

Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



21st Sunday after Pentecost

*October 18, 2026
10:15 Worship Service*

Pastor Brandon Johns

BELL RINGING**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

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.

**By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life.

**Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life,
bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God.**

Here, death is washed away forever.

**Here, we are grafted into the tree of life,
with leaves for the healing of the world.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly,
into this community, and throughout all creation.

Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions.

Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: O God beyond All Praising

1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
 2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
 3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,
 and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
 its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
 that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;
 for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
 but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
 and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,
 at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
 though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
 we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:
 we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
 for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
 to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,
 we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
 and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
 and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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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. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENIOR CHOIR

Sing Praise to the Lord

Hal Hopson

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the Lord do all these things.

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

PSALM 96 (*Read Responsively*)

¹Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

²**Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

⁸**Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.**

⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be
moved will judge the peoples with equity."**

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at
your coming, O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

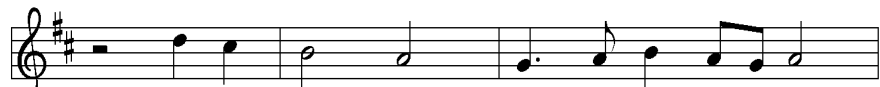
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

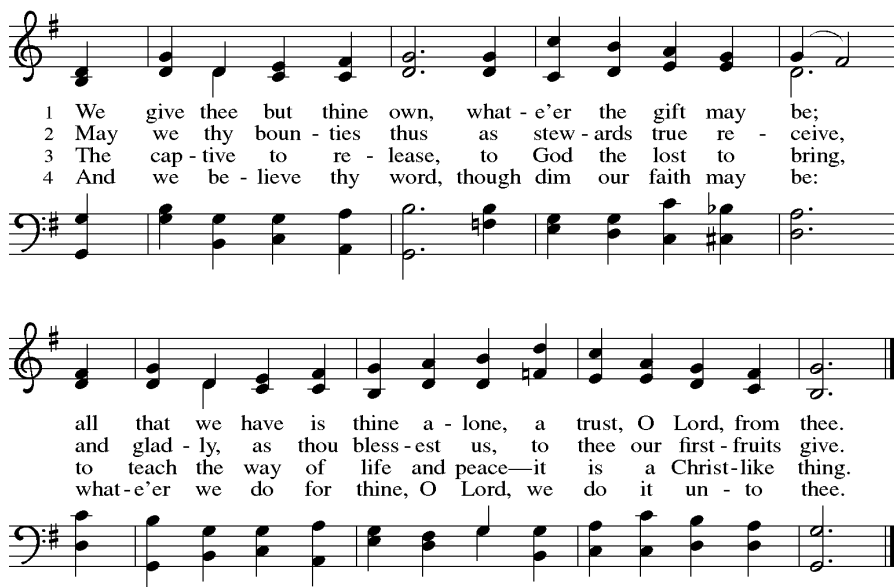
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: We Give Thee but Thine Own



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

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.**

ORDER FOR HEALING

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Laying On of Hands

Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come forward to be prayed for and to pray for one another. Come forward to feel the love of the Living God at work in you and through you. Come forward to be anointed with oil and the cross as you were at your baptism. May the voices in prayer, the hands in service, and the oil in blessing be a sign and even a work of healing and wholeness for us all in the name of the triune God.

Those who wish to receive laying on of hands with prayer and anointing approach and will be received one by one in turn. If you are unable to come forward but still wish to be individually prayed for, please send someone up on your behalf to alert the pastor of that need. Those who wish to join in the laying on of hands on behalf of our brothers and sisters should also come forward at this time, standing forward by the pastor to allow space for those receiving to be welcomed. Everyone is invited to participate in either or both capacities. When it is your turn to receive laying on of hands and anointing, you are invited to kneel at the kneeler as you are able or you may remain sitting or standing as needed.

During the Laying On of Hands we will sing the following five hymns. If the hymns are finished before the Laying On of Hands concludes, instrumental music will then provide space for our meditation. If the Laying On of Hands portion of the service concludes before we have finished singing these hymns, we will sing the rest of whichever hymn we are singing at that time before continuing with the Blessing.

