

Vasa Lutheran Church

Peter's Denial

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist-Nick Kees

Sunday, March 8, 2026

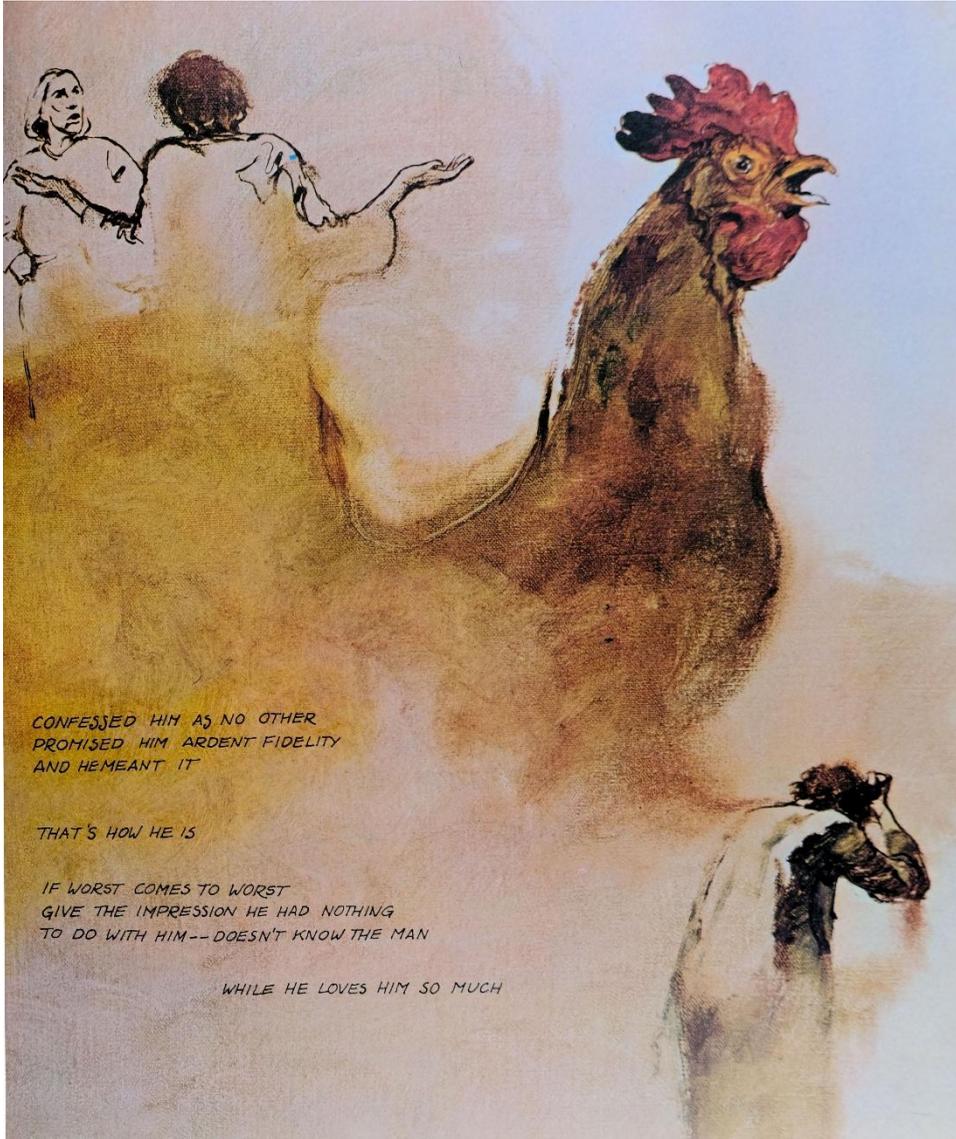


Illustration by Rien Poortvliet, published in "He Was One of Us" Doubleday Publishing Co. 1978

CONFESSION AND WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace.

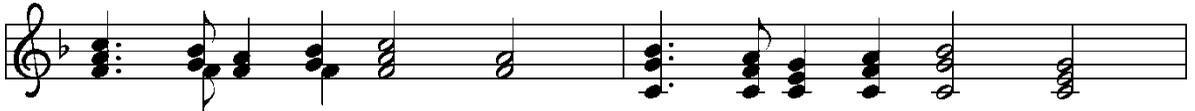
Amen.

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.

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy



1, 3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	e - lei - son.	Chris - te	e - lei - son.
1, 3	Lord, . . .	have mer - cy.	Lord,	have mer - cy.
2	Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.	Christ,	have mer - cy.



