

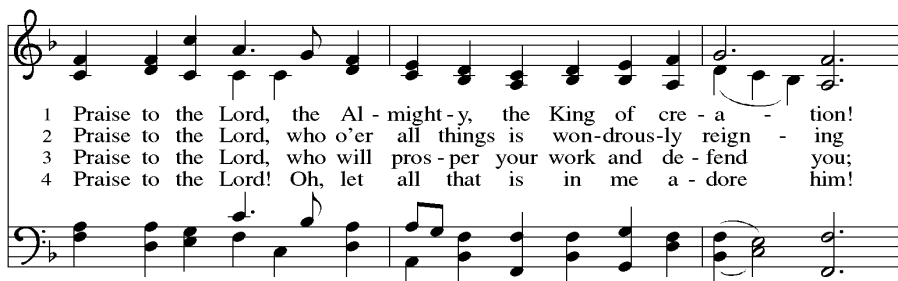
Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



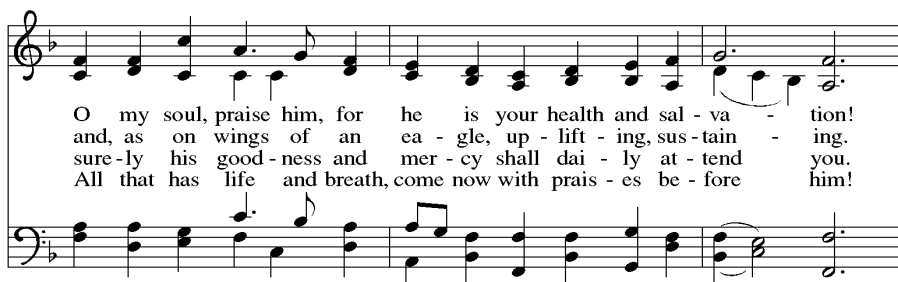
Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026
10:15 Worship Service
Pastor Brandon Johns

BELL RINGING

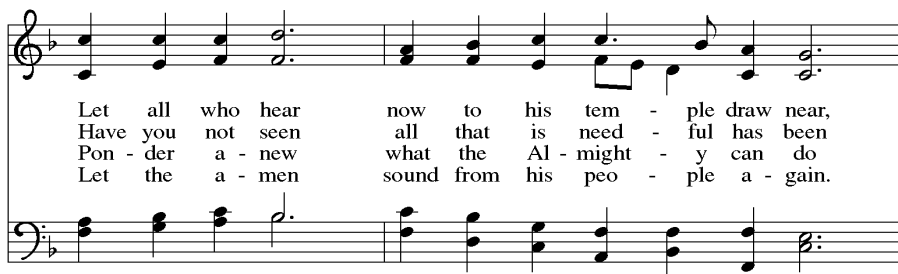
PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus-tain - ing.
 sure-ly his good-ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at-tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be-fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

GATHERING LITANY

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

There is one Body and one Spirit;

There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

One God and Father of all.

Blessed be God, who by the Word, is revealed to be perfect Love.

**Blessed be God whose grace is freely given to all,
conveyed to us through water, word, bread, and wine.**

Blessed be God who sustains and protects his Holy Church.

And blessed be God who sanctifies us and guides us in our faith.

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: Give to Our God Immortal Praise

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENIOR CHOIR *Built on a Rock*

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

¹ The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

² “Speak to all the congregation of the Israelites and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

¹⁵ “You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. ¹⁶ You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand idly by when the blood of your neighbor is at stake: I am the Lord.

¹⁷ “You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.”

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

PSALM 1

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

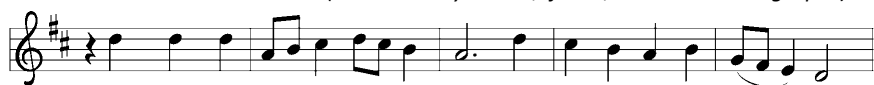
⁶ **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

¹ You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴ but, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts. ⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed, ⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷ though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸ So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

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



God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;



to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while



time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-46

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord,

“Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet” ’?

⁴⁵ “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY: The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song,
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

Gracious God, as we remember the Reformation, we thank you for all those who have worked to hold the church accountable to its mission. Protect them as they speak truth to power.

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.