HYMN: Just As I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 man - y a doubt, fight - ings fears with - in, with - out,
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

HYMN: Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
 2 Sum-mer and win - ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours-es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



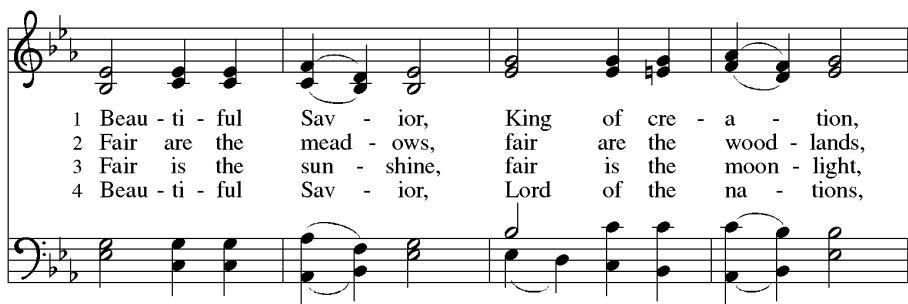
hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

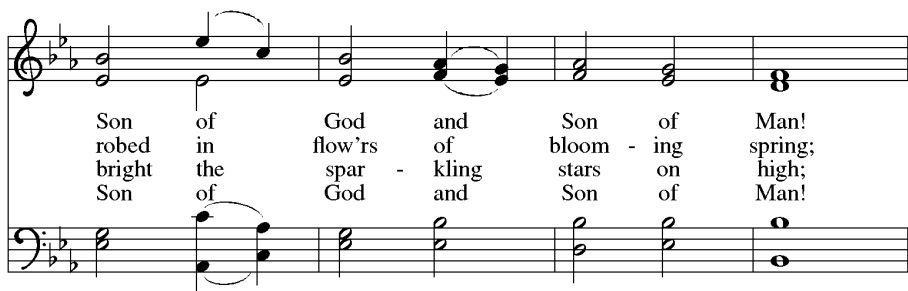
Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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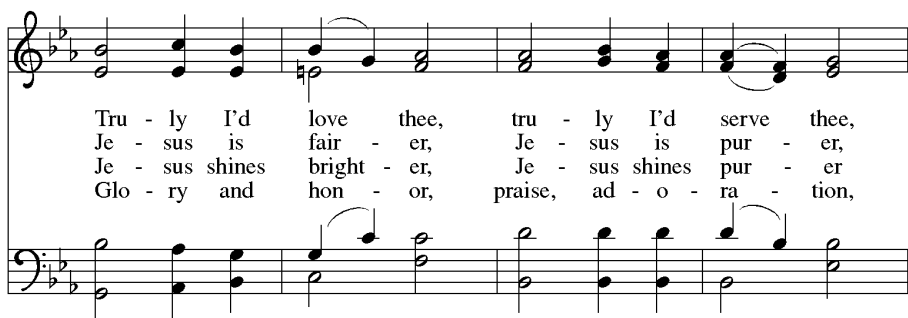
HYMN: Beautiful Savior



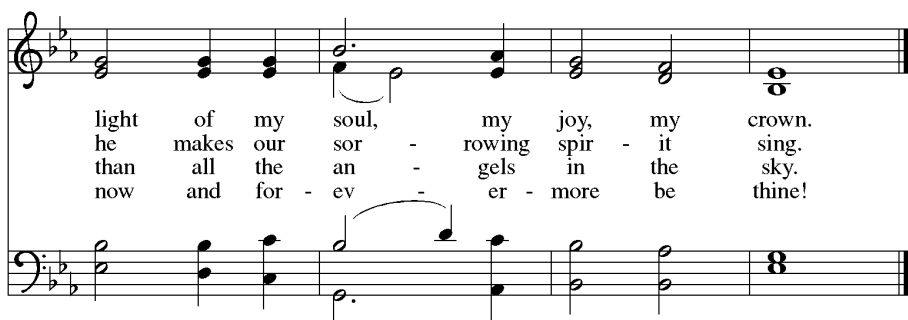
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright in the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

HYMN: Amazing Grace

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835



HYMN: 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.