	Ky - ri - e	e - le	-	i - son.
	Chris - te	e - le	-	i - son.
	Lord, . . .	have mer	-	cy.
	Christ, . . .	have mer	-	cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Holy God, **We, like Peter, often turn our backs on you. Forgive us and show us a new way to live, walking boldly and passionately toward you. Amen.**

GOSPEL READING: John 18:12-27

12 So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. 13 First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. 14 Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

15 Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, 16 but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. 17 The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." 18 Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

19 Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. 20 Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. 21 Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." 22 When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" 23 Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" 24 Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." 26 One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" 27 Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

L: Word of God, word of life,

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

ELW 810

SERMON

HYMN

AH, HOLY JESUS

ELW 349

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**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 catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Each petition will end with the words: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Give us the courage to follow in the footsteps of Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

SENDING HYMN

BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS

ELW 338

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you:

C: Wherever he may send you;

P: May he guide you through the wilderness:

C: Protect you through the storm;

P: May he bring you home rejoicing:

C: At the wonders he has shown you;

P: May he bring you home rejoicing:

C: Once again into our doors. Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Assistants Today

March 8

Usher: Rick Samuelson

Lector: Katie Featherstone

Hospitality: Sue Hedeon

Worship Assistants Next Week

March 15

Usher: Rick Samuelson

Lector: B-J Norman

Hospitality: B-J Norman

Communion Asst.: *Volunteer Needed*

Parish Pulse:

March 1

Participating in Worship: 35
+ 43 Live Streams

Total Offerings:

March 1st

\$6,645

Easter Play Rehearsal Dates

March 15

March 22

Easter Play

March 29 (Palm Sunday)



Wendy Anderson, Jay
Mikaelsen, Scott
Sorenson, Lorrie
Samuelson, Lynda
Rosener Sack, Terri
Fredin, Terri Mandelkow,
Connor Michalicek
(Rosann Pearson's
grandson), Eileen
Anderson



Team Meetings

March 9 – Property @ 4pm
Finance @ 5pm
Museum @ 6:30pm
Parish Life @ 5:30pm
Church Council @6pm

Easter Flower Forms are available! Please make sure if you want flowers to get your order forms in by **March 18th!**

MUSIC FOR MARCH 8, 2026

BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISREAL

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O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt.
Music: Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693

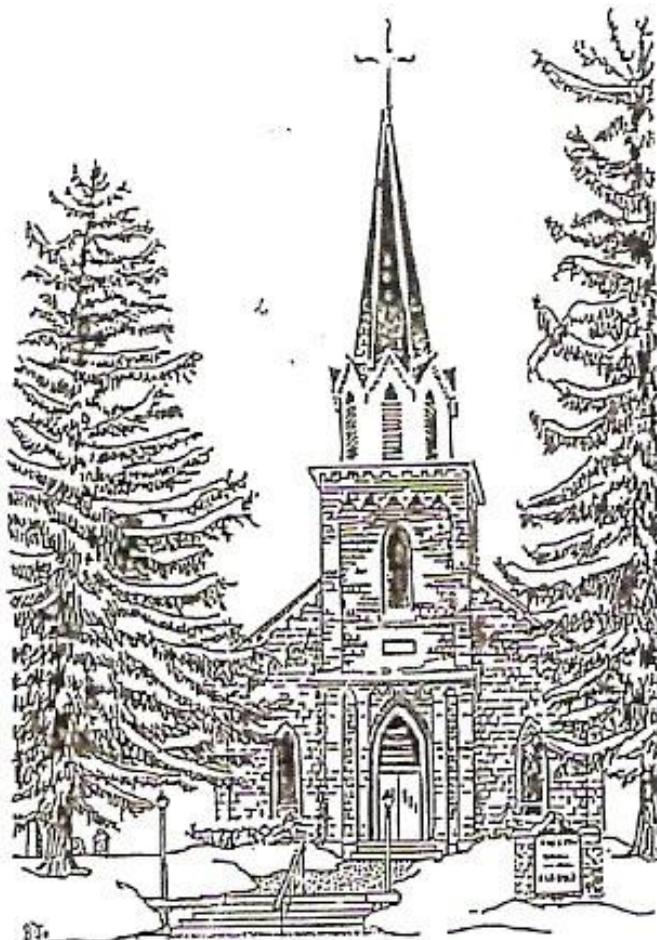
AH, HOLY JESUS

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
Music: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869
Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

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We, The Vasa Congregation,
Called by God, commit to:
Worshipping together,
Growing in Faith,
Serving Others, and
Welcoming and Loving all!