

Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



*Thankoffering
Worship Service*

November 17, 2024

Pastor Brandon Johns

Thankoffering, like Thanksgiving, is a time for gratitude.

St. Peter's Women of the ELCA is asking you to support the many ministries of WELCA using the **designated contribution envelope from your weekly giving envelopes or mark a pew envelope "Thankoffering."** WELCA programs range from advocacy and education to discipleship and outreach including endeavors of the ELCA such as Global Mission, World Hunger, and Disaster Response. WELCA continues to develop ministries in response to the needs of women and the church as a whole.

A Brief History

As we make our Thankofferings today, we share in a tradition that goes back to the 1800s or even earlier. When Women of the ELCA was formed 30 years ago, we committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings.

Giving Thankofferings is grounded in Scripture and in the constitution of the WELCA. "All income, whether received by the unit, cluster or conference, synodical or churchwide organizations, shall be viewed as being given to the total program of Women of the ELCA. ... Thankofferings shall be gifts from individuals in gratitude for blessings. These offerings shall be received by the unit and transmitted in full to the churchwide organization for the support of the ministries of this organization and the church" (Article X, Churchwide Women's Organization Constitution, Section 4, Item 1).

Each year, in thousands of congregations, Thankofferings are given to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. Together, we do more than we could ever do apart. In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with hope for all that is to come, let us give thanks!

BELL RINGING

GATHERING LITANY OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving!

Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

(We sing the indented lines together. For the first verse we begin after it is played through once. Afterwards we sing immediately with the music.)

**We gather together to seek the Lord's favor,
For daily we savor God's goodness divine.
Together confessing, we seek his greatest blessing
And find an honored place at his table to dine.**

Let all the earth sing praise to God!

Let the sound of his praise be heard in all the world!

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

**Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together in the presence of the Lord.**

Let us exult in God's steadfast love!

**We gather together with songs of thanksgiving.
To God ever-living, our anthems we raise.
With anthems unending, let praise be ascending
With hearts and lives united to show forth our praise.**

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!

My soul shall rejoice in the Lord, exulting in his deliverance.

Let all who take refuge in God rejoice; let them ever sing for joy.

**My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises God
with joyful lips.**

Give thanks to the Lord with all your heart!

**We gather together, abundantly gifted
Our voices uplifted ring sweet in God's ear.
O blest congregation, with high adoration
Come now to offer thanks; in God's temple appear.**

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. O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM: *Take My Hand* Don Besig & Nancy Price

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16

⁸The word of the Lord came to [Elijah,] saying, ⁹“Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” ¹⁰So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹²But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” ¹³Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied

and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” ¹⁵ She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶ The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

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

PSALM 146 *(Read Responsively)*

¹ Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

² **I will praise the Lord as long as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³ Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴ **When they breathe their last, they return to earth,**

and in that day their thoughts perish.

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,

whose hope is in the Lord their God;

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;**

who keeps promises forever;

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to

those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

⁸ **The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up**

those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

⁹ The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the

orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰ **The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout**

all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28

²⁴ Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵ Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶ for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the

world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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



GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44

The holy gospel according to Mark, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸ As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰ They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³ Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴ For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have
as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -



men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—
men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bles - ings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of



and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."
all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt.
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887



CONFESSION OF FAITH

(Luther's explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed)

I believe that God has created me together with all that exists. God has given me and still preserves my body and soul: eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses; reason and all mental faculties. In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink, house and farm, spouse and children, fields, livestock, and all property; along with all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life. God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil. And all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all! For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders.

The response for each petition is: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR DAILY BREAD

Give us this day our daily bread.

God gives daily bread, even when we do not pray for it, even to those who do not deserve it.

(We sing the indented lines together. For the first verse we begin after it is played through once. Afterwards we sing immediately with the music.)

**Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, created good:
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

Daily bread includes every blessing we need for this life, such as:

Women: **home and property**

Men: **food and clothing**

Women: **work and income**

Men: **a devoted family**

Women: **good government**

Men: **an orderly community**

Women: **peace and health**

Men: **favorable weather**

Women: **a good reputation**

Men: **and true friends and neighbors**

**Bless Lord the labor, we bring to serve you
That with our neighbor, we may be fed
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you
Harvesting, milling, for daily bread.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**We ask in this prayer that God would help us realize his goodness,
and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.**

**Father providing food for your children,
By your wise guiding teach us to share
One with another, so that rejoicing
With us, all others may know your care.**

We shall not live by bread alone but by every word which proceeds from the mouth of God.

**Jesus Christ is the Word of God, made flesh for us.
He is the Bread of Life.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**God gives daily bread, even to those who do not deserve it.
We ask that God would help us to realize his goodness,
and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.**

**Then will your blessing, reach every people,
Freely confessing your gracious hand.
Where all obey you, no one will hunger;
In your love's sway you nourish the land.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. (*silence*) Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our
selves, 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 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this
bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;
through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.
Amen.

