# Welcome to St. Peter's Lutheran Church



All Saints Sunday

November 5, 2023 10:15 Worship Service

Pastor Brandon Johns

On All Saints Sunday we remember all of those who have entered the Church Triumphant including these brothers and sisters of St. Peter's: **Tom Manuel, Sandy Critchlow, Beryl George, Tom Wearing, Elisa Walker, Marylee Jones, Beth Allmann, Julia Knauff, and John Reinhart**.

No amount of our prayers are necessary to ensure the loving embrace of God's arms of mercy now and always for them. Instead, we pray in thanksgiving for the lives of our loved ones, rejoice in the baptismal promises that God has made real for them, and comfort one another with the mutual consolation we have in the hope of the resurrection. The lighted candle is one way of remembering their place in this community and before God, for it is from Jesus, the Light of the world, that we all obtain the saintly light.

Also, we recognize our recently baptized, **Violet Jason, Josie Guerriero, Quinn Green,** and **Lucy Merrison,** for it is in our baptism that we receive the promise of adoption as God's children and while the sin of our old self continues to cling to us in this life, the adoption that God conveys to us through the water and Word justifies us, establishing us already among the saints in light.

**PRELUDE** 

Heavenly Grace

Harry A. Himebaug

# **BELL RINGING**

# LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM AND THE SAINTS

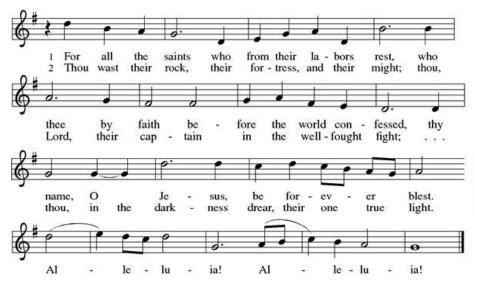
We gather for worship in the name of the one in whom we baptize, the one in whom is our life, the one in whose name we commend our dead, God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

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.

Likewise, in Baptism your Spirit moves through water and the Word joining us to the new life in Christ.

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all." (Eph. 4:4-6)

We praise you God for uniting us with the saints of all times and places, especially Tom Manuel (pause for candle lighting and chime ringing after each name is read), Sandy Critchlow, Beryl George, Tom Wearing, Elisa Walker, Marylee Jones, Beth Allmann, Julia Knauff, John Reinhart and for their great cloud of witness that surrounds us.



We give you thanks, O God, for your call to your people throughout the ages to green pastures and still waters, where you restore souls and show your path.

Likewise, your Son has called us to baptize all peoples, that we all might carry his light yoke as we follow the Way, and know his ongoing presence with us.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord.' 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.'" (Rev. 14:13)

We praise you God for the work of the saints, which is now our work, and that you have led them now to your joyous rest.

(At this time you are invited forward to light a candle/s for loved ones who have died in the last year, whether members of our St. Peter's congregation or our extended family.)



(Those who were baptized since last All Saints Sunday are invited forward)

We give you thanks, O God, for the promises that you have given through prophets of old to be the well of salvation, and to turn mourning into dancing at the swallowing up of death.

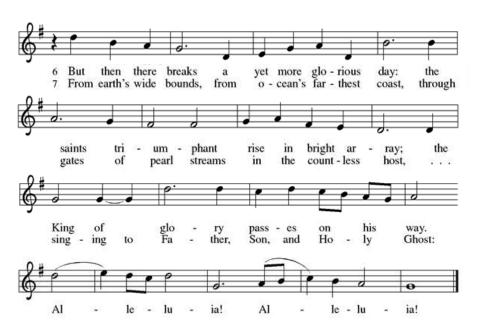
Likewise, in Baptism, you have joined us to the great promises of eternity: resurrection, living water, a place at the banqueting table, the fullness of the presence of the living God.

"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." (Romans 6:3-5)

We praise you God for in the waters of Baptism you have made sinful people like us saints in light, and you have included Violet Jason, Josie Guerriero, Quinn Green, and Lucy Merrison with us and all your children in the promised gift of eternal life.

Violet, Josie, Quinn, and Lucy, receive these gifts as tangible reminders that through water and God's Word, you have been claimed like us as children of God, a fellow heirs of God's kingdom come and servants with us in God's kingdom on earth.

Shower us all, O God, with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, joy, and love.



#### 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.** 

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

**SR. CHOIR ANTHEM** 

My God and I

J.W.Peterson

# **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

# FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- <sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- <sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
- <sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

# PSALM 34: 1-10, 22

- <sup>1</sup>I will bless the Lord at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.
- <sup>2</sup>I will glory in the Lord; let the lowly hear and rejoice.
- <sup>3</sup>Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; let us exalt God's name together.
- <sup>4</sup>I sought the Lord, who answered me and delivered me from all my terrors.
- <sup>5</sup>Look upon the Lord and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.
- <sup>6</sup>I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me and saved me from all my troubles.
- <sup>7</sup>The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord and delivers them.
- 8Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!
- <sup>9</sup>Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord, for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.
- 10The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.
- <sup>22</sup>O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

#### SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed.

What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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





# GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

<sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

#### SERMON

# HYMN OF THE DAY: Borning Cry



- "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old. "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- of your life, not too old, no lon ger young, the mid-dle a - ges



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold. you were raised to praise the liv-ing Lord, to whom you now be-long. I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



of light you wan-dered off a blaze to find where de-mons dwell." to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing I'll be there I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

#### **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

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.

Holy God, the church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; show us unity in your presence.

