

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School**  
**Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.**  
**First Sunday after the Epiphany ~ Baptism of Our Lord**  
**Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship**

January 12, 2025

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(P) Pastor; (A) Worship Assistant; (\*) Please stand as you're able;  
Congregation responses in **BOLD**

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**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**WELCOME** *Theme of the day, Prayer concerns, & Praise time*

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

P: We bless the ☩ one God, our creator,  
our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, we confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.* Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen**

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven. In Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

The love of Christ, the wisdom of God,  
and the light of Spirit is with you all.

**And also with you.**

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**



**GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7**

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

This is a reading from the prophet Isaiah, the 43<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

But now thus says the LORD,

the One who created you, O Jacob,

the One who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up,"

and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth—

everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made."

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

*The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that god's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.*



**HYMN of the DAY: # 310 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"**

- 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar,  
branch of royal David's stem  
in thy birth at Bethlehem:  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.
- 2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
prophet, priest, and king supreme;  
and at Cana wedding guest  
in thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in pow'r divine,  
changing water into wine;  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.
- 3 Manifest in making whole  
weakened body, fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill:  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
present in thy holy word;  
grace to imitate thee now  
and be pure, as pure art thou;  
that we might become like thee  
at thy great epiphany,  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in flesh made manifest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885, alt.

**The CHURCH PRAYS**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news: Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. Help all those recovering from recent storms. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. Watch over all innocent people in the places where war and terror rage on. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery. Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved.

**P:** We pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Mary Lue, Kathy, Lori, Ruth, our at-home worshippers, the family of Pr. Maren Tomkiel, Lynn and Jack, ... God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER for MISSION**

We pray. *A brief silence.* God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Waiting in hope for Christ's appearing, we pray as he 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**

### **BLESSING**

God's Spirit, dwelling with us in our hearts  
and in our minds, bless ☩ you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ is always with you. **And also with you.**

We go with Christ's peace to love and serve all!

**We will Learn God's Truth. We will Share Spirit's Healing.**

**We will Follow Jesus' Way. Amen**

*Please greet your household and friends online with Peace.*

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At the time of this writing, please keep the following in your prayers: ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Synod Bishop Bill Gohl, Pr. Lans and family on the passing of his sister Maren Tomkiel, those hospitalized or at home recuperating, and our at-home worshippers.

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*Today's Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God*

In Loving Memory of Janice Webb.  
Given by Terri, Rich, Richie, Casey, and John Patrick.

In Memory of parents, Katherine's and Anna's birthdays.  
Given by Cathy and Mark McQuade.

*Rose Vase*  
In Honor of Genevieve Sacker's January 15<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by Ruth.

*Rose Vase*  
In Honor of Everett Hohl Read for his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.  
With love from his grandmother, Patty Read.

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Attendance for January 5, 2025: 35

## ***Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities***

**Welcome St. Peter's 2025 Council Officers & Members:** On Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, these officers and members will be installed: Mark McQuade (President), Karen Yelovich (Vice-president), Kathy Sykes (Treasurer), Bill Lauer (Financial Secretary), Lena Frankenfeld (Recording Secretary), Heather Frederick, Linda Heinbaugh, Rich Murphy, Patty Read, and Christy Sykes. Please pray for this group of people as they have been called to serve St. Peter's.

**2025 Offering Envelopes are available.**

**Sponsorships Available:** Flowers for the 8:45 am. worship on 1/26 (contact the church office). Flowers for the 10:15 am. worship on 1/19 (contact Nancy Barnes).

**PLEASE NOTE:** In 2025, pricing on floral arrangements will increase to be more in-line with pricing from the florist. Until pricing is finalized, please "pay as you go" using current pricing for floral sponsorships. Also, when you return the vases for Rose Vase sponsorships, the church receives a \$3 discount!

**Studio Apartment for Rent:** First floor of a two-story brick house. Studio has two-rooms, includes full bathroom and a full kitchen. It has a private laundry room/utility room and a parking pad. Rent includes utilities: heat, air conditioning, water & internet. Security Deposit \$1,250 and first month's rent \$1,250 due up front. Located in Parkville section of Baltimore. Interested: 410-444-5171.

**For every NEW regular deposit account** opened at Eastern Savings Bank (Fullerton branch only) St. Peter's Lutheran Church receives \$5! Visit the Fullerton branch at 4113 Wholesale Club Drive, Suite 130 or go to [EasternSavingsBank.com](http://EasternSavingsBank.com).

### ***News from St. Peter's Elementary School***

Enrollment for the 2025-26 school year will begin in mid-January. Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions, want to schedule a tour, or to register. Referrals are always welcome!

The Poppin' Popcorn online fundraiser begins on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> and runs to January, 18<sup>th</sup>. The school earns 50% of sales! A flier is attached.



Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month for a delicious fundraiser at Frank's Pizza & Pasta (6620 Belair Rd., 21206). Fliers with additional details are posted at the red awning door and the church office lobby. You can also obtain a flier through the school office (410-665-4521).



**ST. PETER'S  
ELEMENTARY  
PACE PRESENTS:**

DEC 18TH-JAN 18TH

# HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER



**Buttery Caramel, Cheddar Jalapeno, Chicago style, Cinnamon Toast, Kettle Corn, Dill Pickle, Fruity, Movie Theatre, White Cheddar, Ranch, Birthday Cake and Many More!**

**SCAN QR CODE TO ORDER YOUR  
POPCORN**



**Group ID: CJAZUV**