

Welcome to  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



*10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*August 17, 2025*

*10:15 Worship Service*

*Pastor Brandon Johns*

**BELL RINGING****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our  
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly  
love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.  
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what  
we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not  
loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors  
as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on  
us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in  
your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.  
Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and  
ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I  
therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in  
the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN: How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through fi - ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.  
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

## 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.**

KYRIE

*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for  
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for  
hun-gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam-i-ly; for  
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus-tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

## FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

## Psalm 82 (Read Responsively)

<sup>1</sup>God stands to charge the divine council assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

<sup>2</sup>**How long will you judge unjustly,  
and show favor to the wicked?**

<sup>3</sup>Save the weak and the orphan;  
defend the humble and needy;

<sup>4</sup>**rescue the weak and the poor;  
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not know, neither do they understand;  
they wander about in darkness;  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

<sup>6</sup>**Now I say to you, 'You are gods,  
and all of you children of the Most High;**

<sup>7</sup>nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.' "

<sup>8</sup>**Arise, O God, and rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

## SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29--12:2

<sup>29</sup>By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—<sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

<sup>35</sup>Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—<sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup>Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup>"I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided: father against son

and son against father,  
mother against daughter  
and daughter against mother,  
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens.

<sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY: Faith of Our Fathers

1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,  
2 Faith of our moth - ers, dar - ing faith, your work for Christ is  
3 Faith of our sis - ters, broth - ers too, who still must bear op -  
4 Faith born of God, oh, call us yet, bind us with all who

fire, and sword, Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
love re - vealed, spread - ing God's word from pole to pole,  
pres - sion's might, rais - ing on high, in pris - ons dark,  
fol - low you, shar - ing the strug - gle of your cross

*Refrain*  
when-e'er we hear that glo - rious word, Faith of our fa - thers,  
mak - ing love known and free - dom real, Faith of our moth - ers,  
the cross of Christ still burn - ing bright, Faith for to - day, O  
un - til the world is made a - new, Faith born of God, O

ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death,  
ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death,  
liv - ing faith, we will be true to you till death,  
liv - ing faith, we will be true to you till death.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, st. 1, alt; Joseph R. Alfred, b. 1947, sts. 2-4  
Music: ST. CATHARINE, Henri F. Henry, 1818-1868; James G. Walton, 1821-1905, refrain  
Text sts. 2-4 © Joseph R. Alfred, admin. Augsburg Fortress



## **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 pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence.*

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality.

***The response for each petition is:***

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

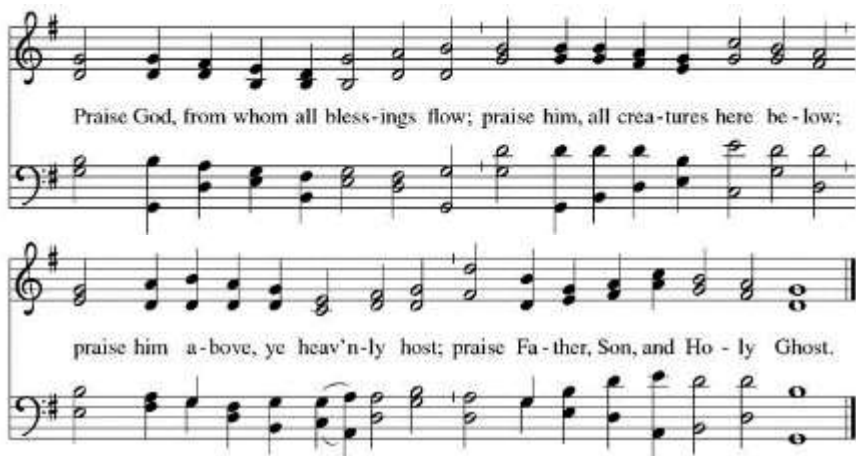
## PEACE

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: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*



## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. (*silence*) Merciful God, **you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our 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, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Lord taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

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

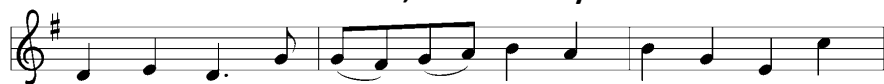
## BENEDICTION

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: God of Grace, God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

**SHARING FOR SERVING: Birthdays and Mission Notices**

**DISMISSAL**

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

**POSTLUDE**

*Heroic March*

Cyrus S. Mallard

**Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:**

Cole Barkley	Luke Clawson	John Wilson
Stephanie Hogan	Mary Fulghum	Pr. Jack Delk
Amy Grigorovich	Carmen & Sandra Morra	David Wobb
Mike Mashuda	Missy Cunningham	Bea King
Donna Meyerl	Berty McMillen	Rick Novella
Tim Fullerton		

*The Altar Flowers  
are given by  
Marlene Domhoff  
To the Glory of God and in Loving  
Memory of my parents  
Charles M. & Mabel A. Peters*

*The Eternal Candle is given by  
Teresa O'Malley  
in celebration of  
the birthdays of her sons,  
John and Timothy*

**Christopher and Rose Merrison welcome their new son,  
John Robert born on August 7, 2025 to join their daughter  
Lucy. A rosebud is placed on the altar to celebrate his birth.**



**APPLE FEST** – Mark your calendars for this annual fellowship event. Whether this is your first year or you’re decades into making them, we’ll be happy to see you at any or all of the following dates and times as we enjoy each other’s company as we make our treats!

**Apple Fest:** Sept. 19, 20, 21

**Dumpling Making:** Sat. Aug. 30<sup>st</sup> and Sat. Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am

**Apple Cutting for Apple Butter:** Fri. Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am

**Apple Butter Making:** Sat. Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 am - ?

**The Fellowship Committee is gratefully receiving PINT jars at this time. Please leave the jars in the kitchen. Thank you!**

**Fan Appreciation Night** – Calling all players and fans of the St. Peter’s Apostles! We will have our annual fan appreciation night on August 18<sup>th</sup> at the Middle Lancaster field. This is also our opening night of the playoffs. Food, prizes, and games!!



**ST. PETER’S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*is a congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).*

Pastor	The Rev. Brandon Johns
Organist & Music Director	Marlene Domhoff
Office Secretary	Lisa French
Sexton	Joe Ludwik
Asst. Minister	Karen Ferrari
Lector	Charlie Flach
Acolyte	Penelope Erin
Bell Ringer	Corey Walker
Ushers	Joe Ludwik & Dean Zinkhann
Nursery	Staci Bettencourt
Tech Support	Adam Price
Greeters	Denny & Inez Schmidt

**St. Peter’s Upcoming Events:**

Mon. August 18	6:00 pm	Softball Playoffs @ ML & Fan Appreciation Night
Wed. August 20	10:00 am	Community Sewers
	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch
	6:15 pm	Softball Playoffs @ ML
Thurs. August 21	10:00 am	Quilters
	6:30 pm	Softball Playoffs @ MAC
	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Sat. August 23	6:30 pm	Wine and Cheese Social

**Wine and Cheese** – August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Raupps’ starting at 6:30 pm!  
110 Raupp Lane Mars, Pa

## **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. You are welcome to commune with us if that is your practice. 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).

**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-Wednesday-Friday, 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](mailto:stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net)

Pastor Email: [rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com](mailto:rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com)

Church Website: [www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org](http://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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