

Welcome to  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
202 Van Buren Street  
Evans City, Pennsylvania 16033-1127  
(724) 538-5810



*Pastor Brandon Johns*  
*September 20, 2020*  
*10:15 a.m. Worship Service*

**Bell Ringing****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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 sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN: How Small Our Span of Life



1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:  
2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;  
3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,  
4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,



a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch - ing of a breath,  
our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.  
to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.  
il - lu - min - ing our pil - grim - age through mists of doubt and fears;



a drop with - in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,  
While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos - mic space,  
You filled your cross-closed years with love; you loved us to the end  
for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass - ing days;



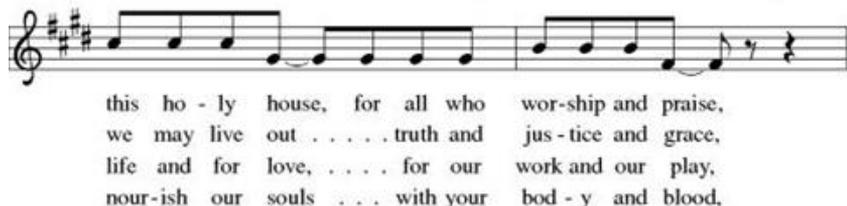
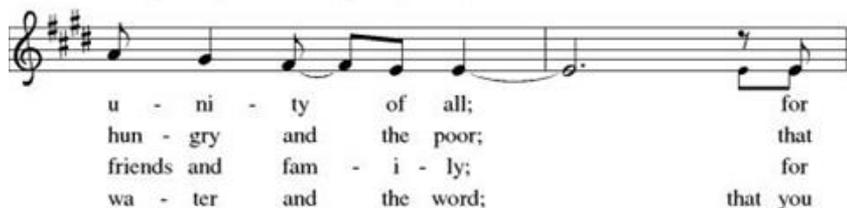
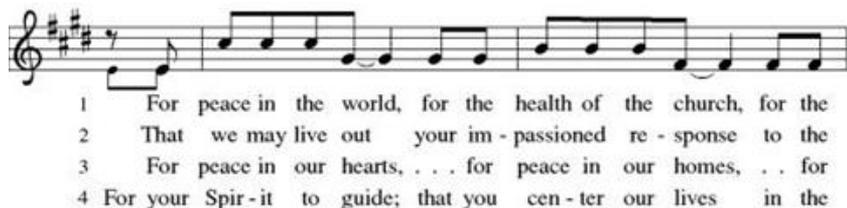
a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.  
while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.  
and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans - cend.  
for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

## 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



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

<sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 145:1-8** (*Read Responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my God and king,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

<sup>2</sup>**Every day will I bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.**

<sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!  
There is no end to your greatness.

<sup>4</sup>**One generation shall praise your works to another  
and shall declare your power.**

<sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty  
and all your marvelous works.

<sup>6</sup>**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,  
and I will recount your greatness.**

<sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

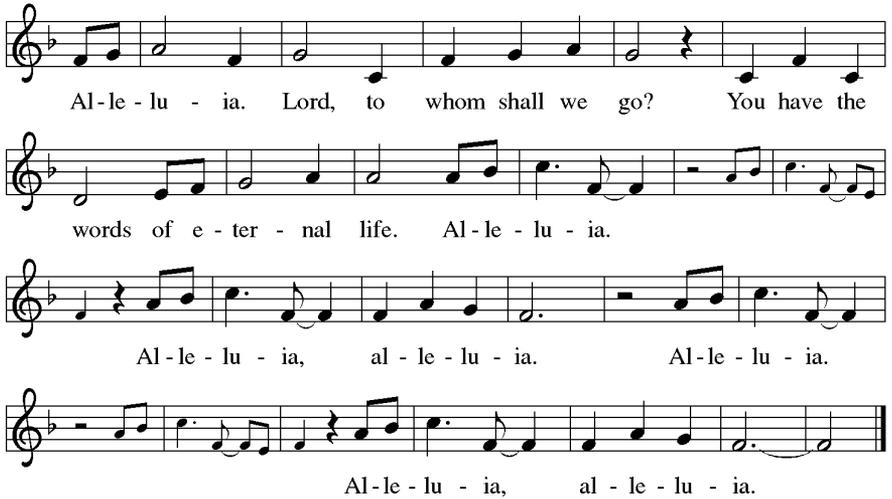
**Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30**

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner,

12saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? 14Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

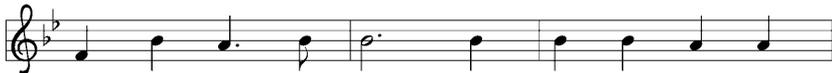
**HYMN OF THE DAY: O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us**



1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our  
 2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -  
 3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver  
 4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -



king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose  
 give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that  
 all, you said the first must be the last and  
 nown; you died for us up - on a cross with



praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to  
 we might rise and live. To break the law of  
 ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,  
 thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the



glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you  
 death you came, the law of love to bring: a  
 church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for  
 span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for



walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.  
 dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous - ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
 still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
 now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

## INSTALLATION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS

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

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church,  
the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Generous God, you make the last first, and the first last. Where this  
gospel challenges the church, equip it for its works of service.  
Strengthen those who suffer for Christ.

