

Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



*Sixth Sunday of Easter
with baptism for Hudson Foster*

*May 5, 2024
10:15 Worship Service*

*Pastor Brandon Johns
with Guest Pastor
Randy Marburger, Presider*

BELL RINGING**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENES**

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism,
we are gathered in the name of the Father,
and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Loving God,

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have turned from you

and given ourselves over to the ways that lead to death.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

Let your Holy Spirit work in us

to change our lives and make us new,

**that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ,
our risen Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy,

loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: Dearest Jesus, We Are Here



1 Dear - est Je - sus, we are here, glad - ly your com -
2 Your com - mand is clear and plain, and we would o -
3 There - fore we have come to you, in our arms this
4 Gra - cious head, your mem - ber own; shep - herd, take your
5 Now in - to your heart we pour prayers that from our



mand o - bey - ing. With this child we now draw near
bey it du - ly; "You must all be born a - gain,
in - fant bear - ing; tru - ly here your grace we view;
lamb and feed it; prince of peace, make here your throne;
hearts pro - ceed - ed. Our pe - ti - tions heav'n - ward soar;



in re - sponse to your own say - ing that to you it
heart and life re - new - ing tru - ly, born of wa - ter
may this child, your mer - cy shar - ing, in your arms be
way of life, to heav - en lead it; pre - cious vine, let
may our heart's de - sires be heed - ed! Write the name we



shall be giv - en as a child and heir of heav - en.
and the Spir - it, and my king - dom thus in - her - it,"
shield - ed ev - er, yours on earth and yours for - ev - er.
noth - ing sev - er from your side this branch for - ev - er.
now have giv - en; write it in the book of heav - en!

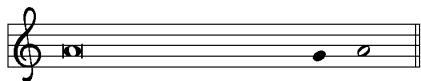
Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, ch.
Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



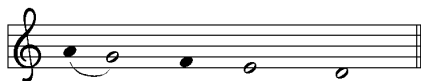
Lord, have mer - cy.



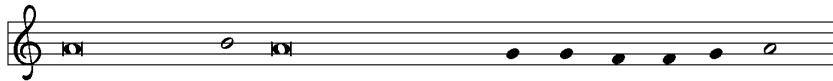
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE RITE FOR HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

We begin the Rite for Holy Baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

God, who is rich in mercy, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. In this sacrament, we become children of life, heirs of all God's possessions, God's own children, and brothers and sisters of Christ. As Christ is our brother, we also become brothers and sisters to one another in the communion of all the saints. We begin our new life, we live our new life, and we look forward to the resurrection under the sign of our Baptism. Today God calls Hudson by name to enter into this inheritance. Joe and Chelsea, called by the Holy Spirit and trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Hudson baptized into Christ?
Response: I do.

As you bring Hudson to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed,
and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that he may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace among all people.



Do you promise to help Hudson grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

Garrett and Karissa, baptismal sponsors for Hudson, do you promise to nurture him in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? *Response: I do.*

People of God, do you promise to support Hudson and pray for him in his new life in Christ? **We do.**

The assembly stands as able.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. Through the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given praise and honor and worship through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

BAPTISM

Hudson Foster is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May you evermore be clothed with the righteousness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for whose sake God has now made you his child and promises you the fullness of new life.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Hudson with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Receive the sign of the Holy Cross, as a sign that through your baptism you are participating in the death and resurrection of Christ. Through the cross you have been redeemed; in baptism you receive the fullness of this redemption; and henceforth you are called to take up your cross and follow after Christ.

Hudson Foster, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
Peace be with you. **Amen.**

WELCOME

“Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Let us pray: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Chelsea and Joe. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them and us teachers and examples of righteousness for Hudson and all our children. Strengthen Joe, Chelsea, and all of this assembly in our own Baptism so we may share eternally with Hudson the salvation you have given him through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the Lord’s family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

The newly baptized is introduced to the assembly.

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM *The Bond of Love Medley* Tom Fettke

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

PSALM 98 (*Read Responsively*)

¹Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness
in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The Lord will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I

have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”
This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



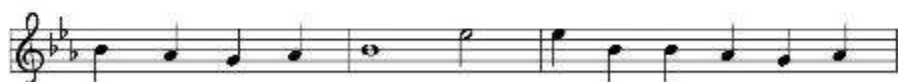
1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - hove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

The response for each petition is: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Risen 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 front and rear of the nave.

