

Welcome to St. Peter's Lutheran Church



But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Night Prayer with Communion
April 7, 2022
7 pm Lent Worship Service
Pastor Brandon Johns

OPENING DIALOGUE

Almighty God, Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, grant us a quiet night and peace at the last. **Amen.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

to herald your love in the morning,
your truth at the close of the day.

By day, O God,

you grant your steadfast love,

and at night your song is with me,

a prayer to the God of my life.

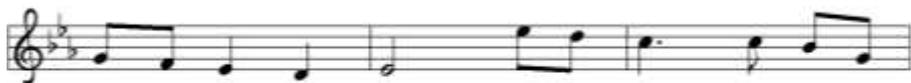
EVENING HYMN: Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory



1 Joy - ous light of heav'n-ly glo - ry, lov-ing glow of God's own
2 In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
3 You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev-'ry danc - ing star of



face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us



ev - 'ry land and race, Now as eve - ning falls a -
hear your qui - et song. Love that fills the night with
each re - flect your light. Might - y God of all cre -



round us, we shall raise our songs to you. God of day - break,
won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that bursts all
a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov - ing Spir - it



God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new,
chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed.
I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

Almighty and merciful God

grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

**I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed.
I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.**

Almighty and merciful God

grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

Psalm 134

¹ Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
who stand by night in the house of the Lord!

² Lift up your hands to the holy place,
and bless the Lord.

³ May the Lord, maker of heaven and earth,
bless you from Zion.

Silence for reflection

Let us pray. Lord God, where two or three gather in your name, you promise to be with them. Look upon your family gathered in your name, and graciously pour out your blessing upon us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CENTERING HYMN: Now It Is Evening



1. Now it is eve - ning: lights of the cit - y bid us re-
2. Now it is eve - ning: food on the ta - ble bids us re-
3. Now it is eve - ning: lit - tle ones sleep - ing bid us re-
4. Now it is eve - ning: here in our meet - ing may we re-



mem - ber Christ is our light. Man - y are lone - ly, who will be
mem - ber Christ is our life. Man - y are hun - gry, who will be
mem - ber Christ is our peace. Some are ne - glect - ed who will be
mem - ber Christ is our friend. Some may be strang - ers, who will be



neigh - bor? Where there is car - ing, Christ is our light.
neigh - bor? Where there is shar - ing, Christ is our life.
neigh - bor? Where there is car - ing, Christ is our peace.
neigh - bor? Where there's a wel - come, Christ is our friend.

FIRST READING: Ephesians 4:1-6, 14-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:10-21

¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. *This is the Word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God!**

REFLECTION: "The Rule for 'Brotherly Love'"

from *The Freedom of a Christian* by Martin Luther

Look here! This should be the rule: that the good things we have from God may flow from one person to the other and become common property. In this way each person may "put on" his [or her] neighbor and conduct oneself toward him [or her] as if in the neighbor's place. These good things flowed and flow into us from Christ, who put us on and acted for us, as if he himself were what we are. They now flow from us into those who have need of them. Just as my faith and righteousness ought to be placed before God to cover and intercede for the neighbor's sins, which I take upon myself, so also I labor under and am subject to them as if they were my very own. For this is what Christ did for us.

For this is true love and the genuine rule of the Christian life. Now where there is true and genuine faith, there is true and genuine love. Hence, the Apostle in 1 Cor. 13[:5] attributes to love that “it does not seek its own.”

REFLECTION HYMN: Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts and fill your lives. Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE GIFTS OF GOD

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 thanksgiving continues led by Pastor and concludes with:

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 for the remembrance of me.

TABLE GRACE

Let us pray. The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 this evening. 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, and elect to communion at their seats, lay hand(s) on each child and offer this or another blessing:

“May God’s love for you flow through you into all that you say and do.”

INVITATION TO COMMUNION and DISTRIBUTION

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. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Now may the forgiving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal, encompassing love of God the Father and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go in peace, loving God and neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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