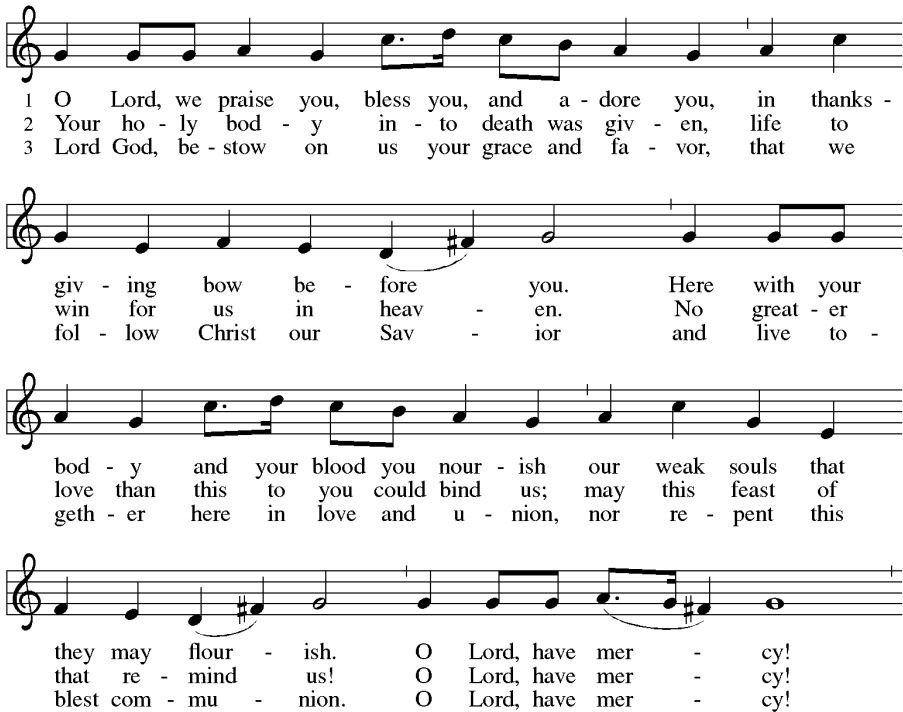
PEACE

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY SONG: O Lord, We Praise You



1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, in thanks -
2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en, life to
3 Lord God, be - stow on us your grace and fa - vor, that we

giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your
win for us in heav - en. No great - er
fol - low Christ our Sav - ior and live to -

bod - y and your blood you nour - ish our weak souls that
love than this to you could bind us; may this feast of
geth - er here in love and u - nion, nor re - pent this

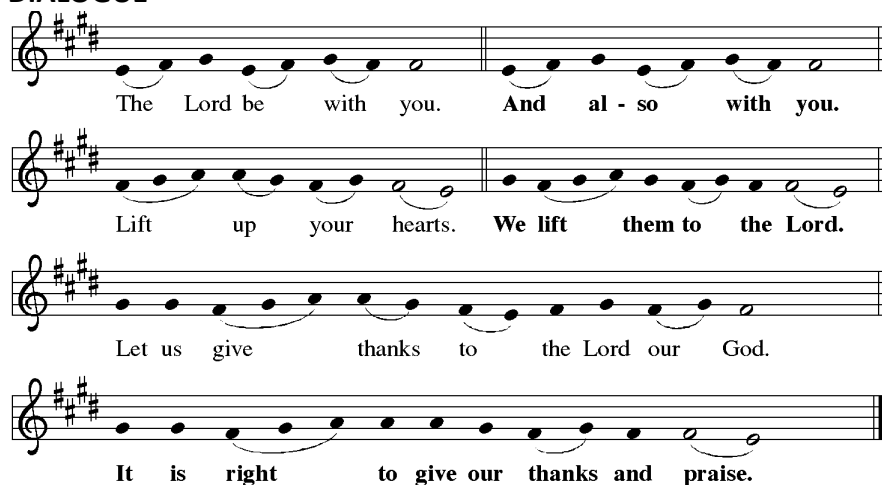
they may flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy!
that re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
blest com - mu - nion. O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: German hymn, 15th cent., st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, sts. 2–3; tr. composite
Music: GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. **You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

DIALOGUE



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

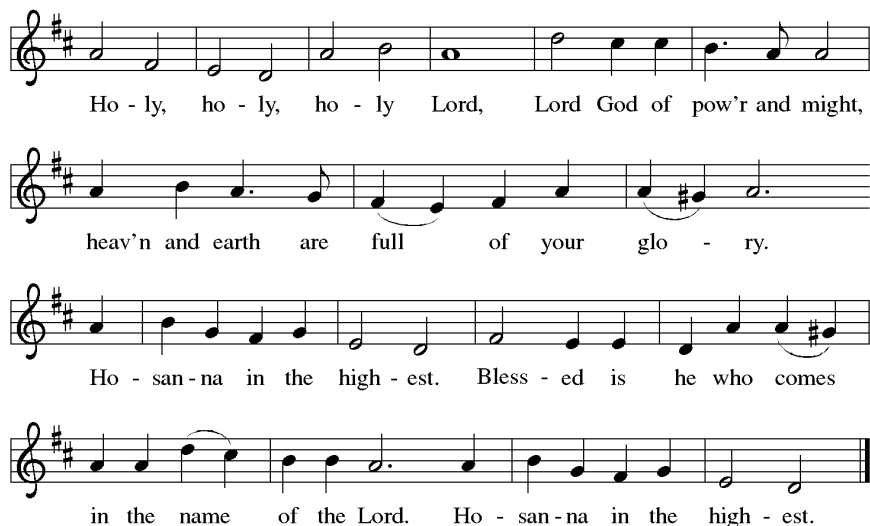
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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.**