# 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.** 

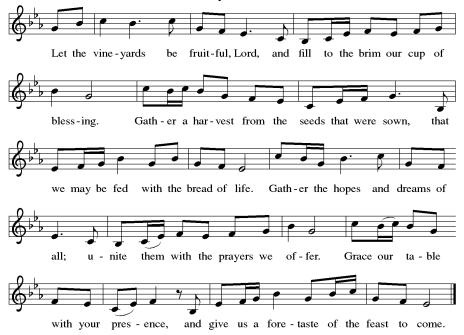
# **PEACE**

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

# **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

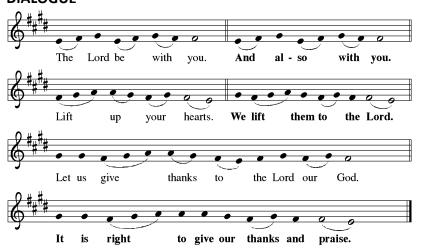


# OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

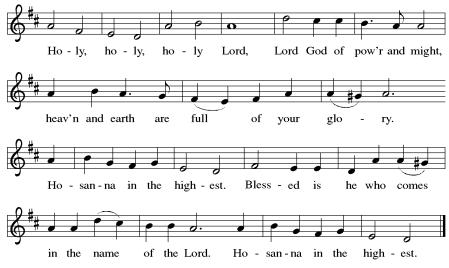
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

# **DIALOGUE**



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

# **SANCTUS**



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

With your holy ones of all times and places,

we praise you, O God, now and forever. Amen.

# 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;

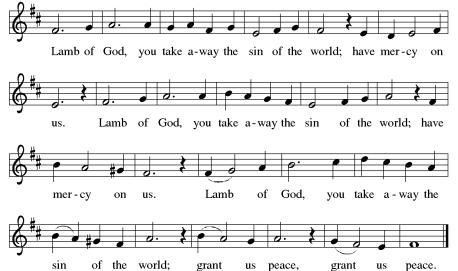
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

# INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

# **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

Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your saints in light. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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  $\pm$  give you peace. **Amen.** 



continued on next page



**SHARING FOR SERVING:** Mission Notices, Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### DISMISSAL

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

**POSTLUDE** For All the Saints Lois Smith

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

Today's altar flowers are given by Marlene Domhoff and Lucille Wingard in loving memory of parents Charles M. & Mabel A. Peters

# Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following

Cole Barkley Helen Barto Luke Clawson
Raquel Barron Kay Burr Tom Smith
Zachary Mashuda Ricky Benson Isabella Stoehr
Marty Smith Ed Smith Paige Volz
Charlene Brittner Garrie Wearing Elaine Mulneix

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

# Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support Glade Run Lutheran Services.

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

<u>Congregational Meeting</u> – On Sunday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have our annual congregational meeting. Please plan to stay after worship for that 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>Annual Christmas cookie sale</u> – Sun., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 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:
  - o Any preemie formula
  - Similac Sensitive
  - o Similac Total Comfort and Pro Total Comfort
  - Enfamil Gentlease (Regular, not Neuro-pro)
  - or any other kind of formula... we can always use it!

<sup>\*</sup>TryLife Center's comprehensive and **free** Learn to Earn program provides parents with education, one-on-one support, information/referrals, and material assistance.

# In Holy Remembrance

**Tom Manuel** is the son of Carol Kerr, husband of Sue Manuel, and father of Corey, Shawn, and Ian. Tom served the Lord through his music and his country through the Army.

**Sandy Critchlow** is the daughter of Bea King and sister of Bev Critchlow. Sandy served God through her loving, compassionate care of others, as a nurse and as a mother and grandmother.

**Beryl George** is the sister of Inez Schmidt and aunt of Wes Schmidt and family. Beryl served the Lord with joy in the generous way she supported family, friends, and strangers with willing donations and food for any in need.

**Tom Wearing** is the brother of Garrie Wearing and Linda Middleton. Tom served God by being a true friend to all and a witness to the peace of God that can carry us through even our hardest times.

**Elisa Walker** is the wife of Corey Walker, mother of Emersyn and Elliot, and daughter of Vic and Brenda Peffer. Elisa served the Lord through her steadfast love and gentleness, fruits of the Spirit and of her unwavering faith.

**Marylee Jones** is the sister of Kim Morris. Marylee served God through her care for Creation and by making of herself and her home a haven for those in need.

**Beth Allmann** is the sister of Vic Peffer. Beth served the Lord with humility and joy as a church sexton, choir member, and as a friend who could lift your day with a joke and a smile.

**Julia Knauff** is the wife of Ron Knauff. Julia served God by being an example of self-giving and devotion in her support of her family and others who were in need.

**John Reinhart** is the brother of Carol Kerr. John served the Lord by witnessing to God's grace and his country through military service.

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:		
Mon. – Fri.	4-6 pm	After School Program
Mon. Nov. 6	6:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting
	7:00 pm	Boy/Cub Scouts
Tues. Nov. 7	7:00 pm	Property Meeting
Wed. Nov. 8	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch – Rick's Taproom
	5:30 pm	Manna Night
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
	8:00 pm	Cantata Practice
Thur. Nov. 9	9:00 am	Quilters Group
	7:00 pm	Bible Study



# 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
Organist & Music Director	Marlene Domhoff
Sexton	Joe Ludwik
Secretary	Kimberly Peaco
Acolyte	Seth Price
Assistant Minister	Robin Van Dyke
Bell Ringer	Wes Schmidt
Greeters	Jason & Robin Plank
Lector	Patti Flach
Nursery	Linda Schmidt
Tech Support	Adam Price
Ushers	Cindy & Tom Ayers

<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 Website: <a href="www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org">www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org</a> 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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