**St. Peter’s Lutheran Church**

**Canyon, MN**

**March 12, 2025**

**6:30 pm**

***“Seekers”***

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn *“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”*** WOVHymn #713

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your

Word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where

love can grow and peace is understood. When my heart is hard,

break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

**Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Call to Worship**  
P: Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?  
***C: We long to hear God’s Word spoken to our hearts.***

P: Who among you is seeking God’s bright and holy truth? ***C: We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.***

P : Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life? ***C: We long to live lives of holiness and light.***P: God grants God’s wisdom generously to all who ask. Come near, people of God! Let us worship in wisdom and truth.

***C: Amen.***

**Prayer**

P: God of holy wisdom, we are seekers on the way to a deeper wisdom and a wider vision. Our lives are full of information and opinions, but in the midst of it all we long to hear the voice of wisdom – Your wisdom, God – cutting through the noise and teaching us how to live, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Lesson: 2 Timothy 2:14-19**

**14**Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. **15**Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth. **16**Avoid profane chatter, for it will lead people into more and more impiety, **17**and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, **18**who have swerved from the truth, saying resurrection has already occurred. They are upsetting the faith of some. **19**But God’s firm foundation stands, bearing this inscription: “The Lord knows those who are his,” and, “Let everyone who calls on the name of the Lord turn away from wickedness.”

**Lesson: John 3:1-21**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. **2**He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” **3**Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” **4**Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” **5**Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. **6**What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7**Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ **8**The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” **9**Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” **10**Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

**11**“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. **12**If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? **13**No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. **14**And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, **15**that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

**16**“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

**17**“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. **18**Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. **19**And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. **20**For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. **21**But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

**Message *“Seeking Truth”***

**Hymn of the Day *“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”*** WOVHymn #660

Vs. 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;  
 I want Jesus to walk with me;  
 All along my pilgrim journey,  
 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Vs.2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
 When my heart is almost breaking,  
 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Vs.3 When I’m in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
 When I’m in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
 When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

**Offering**

**Offering Prayer**

P:Lord God, we give these offerings in gratitude, rejoicing in the abundance

of your gifts to us. We give these offerings in faith, trusting that you will provide for our needs. We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world. And with these offerings, we give ourselves; may we live with generous hearts, with openhands. Amen

**Prayers**

P: There is no one who is wise until we are enlightened by your Holy Spirit. So come, Holy Spirit, and make us children of the truth. Hear us, O God;

***C: your mercy is great.***

P: Loving God, we pray for your wisdom in our church family. Teach us how to better serve one another and the world. Hear us, O God;

***C: your mercy is great.***

P: Loving God, we pray for your wisdom in our streets and apartment buildings and neighborhoods. Teach us to seek your truth and embody your compassion with all we meet. Hear us, O God;

***C: your mercy is great.***

P: Loving God, we pray for your wisdom in our treatment of your earth. Teach us to be better caretakers of our planet and its beautiful animals and plants. Hear us, O God;

***C: your mercy is great.***

P: Loving God, we pray for your wisdom for our world. Teach all of who belong to a Christian community to show greater tolerance and love to Jews, Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists. Lord, teach us compassion and understanding, so that all of your children may share this world in peace. Hear us, O God;

***C: your mercy is great.***

P: Holy and wonderful God, we thank you for our visitors this morning. May they go from this service refreshed and renewed, having felt the touch of your loving Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God;

***C: your mercy is great.***

P: We pray for those ill and injured in our community. Loving God, touch them with your tender care, reassuring them of your presence, and speeding their journeys to wholeness and wellness. Hear us, O God;

***C: your mercy is great.***

P: God, your love is true and bright, and guides us on our way. May we go forth from here with new wisdom, new joy, and a new hope. Give us this week the grace of your presence and your love, to carry us through our days until we meet again in this fellowship.

**C: Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

P: Let us pray as Jesus has taught us.

***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**

P: May the holy wisdom of God guard your ways and guide your paths. May the living truth of God enlighten your hearts and open your minds and may the living Spirit of God give you life, and life to the full!  
***C: Amen***

**Sending Hymn *“Now the Day is Over”*** ELWHymn #570

Vs. 1 Now the day is over; night is drawing nigh;  
 shadows of the evening steal across the sky.

Vs. 2 Jesus, give the weary calm and sweet repose;  
 with your tend'rest blessing may our eyelids close.

Vs. 3 Comfort ev'ry suff'rer watching late in pain;  
 those who plan some evil, from their sin restrain.

Vs. 4 Through the long night-watches may your angels spread  
 their bright wings above me, watching round my bed.

Vs. 5 When the morning wakens, then may I arise  
 pure and fresh and sinless in your holy eyes.

Vs. 6 Glory to the Father, glory to the Son,  
 and to you, blest Spirit, while the ages run.

**Dismissal**

P: Go now in peace and seek the truth.

***C: Thanks be to God.***

**Postlude**

**S.A.L.T. Parish**



***Wednesday, March 19, 2025***

**South Arrowhead Lutherans Together**

**Faith Lutheran Church, Culver**

**First Lutheran Church, Meadowlands**

**St. John's Lutheran Church, Saginaw**

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Canyon**

**David Erdmann, Minister 218-391-7951**

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