OFFERING SONG: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal
Fa - ther, who the, crown shall give, Sa - vior



vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love
by whose death we live, Spir - it, guide thru all our days

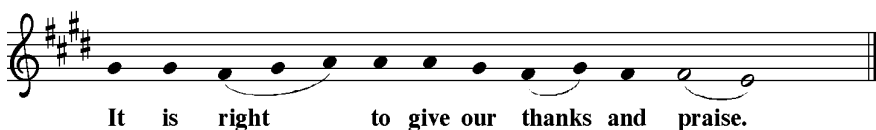
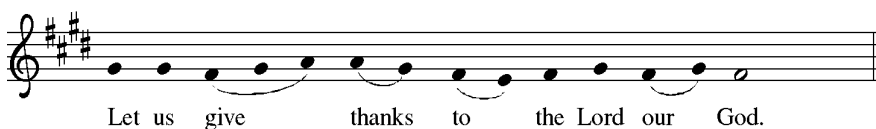
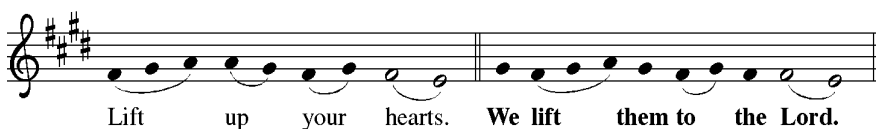


eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!
Three in One, your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

OFFERING PRAYER

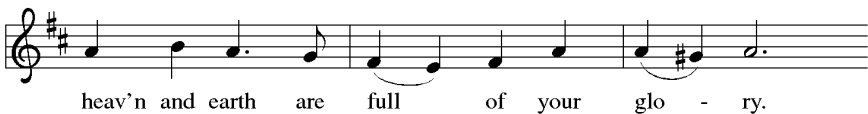
Let us pray. (*silence*) Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE



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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day;
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way,
at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **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,

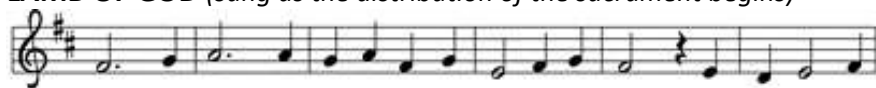
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven.

Hallelujah!

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



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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 ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: Abide, O Dearest Jesus

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Abide, O Dearest Jesus'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, a - mong us with your grace,
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, a - mong us with your word
3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness a - mong us, pre - cious Light;
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings a - mong us, boun - teous Lord;
5 A - bide, O faith - ful Sav - ior, a - mong us with your love;

that e - vil may not harm us nor we to sin give place.
and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and joy af - ford.
your truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y night.
let us in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your word.
grant stead - fast - ness and help us to reach our home a - bove.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588-1632; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923
Music: CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN, Melchior Vulpius, 1570-1615

SHARING FOR SERVING: Mission Notices and Birthdays

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Joyous Postlude

Chester Nordman

*Today's Altar Flowers
are in honor of
Margaret Clawson's
90th birthday,
given by her daughter Jane.*

*The eternal candle is given
by Marlene Domhoff in
honor of May birthdays
Roberta Domhoff May 8th
and Marla Bird May 19th*

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for May

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support United Lutheran Seminary.
If you would like to support this cause, please mark the Other line on
your contribution envelope United Lutheran Seminary.

Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:

Cole Barkley	Helen Barto	Luke Clawson
Mark Phillips	Michael Clawson	Kay Burr
Stephanie Hogan	Kim Morris	Carol Kerr
Glen Walker	Becky Rengers	Dan & Mary Brittner
Kim Morgan	Fred Sharrar	Marilynn McElhinney
David & Betty Wobb	Lou & Jan McKibben	Kitty Barto Kistler
Coltin Mawhinney	Sandy Mullins	Melissa Bonicky
Becky Arnold	Mike Lauderbaugh	Family of John Vrana
Family of Jenny Mashuda		Family of Bob Utz
Family of Sherri Gagliardi		

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

St. Peter's Anniversary - *Did You Know...* The first "fire whistle" in
Evans City was in 1904, when council gave permission to the fire
department to attach a rope to our church bell.



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
Music Director and Organist	Marlene Domhoff
Office Secretary	Kimberly Peaco
Sexton	Joe Ludwik
Acolyte	Gianna Bonicky
Assisting Minister	Glenn Fulghum
Bell Ringer	Corey Walker
Greeters	Dan & Jenn Erin
Lector	Troy Barkley
Nursery	Linda Schmidt
Tech Support	Adam Price
Ushers	Joe Ludwik & Dan Erin

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

Mon. - Fri.	4-6 pm	After School Program
Mon. May 6	6:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting
Tues. May 7	6:30 pm	Softball at MAC (SRU)
	7 pm	Property Meeting
Wed. May 8	12 pm	Lunch Bunch
	7 pm	Choir Practice
Thur. May 9	9 am	Quilters
	7 pm	Bible Study
	7 pm	Scouts

Geraniums – Order forms for red geraniums for Pentecost are available on the red table. Please return forms by next Sunday.

Mother Daughter Banquet – This year is a high tea, with music and crafts as well. Since food is being provided, signups are helpful but not required. It will be on 5/20 at 6:30 pm. All ladies are welcome!

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 secretary is in the church office Monday-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: rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com

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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