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

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

After all have returned to their places and the music has ended, the congregation stands, and the Order of Healing concludes with the following blessing. Then the service continues with Prayers.

Blessing

Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



hope anchors the soul
 Psalm 131:1

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world. *A brief silence.*

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry.

The response for each petition is:

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

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

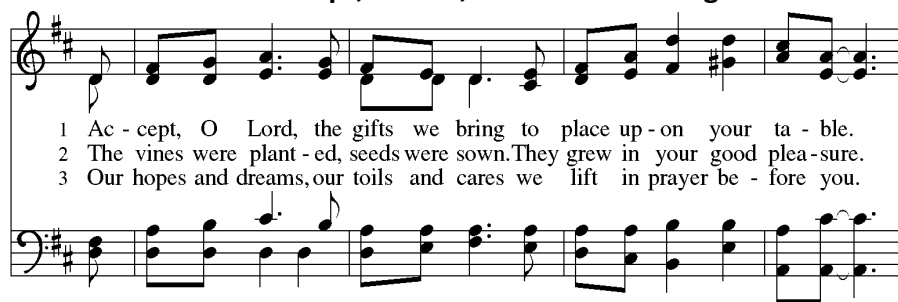
PEACE

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

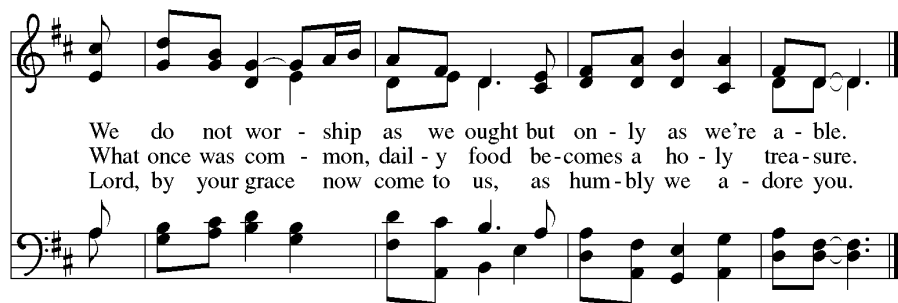
OFFERING

Our offerings are made processional, which means dropped into the plates located near the entrances to the nave.

OFFERTORY SONG: Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.

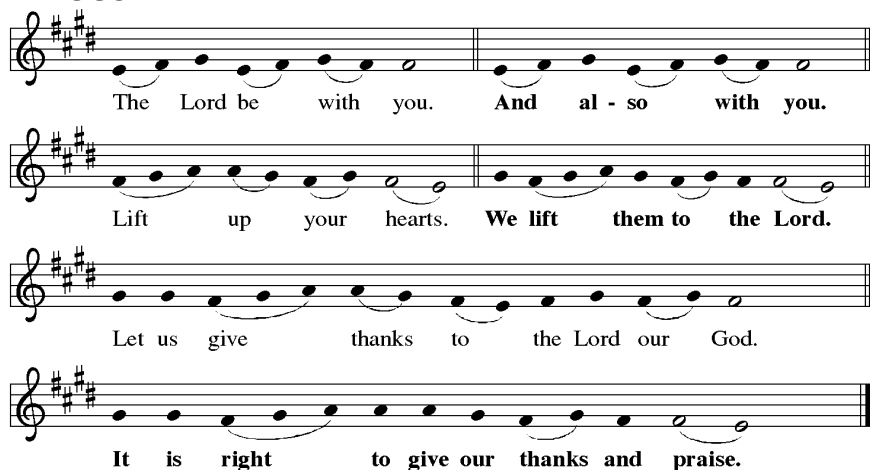


We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of healing and hope, **you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.**

