Welcome to St. Peter's Lutheran Church



Twenty-fourth Sunday after
Pentecost

November 12, 2023 10:15 Worship Service

Pastor Brandon Johns

BFLL RINGING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life.

Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God.

Here, death is washed away forever.

Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly, into this community, and throughout all creation.

Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions.

Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand



Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797-1866; tr. Gracia Grindal, h. 1943 Music: LOHT GUIT, BHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

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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**.





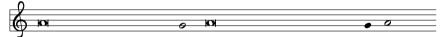
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. (brief silence) O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream

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

PSALM 70 (Read Responsively)

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

²Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(The assembly stands, if able, to welcome the gospel.)



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise. 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you,' 13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Soul Adorn Yourself with Gladness



- Soul, a dorn your-self with glad-ness, leave the gloom-y haunts of sad - ness.
- 2 Has-ten as a bride to meet him, ea ger ly and glad-ly greet him.
 3 Now in faith I hum-bly pon der o ver this sur-pass-ing won der
 4 Je sus, source of last-ing plea-sure, tru est friend, and dear-est trea sure,





come in - to the day-light's splen - dor, there with joy your prais-es ren - der. There he stands al-read - y knock-ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing, There he stands al-read - y that the bread of life is bound-less though the souls it feeds are count-less; peace be - youd all un - der - stand - ing, joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:



Bless the one whose grace un - bound-ed this a - maz - ing ban-quet found-ed; o - pen wide the fast-closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im-mor - tal: wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en. with the choic-est hum - blv now, I bow be - fore vou, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;





Christ, though heav'n-ly, high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly. leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with-in my heart for -ev - er." "Come, and glo-rious con - so-la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal-va - tion. most let me re-ceive you, and, so fa-vored, nev - er leave you. wor - thi -1y



Text: Johann Franck, 1618-1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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.

ORDER FOR HEALING

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Laying On of Hands

Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come forward to be prayed for and to pray for one another. Come forward to feel the love of the Living God at work in you and through you. Come forward to be anointed with oil and the cross as you were at your baptism. May the voices in prayer, the hands in service, and the oil in blessing be a sign and even a work of healing and wholeness for us all in the name of the triune God.

Those who wish to receive laying on of hands with prayer and anointing approach and will be received one by one in turn. If you are unable to come forward but still wish to be individually prayed for, please send someone up on your behalf to alert the pastor of that need. Those who wish to join in the laying on of hands on behalf of our brothers and sisters should also come forward at this time, standing forward by the pastor to allow space for those receiving to be welcomed. Everyone is invited to participate in either or both capacities. When it is your turn to receive laying on of hands and anointing, you are invited to kneel at the kneeler as you are able or you may remain sitting or standing as needed.

During the Laying On of Hands we will sing the following five hymns. If the hymns are finished before the Laying On of Hands concludes, instrumental music will then provide space for our meditation. If the Laying On of Hands portion of the service concludes before we have finished singing these hymns, we will sing the rest of whichever hymn we are singing at that time before continuing with the Blessing.



HYMN: Great Is Thy Faithfulness



Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960
Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957
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HYMN: Beautiful Savior



Text: Gesunghuck, Minutex, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seku, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Sileston folk tune, 19th cent.

HYMN: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern Farmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt.

HYMN: I Know That My Redeemer Lives!



- 5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above; he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; he lives, and I shall conquer death; he lives my mansion to prepare; he lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same; what joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

After all have returned to their places and the music has ended, the congregation stands, and the Order of Healing concludes with the following blessing. Then the service continues with Prayers.

Blessing

Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

O God for whom we wait, come quickly to your people, bring your salvation, and center us in hope found only in you. Deepen our faith through meaningful worship and send us out with your justice and truth.

The response for each petition is:

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

Let us greet one another in peace with the strong name of the Living Christ. *The peace of the Risen, Living Christ is shared.*

OFFERING

Our offerings are made processionally, which means dropped into the plates located near the entrances to the nave.

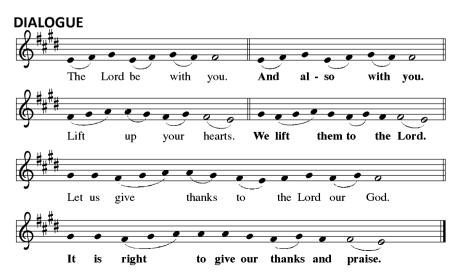


OFFERTORY SONG: Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



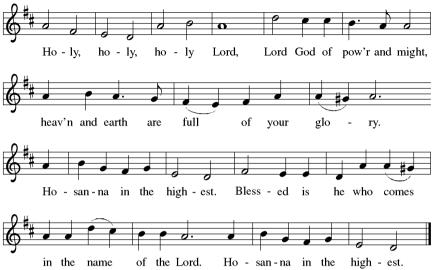
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. (silence) God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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.



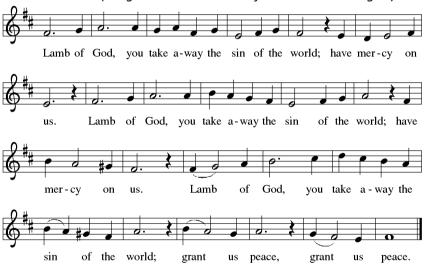
LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and help us to pray:
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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, join the saints of all time and place at the banquet that has no end.

LAMB OF GOD (sung as the distribution of the sacrament begins)



The Sacrament will be offered with these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. *And* The blood of Christ, shed for you. *Optional responses* **Amen** *or* **Thanks be to God** *or* **Renew us, Lord**

BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God of all consolation grant you hope all the days of your life, restore you to health and grant you salvation, fill your heart with peace, and lead you to eternal life. Almighty God, Father, \pm Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (found on the following page)

SHARING FOR SERVING: Mission Notices and Birthdays

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support

Glade Run Lutheran Services

To support this cause, please mark the "Other" line on your contribution envelope.