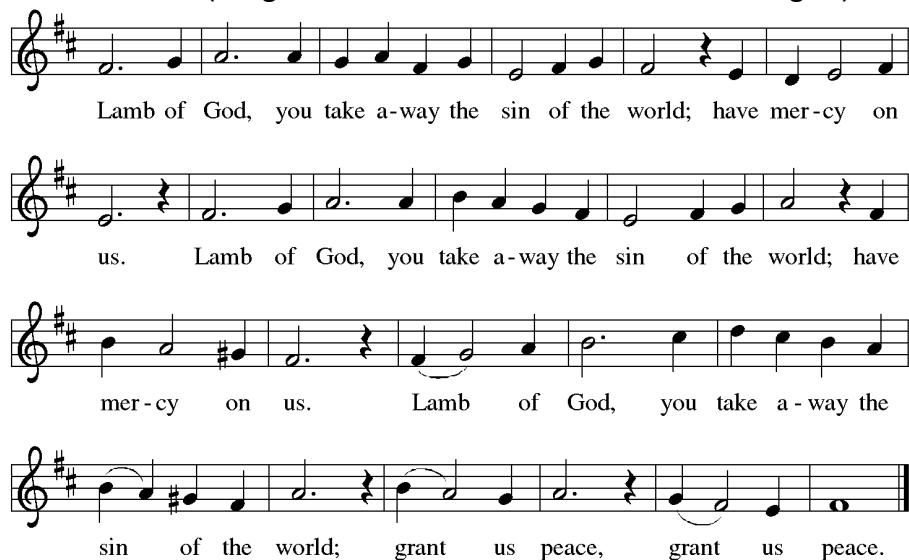
LORD'S PRAYER

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

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

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. God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **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: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

SHARING FOR SERVING: Birthdays and Mission Notices

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:

Cole Barkley	Luke Clawson	Donna Daugherty
Berty McMillen	Stephanie Hogan	Annastyn Hogan
Debbie Beahm	Michael Grigorovich	Matthew Wible
Nancy Zattiero	Rick Reifenstein	Karen Ferrari
Ken Nagle	Butch Barto	Dick Marburger
Robin VanDyke	Rita Reifenstein	Jessica
Mary Lynne Lorch	Diane Mashuda	Jared Hartzel
The family of Marilyn Stevens (Amy King’s mother)		

*The Altar Flowers are given
by Karen Ferrari in loving
memory of her father,
Robert Sarver*



*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.

St. Peter’s Upcoming Events:

Mon. – Friday	4 – 6:00 pm	After School Program
Mon. October 26	2:00 pm	Blood Drive
	7:00 pm	Worship Meeting
Tues. October 27	7:00 pm	Dorcas Circle
Wed. October 28	10:00 am	Community Sewers
	5:30 pm	Manna Night
	7:00 pm	Cantata Practice
	8:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs. October 29	10:00 am	Quilters Group
	7:00 pm	Bible Study

Blood Drive – Our 4th annual Elisa Walker Memorial Blood Drive is tomorrow. If you need help signing up to donate, please let Pastor know. Please invite others to join us in this needed service, too!

All Saints Sunday – In next week’s service, we will give thanks to for the gift of baptism, which makes us a part of the community of saints. Additionally, members of our community who have died in the previous year will have their names read during the service and have a candle lit by Pastor as we remember that their light continues to shine in us and before God. Everyone will be invited to also light a candle for them or any other loved ones during the worship service.

Congregational Meeting – On Sunday, Nov. 8th, we will have our annual congregational meeting. We will consider and approve a mission spending plan for our community, as well as elect people we believe to be called by God into leadership for this season in our church’s life.

Turkey Dinner – Our annual Turkey Dinner will be on Saturday, Nov. 14th. The donation poster is up, so please take a look, and sign up to donate if you are able. Thank you in advance for your help, preparing, serving, and gathering others to be a part of this fellowship event.

Altar Flower Sponsorship – There are 3 Sundays available for altar flower sponsorship in November. Please sign up on the poster or talk to Christine. The cost is \$20 per vase.



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

Acolyte

Asst. Minister

Bell Ringer

Greeters

Lector

Ushers

Nursery

Tech Support

The Rev. Yehiel Curry

The Rev. Melissa Stoller

The Rev. Brandon Johns

Marlene Domhoff

Joe Ludwik

Lily Johns

Teresa O’Malley

Corey Walker

Janice Hogan & Anna Johns

Jane Taylor

Brenda & Vic Peffer

Marge Lindgren

Heidi Beahm

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.

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

Staying in Touch:

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 am until noon.

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

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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