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

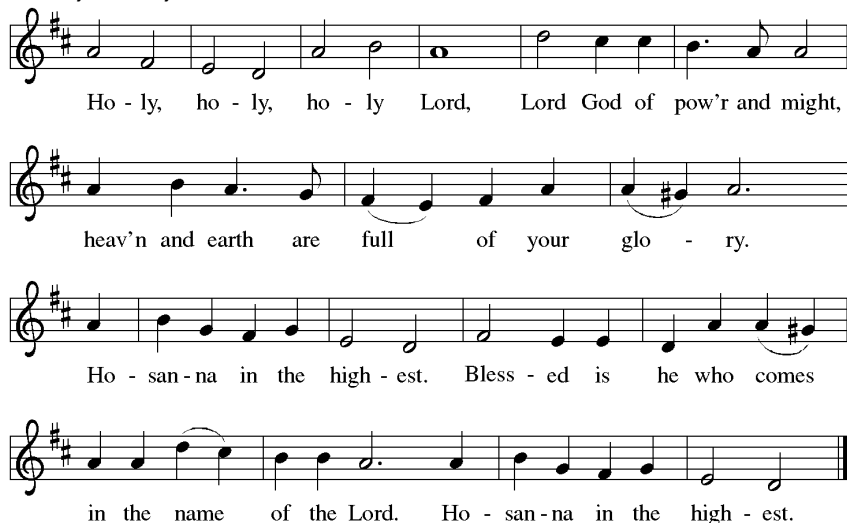
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, 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, gather at the banqueting table of our Lord!

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. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your healing love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The God of all consolation grant you hope all the days of your life, restore you to health and grant you salvation, fill your heart with peace, and lead you to eternal life. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: God of Grace and 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: Mission Notices and Birthdays

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Finale

C.L. Koch

Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:

Cole Barkley	Luke Clawson	Donna Daugherty
Berty McMillen	Stephanie Hogan	Annastyn Hogan
Debbie Beahm	Michael Grigorovich	Nancy Zattiero
Rick Reifenstein	Karen Ferrari	Malala Allen
Butch Barto	Dick Marburger	Sue Goehring
Robin VanDyke	Rita Reifenstein	Ken Nagle
Mary Lynne Lorch	Pastor Larry Mort	

*The Altar Flowers are given
by Jim & Debbie Merrison
in memory of Ruth Corfield’s
birthday and Frank & Freda
Merrison’s Anniversary*



*Today’s Eternal Candle
is presented
by Luann & Perry Brosius
in honor of October birthdays
for Ava, Mark, and Paul.*

Our Benevolent Cause for October: Lutheran Service Society

If you would like to support this cause, please mark the “Other” line on your contribution envelope LSS.

Blood Drive – Our 4th annual Elisa Walker Memorial Blood Drive is on Monday, October 26th from 2-7pm. If you need help signing up to donate, please let Pastor know. Also, if you would like to be part of the hospitality team, welcoming people to our church and/or providing cookies for donors, please let Pastor know that as well.

St. Peter’s Upcoming Events:

Mon. – Friday	4 – 6:00 pm	After School Program
Wed. Oct. 21	10:00 am	Community Sewers
	5:30 pm	Manna Night
	7:00 pm	Cantata Choir Practice
	8:00 pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thurs. Oct. 22	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Fri. Oct. 23	6:30 pm	W/ELCA Bunco Night



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
Sexton	Joe Ludwik
Acolyte	Owen Price
Asst. Minister	Janice Hogan
Bell Ringer	Davin Beahm
Greeters	Jenn & Dan Erin
Lector	Larry Mort
Ushers	Heidi Beahm and Austin Schmidt
Nursery	Cheryl Thomas
Tech Support	Adam Price

Welcome to St. Peter's

We are thankful that you are here to worship with other Christians today. 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 & 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.



Offering – Thank you for supporting our ministries! Plates are available at the front and rear of the nave to receive offering, or you if you prefer, we have Venmo as an option. If you choose to use Venmo, please note how you would like the funds to be designated, like for Current Fund, etc.

Peters LCEC

@Peters-LCEC



venmo

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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