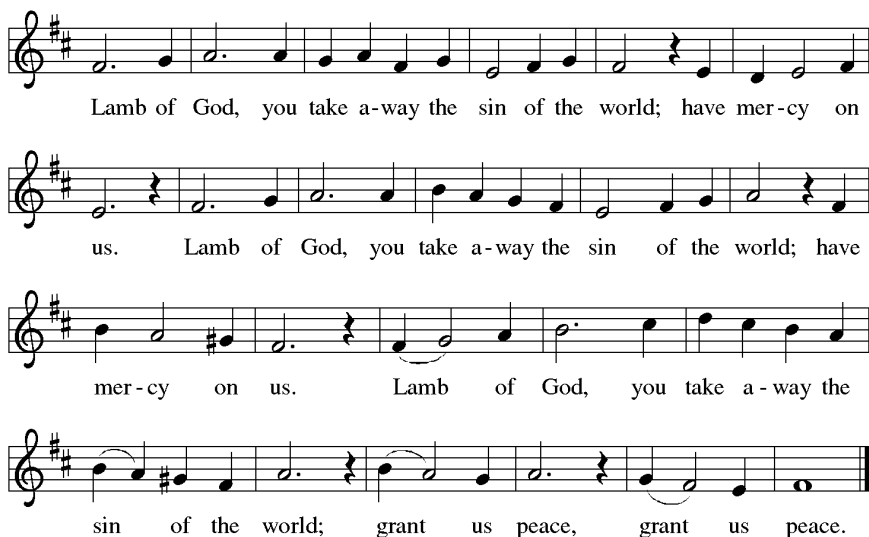
LORD'S PRAYER

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

Come to the banquet, the foretaste of the heavenly feast to come.

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.

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. We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through 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 ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: For the Fruit of All Creation

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
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SHARING FOR SERVING: Mission Notices and Birthdays

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Laudate Dominion

Chester Nordman

The Altar Flowers are presented by Talea Merrison to honor the birthday of our daughter Natalea – turned 23 on 11/09



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



Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support **Glade Run Lutheran Services**. To support this cause, please mark the “Other” line on your contribution envelope.

Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:

Cole Barkley	Troy Barkley	Luke Clawson
Joan Gump	Roberta Domhoff	Vickie Baker
Jeff MacKay	Raquel Barron	Annastyn Hogan
Lisa Burr	Marlene Domhoff	Kay Burr
Bill Boice	Tony Platek	Paige Volz
Christine Johns	Roy Marburger	The Zorn & Brittner Families

The families of Alex Kinch, Carl Huffman, Jeff Carroll, Charlotte Rice, Thomas Geiger and Kathy Pfeifer

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

Congregational Meeting - The mission spending plan (2025 budget) passed with an adjustment to increase Pastor’s salary above the Synod minimum amount. Casey Guerriero was reelected to council and joining her will be Cindy Ayers, Jan Hogan, and Robin Plank. Charlie Flach and Heinie Raupp will join the Endowment Fund committee. Adam and Erin Price will be our delegates to the 2025 Synod Assembly, in addition to Pastor. Thanks to those whose terms are ending, continuing and beginning for your service!



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	Anna Johns
Assisting Minister	Teresa O'Malley
Bell Ringer	Casey Walker
Greeters	Tom & Cindy Ayers
Lector	Charlie Flach
Nursery	Beverly Barkley
Tech Support	Adam Price
Ushers	Dan Erin & Rob Burr

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

Mon.-Fri.	4-6 pm	After School Program
Mon. Nov. 18	7:00 pm	Worship Meeting
	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Wed. Nov. 20	10:00 am	Community Quilter Group
	5:30 pm	Manna Night
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs. Nov. 21	10:00 am	Quilters Group
	7:00 pm	Bible Study

Turkey Dinner – Thank you to all of those who helped in the giving of their time and donations to make this a wonderful event!

St. Peter's Christmas Ornament - are available for you to purchase as many as you'd like at the cost of \$20 in celebration of the 175th Anniversary of St. Peter's. Each ornament has a 3.5" diameter and comes with a red ribbon for displaying it and a color picture of our Shepherd window. Please talk to Marsha Reedy to place your order.

Sunday School Christmas Program – Save the Date: 12/22, 6:30pm.

Advent Lunch – Our annual kickoff to the Advent season is returning this year on Dec. 1. Our SPY will be hosting a lunch after worship. Any funds donated 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. 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.

Annual Christmas cookie sale – Sun., Dec. 15th 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.

Welcome to St. Peter’s

We are thankful that you are here 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. 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.

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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