

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship
Third Sunday of Easter, May 4, 2025

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**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of ☩ the One who was,  
who is, and who is to come. **Amen**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, we confess our need for God's absolution and reconciliation.

*A brief silence.* To you, O God, **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Christ Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. 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 word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I 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**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

The grace, mercy, and peace of God are with you,  
today and always. **And also with you.**

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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**

**READING: Revelation 5:11-14**

*The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."*

This is a responsive reading from the Revelation of Christ, chapter 5. *John writes:* Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,



**"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!"**

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

**"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honor and glory and might  
forever and ever!"**

And the four living creatures said, **"Amen!"** And the elders fell down and worshipped.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: John 21:1-19**

*The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to John, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?"

They answered him, "No."

He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.

That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to

the disciples after he was raised from the dead.  
This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 380 "Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"**

- 1     Hallelujah! Jesus lives!  
      He is now the Living One;  
      from the gloomy halls of death  
      Christ, the conqueror, has gone,  
      bright forerunner to the skies  
      of his people, yet to rise.
- 2     Jesus lives! Why do you weep?  
      Why that sad and mournful sigh?  
      Christ who died our brother here  
      lives our brother still on high,  
      lives forever to bestow  
      blessings on his church below.
- 3     Jesus lives! And thus, my soul,  
      life eternal waits for you;  
      joined to Christ, your living head,  
      where he is, you shall be too;  
      with the Lord, at God's right hand,  
      as a victor you shall stand.
- 4     Jesus lives! Let all rejoice.  
      Praise him, ransomed of the earth.  
      Praise him in a nobler song,  
      cherubim of heav'nly birth.  
      Praise the victor king, whose sway  
      sin and death and hell obey.
- 5     Hallelujah! Angels, sing!  
      Join with us in hymns of praise.  
      Let your chorus swell the strain  
      which our feeble voices raise:  
      Glory to our God above  
      and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763-1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt.

**MESSAGE:**        **FIRST BREAKFAST**        *silence for reflection follows*

## **The CHURCH PRAYS**

### **PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. *A brief silence.* We pray for John, Greg, Lori, Mary Lue, Agnes, Joe, George, Geri and family, our at-home worshippers, ... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places especially Monica, mother of Augustine. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray that God's will is done, as Jesus 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**

## **SPIRIT'S SENDING**

**MISSION UPDATES:** *opportunities for learning & service*

## **PRAYER for MISSION**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, we return to you. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen**

## **BLESSING**

O God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit, light your way  
with resurrection dawn, now and forever.

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Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.

At the time of this writing, please keep the following in your prayers: ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Synod Bishop Bill Gohl, 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 Honor of Brian Heinbaugh's, Alyssa Heinbaugh's,  
and Melanie Smith's May birthdays.

Given by their family.

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Today's Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God

In Loving Memory of my parents,
Vi and Ernest Grimm's wedding anniversary, May 23rd.

Given by their daughter, Carole.

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Attendance for April 27, 2025: 50

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

**REMINDER: The church office will be open from 9 am.-12 noon the week of May 5th – 9th.**

**Sponsorships Available:** Altar flowers for 8:45 am. worship on 5/18 (contact the church office).

**Prayer Group:** On Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, join us at 11 am. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access) for our final “Fruit of the Spirit” and final gathering (until the fall). We’ll be discussing and praying about **self-control**. We hope to see you there!

**Baskets, Bags & More Bingo:** Saturday, May 3rd for St. John’s, Parkville. The bingo will be held at St. Ursula Auditorium (8900 Harford Rd., 21234), doors open at 6 pm. and games begin at 7 pm. Tickets are \$20/person in advance and \$25 at the door. Event includes regular and special games, 50/50, door prizes, and raffles. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. For tickets or more information, call tony at 443-474-2727 or the church office at 410-665-1234.

**Designer Purse Bingo:** Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke’s (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). Doors open at noon and games begin at 1 pm. Tickets are \$30 at the door. There will be 20 games of regular bingo, specials, door prizes, and a 50/50. Food and drinks will be available for sales; BYO beer or wine. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Kim at 443-415-5824 or the church office at 410-444-5171.

**Neighbor In Need:** There is a nearby neighbor who is in need of someone to do minor repairs and ongoing work (ie., yard work, light cleaning, food shopping, etc.). If you are able and interested in helping, please contact Joy in the office (410-665-7300) for contact information.

**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.

**On-line Giving:** As an alternate way of submitting your offering, you can make donations on-line through PayPal! Login to your PayPal account and search for our tag: @Spl367 or St. Peter’s Lutheran Church and Christian Day School.

***News from St. Peter's Elementary School & PACE***

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