***The response for each petition is:***

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we  
entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*We pass the peace of Christ, which is wholeness through reconciliation, where we are, rather than moving about to share it at this time, trusting the Holy Spirit, who makes us one, moves between us no matter the distance.*

## OFFERING

*During social distancing protocols, our in-person offerings are made before or after the worship service. The offering plate is located near the entrance to the picnic shelter.*

*Additionally, financial offerings can be dropped off at the church, mailed, or made electronically as we live as a community in diaspora. As always, these avenues of offering are for the sake of serving the desire of the community to steward the gifts God has given us, not as a demand for your salvation.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. **You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**THE PROPER PREFACE** *(It is indeed right.... join their unending hymn)*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Lord 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**

## **INSTRUCTION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

At this time Pastor will take a moment to explain how the distribution of Holy Communion will take place from our seats. The explanation will conclude with the Invitation to Communion and then we will commune.

The elements of the Sacrament are offered with these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. *And* The blood of Christ, shed for you.

For children who do not communion, lay hand(s) on each child and offer this or another blessing:

*"May the generosity of God give you grace overflowing. Amen."*

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Let us share now in the heavenly banquet that has no end.

## **BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG: Rise Up, O Saints of God!

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;  
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;  
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;  
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

## SHARING FOR SERVING: BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND MISSION NOTICES

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

### POSTLUDE

*Postlude In C*

E.L. Ashford

### RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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## Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for September

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support Passavant Retirement Community, Zelig. If you would like to support this cause, please mark the other line on your contribution envelope Passavant Zelig.



*The Altar Flowers  
Are given in honor of  
The Christian Educators  
at St. Peter's  
By Gini Rinkus*

*The Eternal Candle  
Is Presented  
In celebration of Mike Mashuda's  
birthday(14th) and in loving  
memory of my brother,  
David Brittner  
by Teresa O'Malley*

### Prayers Have Been Requested Recently For The Following

Jack Lindgren

Don Zinkhann

Matt Morris

Cassandra Kertz

Joe Hohman

Teresa O'Malley

Michael Zilka

Nancy Painter

Deb Wright

Rege & Becky Rengers

Philip & Debbie Beahm

Please hold these members and friends of St. Peter's in your prayers.

### St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

T & Th	8:30 am Devotions
M-F	7:30 am – 6 pm After School Program
Mon. Sept. 21	7 pm Finance Meeting
Tue. Sept. 22	6:30 pm Dorcas Circle
Wed. Sept. 23	7:30 pm Zoom Bible Study
Sat. Sept. 26	6:00 pm Outdoor Game Night



**Fall Mums** – are due back today. They will be displayed for our Harvest Home service on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The mums are a fall fundraiser for our After School Program.

**Manna Night Upcoming Dates:**

The goal is to begin weekly Manna Nights on **October 7th**.

Please watch for updates.

The early dates will be outdoors only, so please dress for the weather.

A new registration form needs to be completed for the 2020-2021 school year, even if you have attended this program in previous years.

**Manna Night Golden Rules:**

- Be Kind by helping each other at Manna Night.
- Be Respectful of all living things.
- Be Responsible by taking only what you think you'll eat at dinner.
- Be Helpful by cleaning up after yourself at all times.
- Be Safe by following social distancing rules.

**Save The Dates:**

October 7, 14, 21 & 28

5:30-7:15 pm

**KID'S MINISTRIES**



## Welcome to St. Peter's

You are welcome to worship here with other Christians today. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray that your worship experience will fill you with the grace and mercy of Almighty God through his Holy Spirit.



The order of worship comes from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

### Newcomers and Guests

New to St. Peter's? We are glad you found us. Please check in with Pastor by calling or email to talk about what St. Peter's is like under regular conditions and so you can be connected with the ministries we are holding in old and new ways during these social distance times.

### **Office Hours:**

Heidi Beahm, our secretary, is in the church office Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM until Noon. Pastor Johns can also be reached at the church. Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

Church Office: 724.538.5810

Church Email: [stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net](mailto:stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net)

Pastor Email: [rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com](mailto:rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com)

Church Website: [www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org](http://www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org)

Church Facebook Page: St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Sunday Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays at 10:00 AM.

Newsletter deadline: Third Sunday of the Month