traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'"

The Apostles' Creed (p. 192)

The Hymn of the Day: 604 "I Bind unto Myself Today"

The Homily

Offerings are not gathered during Service. While Pastor Messer prepares the Table for the Holy Supper, you may spend time prayerfully preparing to receive the Blessed Sacrament (you may wish to read through Luther's "Christian Questions . . ." on pp. 329-330). If you wish to leave an offering, you may do so by placing it in the plate by the door as you depart after Service.

The Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The Service of the Sacrament

(Communicants are to be in full confessional fellowship with the LCMS)

The Preface - Agnus Dei (pp. 194-199)

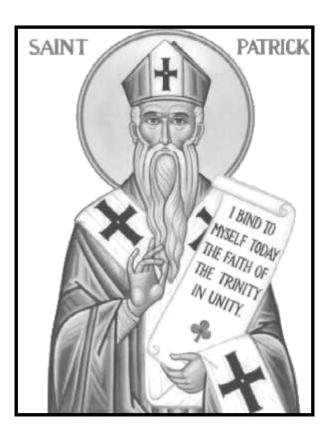
The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis - Benediction (pp. 199-202)

Soli Deo Gloria!

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The Feast of St. Patrick, Bishop



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801 463-5754 ~ www.peacealma.org

Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor

Home: 463-3093 ~ Cell: (989) 388-2037 ~ pastor@peacealma.org

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The Service of Preparation

(Upon entering the nave, <u>silence</u> should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Preparatory Prayer

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord.

Confession and Absolution (pp. 184-185)

The Service of the Word

The Introit

Ps. 132:13-18; antiphon: Sirach 45:30

The Lord made to him a covenant of peace and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever.

The Lord has chosen Zion;

he has desired it for his dwelling place:

"This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless her provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread.

Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her saints will shout for joy.

There I will make a horn to sprout for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.

His enemies I will clothe with shame, but on him his crown will shine."

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lord made to him a covenant of peace and made him a prince; that the dignity of priesthood should be to him forever.

The Kyrie (p. 186)

The Gloria in Excelsis (pp. 187-189)

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 189)

O God, Who didst deign to send blessed Patrick, Thy Confessor and Bishop, to announce Thy glory to the Gentiles, grant that we also may have the purity of Thy Word; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

The Epistle

2 Timothy 4:1-8

¹I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

The Gradual

Sirach 44:20

Behold, a great priest, who in his days pleased God.

There was not found the like to him in glory, who kept the law of the Most High.

The Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The LORD hath sworn and will not repent,

"Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-23

¹⁴"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and