

From Pastor Joel Skindlov

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The church season of Lent continues through March into April, as Spring enters in as a lion or a lamb. These 40 days grant us the opportunity to notice and pay attention to God sightings in our lives and world. Psalm 19 reveals God's presence through creation and through God's word, the Bible. We encounter the Lord's teaching and instructions on a personal level, yet also a group, as a community rooted and grounded in Christ for the sake of the world.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork." Psalm 19 begins with a picture of God the Creator, building, shaping forming, molding the heavens and earth into a wonderful real life portrait that humans dwell within on earth. Have you been out in nature lately? Whether on a walk, a stroll, a drive or peering out your window? God grants us the opportunity to see God's work in creation telling a story of the glory of God.

"In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun" (Psalm 19: 4). The psalmist or song writer continues with a picture of a bridegroom and a runner illustrating the rising and setting of the sun with word pictures that stir us to see and recognize the dynamic nature of creation. Pause and ponder, stop and draw, pause and pray, as God beckons to speak and listen to your prayers and praise.

The psalm continues as the psalmist declares, "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure making wise the simple, translated also as "impart wisdom to the inexperienced" (Psalm 19:7, New English Translation). "Each phrase begins with a synonym for the Torah of the Lord — Torah, decrees, precepts, commandment, fear, and ordinances — are a reference to the word of God revealed in the Scriptures. Torah is not here "law" in the legal sense, but as "instruction" in a more holistic sense. This section of the poem celebrates *what God has done and continues to do through the Scriptures*" (Commentary on Psalm 19, Rolf Jacobson, workingpreacher.org).

As you read this psalm, I invite you to pause and ask yourself, What do you notice? What comforts you? What surprises you? What might God be speaking to you and us through this passage? These questions are borrowed from the Christian practice, *lectio divina* or divine reading. It's a way to engage any Bible passage. I've put two different translations/ paraphrases of some selected verses from Psalm 19 to support our reading and prayer of the passage.

The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;

(Continued on Page 8)

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Inside this Edition

Pastor's Letter	Pg 1
President's Letter	Pg 2
In Person Worship	Pg 3
Bible Readings	Pg 3
POP News	Pg 4
WELCA News	Pg 4
Community News	Pg 6
Calendar	Pg 7
Pastor's Letter (cont.)	Pg 8

Caritas Needs For March

Food: crackers, chili, peanut butter, jelly, canned meat, pasta sauce, canned fruit & vegetables, mac & cheese

Necessities: laundry soap, toilet paper, deodorant, diapers & wipes, liquid dish soap, tooth paste & toothbrushes.

(non perishables)
Please don't tie bags shut!



From The President

Here we are in March. Hard to believe that the year is moving so quickly, at least to me it does. Last year at about this time we were heading into what some would call the unknown. We had entered into Lent and had even had two soup suppers when we had to shut down. No one was sure what the pandemic was going to bring. The further along it went the more depressing it seemed to get. We continued to worship on line which was a blessing. So here we are now, back to limited in person worship, with limited singing. Not all of you are happy with that but it is the new normal for now but NOT FOREVER! Let's continue our prayers for an end to the pandemic. As we move further into lent and spend time on personal reflection I am hoping that everyone will give some thought as to how they can get more involved in the activities of our church. Matthew 9: 37 tells us of the time that Jesus was speaking to a group of followers and said "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few, therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest." Some of our committees have basically ceased to exist. Some members have served so long on a committee that they need some time off. Please consider what you might be able to help with in the coming year. This would be a good time for committees to start meeting again and do some brainstorming for the coming year. Let's not wait until the last minute. Once we get truly back to a more normal situation we will want to be able to have some clear ideas of how we want to move ahead. At this time we are planning our annual spring clean up just before Easter. Weather permitting we want to invite all to help clean up some designated areas around the Church property followed by some outdoor refreshments and fellowship. We will need some joyful laborers!

Yours in Christ
Curtis Froscheiser

Church Chuckle

You might be Lutheran if...



WHEN WATCHING "STAR WARS", WHEN THEY SAY "MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU", YOU REPLY, "AND ALSO WITH YOU."

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church publishes a monthly newsletter for members, friends and churches in the area. News articles, address changes, questions or comments should be addressed to:

Newsletter Editor

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Service - 9:00 am
(Contemporary Service 3rd Sunday
of the month) Worship currently streamed.)



TBD if meeting will happen because of Covid-19

POP Fellowship Hall — 7am—Start cooking
8am—Discussion begins

Serving You This Month

March	Altar Guild	Worship Assistants
7		
14		
21		
28		

Prince of Peace in Person Service

The service is limited to 62 members, so for the time being there will be a reservation system. If you wish to attend this service in person contact the church office either by phone or email, by the **Thursday** before. The reservations will just insure the spot. Services will continue to be streamed on Facebook also.



Bible Readings for the Month

Sunday, March 7

1st Reading: Exodus 20:1-17
 Psalm: 19
 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
 Gospel: John 2:13-22

Sunday, March 14

1st Reading: Numbers 21:4-9
 Psalm: 107:1-3,17-22
 2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10
 Gospel: John 3:14-21



Sunday, March 21

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm: 119:9-16
 2nd Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10
 Gospel: John 12:20-33

Sunday, March 28

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm: 31:9-16
 2nd Reading: Philippians 2:5-11
 Gospel: Mark 15:1-39 [40-47]

News from POP

March Meetings suspended because of COVID-19 unless otherwise notified



Bible Study:
Baby Quilters:
Charity Quilters:

Edith Zimbelman

EXCELSIOR BIRTHDAY CAKES

Unless Marie McMahon contacts you, do not plan on providing a cake for your designated month.

