

Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



*Twenty-third Sunday
after Pentecost*

Thankoffering Worship Service

November 16, 2025

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, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM

We Thank You, Lord

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2

¹See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a}But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

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.**

³ You 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: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.

¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

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

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call.

The response for each petition is:

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

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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.

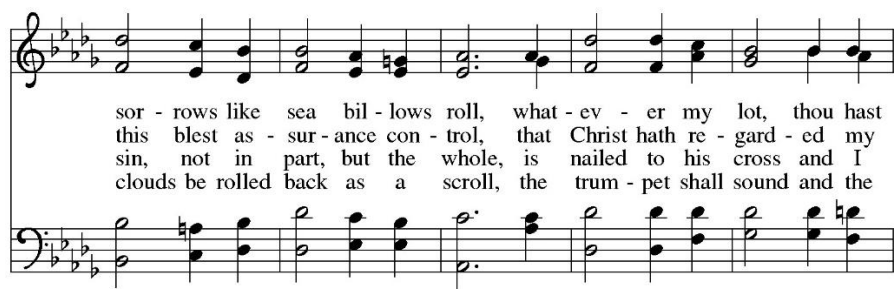
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: When Peace Like a River



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888
 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

SHARING FOR SERVING: Mission Notices and Birthdays

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

With Thankful Hearts

Bertha Frick

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

The Altar Flowers are presented by Robin VanDyke in memory of her mother, Dot Marburger, for her work with WELCA and in honor of Becky Rengers on her birthday.



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



Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:

Cole Barkley	Luke Clawson	Mary Fulghum
Stephanie Hogan	Berty McMillen	Troy Barkley
Bea King	Joan Gump	Phyllis Johnson
Jim & Val Buccic	Gail Blakely	Deb Mort
Cole Moretti	Clara Sipp	Diane Marburger
Jimmy Huchel	The family of Merle Peters	
The families of Robert Bittner, Phyllis Vail & Tom Baker		

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

Advent Lunch – Our annual kickoff to the Advent season is 11/30 after worship. Our SPY will be hosting a lunch 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 – The season of hope, 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. Please return your sign-up form by 11/23.



ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

ELCA Presiding Bishop

SWPA Synod Bishop

Pastor

Organist & Music Director

Sexton

Asst. Minister

Lector

Acolyte

Bell Ringer

Ushers

Nursery

Tech Support

Greeters

The Rev. Yehiel Curry

The Rev. Melissa Stohler

The Rev. Brandon Johns

Marlene Domhoff

Joe Ludwik

Robin VanDyke

Melissa Bonicky

Gianna Bonicky

Davin Beahm

Cindy & Tom Ayres

Marge Lindgren

Adam Price

Margaret Clawson & Jane Taylor

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

Mon.-Friday	4-6:00 pm	After School Program
Mon. Nov. 17	7:00 pm	Worship Meeting
		Boy Scouts
Tue. Nov. 18	7:00 pm	Finance Committee
Wed. Nov. 19	10:00 am	Community Quilters Group
	5:30 pm	Manna Night
	7 & 8:00 pm	Cantata Practice & Choir
Thur. Nov. 20	10:00 am	Quilters Group
	8:00 pm	Bible Study
Fri. Nov. 21	9:00 am	Clothing Cupboard

December Save the Dates

12/19 – 5 – 10:00 pm – Christmas dinner (5-6pm) and caroling (6-8pm)
SPY party to follow

12/21 – 10:15 am – Cantata, Christmas Cookies for Campers after church,
6 pm - Christmas Program

12/24 – 7:00 pm & 10:00 pm – Christmas Services

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 church office is open Monday through Friday from 9 am until noon. Pastor is often there also or by appointment. Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

Church Office: 724.538.5810

Church Email: stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net

Pastor Email: 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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