

Scan in order to donate online



Lessons for March 22

Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalms 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

Easter Information

Here's what our schedule will be for Lent and Easter:

April 2 Maundy Thursday **Service** at 9 am

April 3 Good Friday **Service** at 6 pm

April 5 Easter **Son Rise Service** 7:00 am *At Bayside Park*

Service 9:00 am at church

Service 10:30 am at church



You may donate towards Easter lilies for the sanctuary. They will be available for pickup after the second service. Just write "Lilies" on the memo line of your check or on a pew envelope.

Join us on Thursdays!

Stop by the church on Thursday mornings between 9 and 11 for an informal time of fellowship. You might:

- Enjoy a cup of coffee and visit with new friends.
- Lend a hand in taking care of our church by doing an inside or outside chore. (Choose one from the list by the mailboxes.)
- Check in with the Sew and Sews to see if they need some help with one of their projects.
- Come to choir practice at 10:30 to learn the anthem for the next Sunday.



Lunch Bunch and ROMEO's will meet March 25, 11:30 am at Pincher's near Fort Myers Beach at 18100 San Carlos Blvd. RESERVE with Jana @317-753-1510!