"For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you."

Isaiah 41:13

"And it shall be that before they call, I will answer, and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."

Isaiah 65:24

Would you set aside a few minutes each day during Lent to specifically pray about some aspect of the pandemic?

Shape your worries
into prayers.

Some suggestions:

- *against the virus and further mutations*
 - *protection for everyone and for specific people/groups*
 - *for the safety and efficacy of the vaccine*
 - *that it will be available to those who need it most*
 - *for everyone's mental health*
 - *against depression and anxiety*
 - *that neighbors will watch out for each other*
 - *provision for those who have lost jobs and housing*
- wisdom and discernment for those making decisions that affect all of us*

March Birthdays

March 3- Karen Rogge
March 7- Susan Burgermyer
March 11- Randy Lasswell
Isaac Edwards
March 12- Donna Claypool
March 14- Abby Bauernfeind



March 16- Joel Lalley
Iris Pehan
March 19- De Dupuis
March 21- Curtis Froscheiser
Jake Rapp
March 24- Jeff Bottjen

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

March Lenten Schedule

Mid-Week Lenten Service:

March 3, 10, 17, & 24 at 7pm



Holy Week

Palm Sunday– March 28, 2021 at 9am

Maundy Thursday - April 1, 2021 at 7pm

Good Friday– April 2, 2021 at 7pm

Easter Sunday– April 4, 2021

To Ponder:

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me."

Psalm 23:4 RSV



"Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,

Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,

By waters still, o'er troubled sea,

Still 'tis his hand that leadeth me."

Second verse of "He Leadeth Me! O Blessed thought"

Joseph H. Gilmore (1834-1868)



Community Events



Prince of Peace Preschool

If you have children, grandchildren or nieces and nephews, please consider our program for them. Also, let your neighbors and other community members know that public registration begins **Monday, March 1st**.

Information and forms available in the office or online at popsokane.org/preschool.



Caritas Monthly Report January 2021

Caritas Outreach Ministries Served **510 individuals** from **271 households**:

Children (0-8)	140
Adults (18-54)	263
Seniors (55 & over)	107

61 volunteers put in 909 hours of service.

28,507 lbs. of food distributed through the Table of Plenty & Food Pantry.

\$389.50 worth of hygiene and cleaning supplies given out from the Necessity Closet.

\$2,400 pledged through our holiday heat & utility assistance program.

Caritas is MOVING!







We are so grateful for our time here at Spokane Friends Church. When we moved here in 2013/2014, we had no idea how God would bless this ministry and TRIPLE the number of clients we serve in a year! We had been prayerfully considering our options to continue to meet the need coming to our doors when we were joined by a new supporting church, Northside Church of Christ in 2020. They too had been praying over how to best use their out building to serve their neighborhood. Caritas Board Chair, Bob Walker, did a write up on how this new relationship came to be on God's timing.

Over the next few months, we will be keeping you updated on renovations and all the prep and planning to relaunch in a new facility. We hope to be fully transitioned by June 1st of this year. In the meantime, we will continue to serve clients at the current location in Spokane Friends Church and donations can still be dropped off Monday, Wednesday and Thursday between 10am-1pm.

Kelsie Rowland
Operations Manager

Caritas is moving to a new location this summer. If you would like to donate toward moving expenses, please send donations to Caritas Outreach Ministries, 1612 W. Dalke, Spokane 99205. Please put moving expenses on the memo line of checks.

March 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 1pm Bible Study 7pm All Committee Night	3 7pm Lenten Service 	4	5	6
7 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane	8	9 1pm Bible Study	10 7pm Lenten Service 	11	12	13
14 CARITAS SUNDAY 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane 	15	16 1pm Bible Study 7pm Council Meeting	17 7pm Lenten Service 	18	19	20
21 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane	22	23 1pm Bible Study	24 7pm Lenten Service 	25	26	27 POP Clean up Day 
28 PALM SUNDAY 9am Worship Streamed on Facebook at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Spokane	29	30 1pm Bible Study	31			

the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;
8 the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;
9 the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether. (Psalm 19:7-9,NRSV)

The revelation of GOD is whole
and pulls our lives together.
The signposts of GOD are clear
and point out the right road.
The life-maps of GOD are right,
showing the way to joy.
The directions of GOD are plain
and easy on the eyes.
GOD's reputation is twenty-four-carat gold,
with a lifetime guarantee.
The decisions of GOD are accurate
down to the nth degree. (Psalm 19:7-9, The Message)

God's law as instruction and teaching as opposed to the legal letter of law, grants the opportunity to connect, respond, marvel and move in ways that strengthen our relationship and connection with the Lord.

Finally, Psalm 19 provides pictures of the promises and benefits of God's Word,

"God's Word is better than a diamond,
better than a diamond set between emeralds.
You'll like it better than strawberries in spring,
better than red, ripe strawberries". (The Message, Psalm 19:10).

"More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb" (Psalm 19:10, NRSV).

Psalm 19 displays the goodness and greatness of the gift of God's word, yet the psalmist remembers that we, as humans, fall and fail, sin and miss the mark. Verses 11-14 confess the ways that we have sinned, and pleas for the Lord's forgiveness and mercy. Psalm 19 grants us a snapshot of faith, trust and recognition and relationship with the God who creates, instructs, and sustains us, who forgives us and teaches us our whole life long.

Peace,
Pastor Joel