The Altar Flowers are presented by Bea King in memory of George King The Altar Flowers are in celebration of Amy's birthday by her loving family

The Eternal Candle is presented by Becky & Rick Riddle in memory of their parents



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following

Cole BarkleyHelen BartoLuke ClawsonRaquel BarronKay BurrTom SmithZachary MashudaRicky BensonElaine MulneixMarty SmithEd SmithPaige VolzCharlene BrittnerGarrie WearingJosh Green

The family of Isabella Stoehr

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

"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:16

<u>Congregational Meeting</u> —Please plan to stay after worship today for this important part of our life together. We will consider and approve a mission spending plan (budget) for our community, as well as, elect people we believe to be called by God into leadership for this season in our congregation's life.

<u>Advent Lunch</u> – Our annual kickoff to the Advent season is returning this year on Dec. 3. Our SPY will be hosting a lunch after worship and there will be Advent-themed activities for all ages. Any funds donated for the lunch will support next summer's youth mission trip.

Advent Friends - Brothers and sisters, the season of hope and anticipation, joy & merry-making is nearly upon us. In order to help prepare our hearts for the expectant delight of the holiday season, we are again organizing our secret gift-giving activity. Being an Advent Friend is another special way to highlight Advent by enjoying the fellowship of others and having some fun keeping secrets. Look for a sign-up form in the newsletter and on the table in coming weeks. If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor.

<u>Hymn Sing</u> – On Sunday, December 10th at 6:30 pm we will have an Advent and Christmas hymn sing. We will be trying to record this event too in order to work toward producing a CD of our congregation singing favorite hymns as part of our 175th anniversary. Please plan to join this extra chance to sing carols!

Sunday School Christmas Program – Save the Date: 12/17, 6:30pm.

<u>Thankoffering Service</u> – Next Sunday. Just a reminder that there is an extra offering envelope for WELCA ministries on this day.

<u>Annual Christmas cookie sale</u> – Sun., Dec. 17th following our worship service, cookies will be provided by Lutherlyn camper families for fellowship time. If you enjoy the sweet, festive treats, then you are invited to purchase more to take home in order to help defray the cost of camp for our youth. Christmas tins will be available to fill.

<u>WELCA</u> - This year's designated outreach for WELCA is TryLife Center of Lower Burrell. On Sunday, November 12th and 19th, leading up to our Thankoffering service, we will be collecting items to support this organization in their aid to families. Please consider donating. Items needed:

- Diapers:
 - Preemie & Newborn
 - Sizes 4 through 7 Urgent Need!
- Pull-Ups/Training Pants:
 - Sizes 2T-5TS
- Baby Wipes Urgent Need!
- Baby Soaps, Shampoos, and Diaper Rash Ointment
- Pedialyte (for children under 3)
- Formula:
 - Any preemie formula
 - Similac Sensitive
 - Similac Total Comfort and Pro Total Comfort
 - o Enfamil Gentlease (Regular, not Neuro-pro)
 - o or any other kind of formula... we can always use it!

^{*}TryLife Center's comprehensive and **free** Learn to Earn program provides parents with education, one-on-one support, information/referrals, and material assistance.



ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

is a congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Presiding Bishop (ELCA) The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton Synodical Bishop (SWPA Synod) The Rev. Kurt A. Kusserow **Pastor** The Rev. Brandon Johns Marlene Domhoff Organist & Music Director Joe Ludwik Sexton Secretary Kimberly Peaco Acolyte Owen Price **Assisting Minister** Ted Lindgren **Bell Ringer** Adam Price Karen Ferrari & Eilene Budisky Greeters Tom Ayers Lector **Beverly Barkley** Nursery Heidi Beahm **Tech Support** Ushers Adam Price & Rob Burr

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:			
MonFriday	4-6 pm	After School Program	
Mon. Nov. 13	6:55 pm	Anniversary Meeting	
	7:00pm	Boy Scouts	
Tue. Nov. 14	7:00 pm	Council Meeting	
Wed. Nov. 15	5:30 pm	Manna Night	
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice	
	8:00 pm	Cantata Practice	
Thur. Nov. 16	9:00 am	Quilters Group	
	7:00 pm	Bible Study	
Sat. Nov. 18	6:30 pm	Game Night	

<u>Worship Volunteers</u> – Anyone, third grade and older interesting in learning how to acolyte or teens and adults interested in becoming lectors, assisting ministers, ushers, or bell ringers, please see Pastor and we'll schedule a training when it works for those interested.

Welcome to St. Peter's

We are thankful that you are here to worship 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.



Newcomers and Guests

New to St. Peter's? Please sign the GUEST REGISTER behind the last pew. A handicapped accessible RESTROOM is located near the Van Buren Street entrance (through Luther Hall, past the kitchen, restroom is on the left in the foyer). You are welcome to commune with us if that is your practice.

Nursery - is staffed by a volunteer and available for children and caregivers. Exit the rear of the nave and follow the steps to the basement, the nursery is on the left. The service can be heard through an intercom in the nursery. There are activity bags in the back of the sanctuary and children's bulletins geared for children ages 5 and up are at the nave entrances.

Staying in Touch:

Our church office is open Monday through Friday from 9 am until noon. Pastor is often there also or by appointment.

Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

Church Office: 724.538.5810

Church Email: stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net
Pastor Email: stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net
Pastor Email: stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net
Pastor Email: stepterslcec@zoominternet.net
Pastor Emailto: <a href="

Church Website: 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

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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