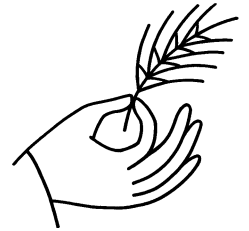


**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School**  
**Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.**  
**Second Sunday after Pentecost, June 2, 2024**  
**Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship**

~~~~~

**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**



**WELCOME** *Theme of the day, Prayer concerns*

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

*We make the sign of the cross, which was marked on us at baptism.*

We bless the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna,  
the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, we confess our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.* God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen**

**CALL to WORSHIP and PRAYER of the DAY**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
for the spiritual blessings that Christ has brought us from heaven!

**The Father treated us with undeserved grace  
because of the Son God dearly loves,**

**and so we should praise God. Amen** [*from Ephesians, ch 1, CEV*]

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 5:12-15**

*This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same. They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.*

This is a reading from Deuteronomy, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*The LORD gave commands to the people:* Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore, the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12**

*When we carry out God's ministry we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God's power and promises at work through us.*

This is a reading from Paul's letter to the believers at Corinth, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So, death is at work in us, but life in you.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 2:23—3:6**

*Jesus challenges the prevailing interpretation of what is lawful on the sabbath and tells his critics that the sabbath was made for humankind, not the other way around. Healing the man with the withered hand is work that cannot wait until the next day.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Mark, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

One sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." Then Jesus said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

Again, Jesus entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." Then he said to the Pharisees, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. Jesus looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 398 "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"**

- 1 Holy Spirit, truth divine,  
dawn upon this soul of mine;  
breath of God and inward light,  
wake my spirit, clear my sight.
- 2 Holy Spirit, love divine,  
glow within this heart of mine;  
kindle ev'ry high desire;  
purge me with your holy fire.
- 3 Holy Spirit, pow'r divine,  
fortify this will of mine;  
by your will I strongly live,  
bravely bear, and nobly strive.
- 4 Holy Spirit, peace divine,  
still this restless heart of mine;  
speak to calm this tossing sea,  
stayed in your tranquility.

5 Holy Spirit, right divine,  
king within my conscience reign;  
be my guide, and I shall be  
firmly bound, forever free.

Text: Samuel Longfellow, 1819-1892

**MESSAGE: HEALING**

**The CHURCH PRAYS**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world. *A brief silence.*

Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them. Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and Little Free Pantries. Open both our hearts and our tables.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We especially pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Louisa, Mary Lou, Agnes, Nancy, the Mills and Sykes families, ...

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We remember the communion of Herbert and all the saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Blessing God's holy name, we pray as Jesus has 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**

#### **PRAYER for MISSION**

We join in prayer. *A brief silence.* O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Leader and Savior. **Amen**

#### **BLESSING and PEACE**

Receive the blessing. *A brief silence.*

The blessing of † God, who provides for us, feeds us,  
and journeys with us, rest upon you now and forever. **Amen**

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

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

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

At the time of this writing, please keep the following in your prayers: ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Synod Bishop Bill Gohl, the Mills and Sykes family on the passing of Herbert Robinson (5/27), those hospitalized or at home recuperating, and our at-home worshippers.

~~~~~

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

In Loving Memory of Dorothy Price's June 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday,  
and Cora Sawyer's birthday.  
Given by Terri and Rich Murphy.

In Loving Memory of Betty Weinreich for her June 4<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by Nolan Weinreich and family.

~~~~~

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

In Honor of St. Peter's Sunday school.  
Given by Janice Fredrick.

~~~~~

Attendance for May 26, 2024: 38

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

**Happy Anniversary to Pr. Lans for the 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of his ordination (6/1/91)!**

**Summer Office Hours:**

- Church (began 5/28) M-Th 9a-3p; F 9a-12p
- School (begin 6/10) M-Th 9a-12p

**Prayer Group:** So, prayer warriors, PRAYER GROUP will meet on Wednesday, June 5th at 11 am. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access), and will take a summer break for July and August. We will resume on Wednesday, September 4th. Our fall theme, "FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT" will get us all in the "back to school" mode, ready to spend our brief, but powerful monthly time talking with Our LORD. JOIN US!!!!

**Church & PACE Picnic:** Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> after the 10:15 am. worship. All are welcome! Bring a favorite dish to share! More details to follow.

**Sponsorships Available:** Flowers for 8:45 am. and bulletins on 6/23 (contact the church office). Flowers for 10:15 am. on 6/23 & 30 (contact Nancy Barnes).

**Community Yard Sale:** Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 8 am.-1 pm. at St. John's, Parkville (8808 Harford Rd., 21234).

**LGBTQ+ & Allies Potluck:** Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm. at Epiphany (4301 Raspe Ave, 21206). Attendees will collaborate on plans for involvement in the Baltimore Pride March. Participants are encouraged to bring a side dish. Fried chicken will be provided by the church. RSVP to Mary Catherine at 443-743-4717.

**Centenarian Celebration: See flier at the end of the bulletin.**

**Flea Market & Craft Fair:** Saturday, June 22nd from 9a-2p at Christus Victor (9833 Harford Rd., 21234). Event includes a plant sale and bake sale!

**27<sup>th</sup> Annual Kids Summer Arts Camp:** August 5<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, M-F 9a-3p. at St. Luke's (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). For kids who've completed Kindergarten to those who've completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Cost is \$200 and includes camp, lunch, and snacks. For more information or to register, call 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.

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

"Open Enrollment" for the 2024-25 school year continues. Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions, want to schedule a tour, or to register. Referrals are always welcome!

Please note that our last chapel service of this school year will be held on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am., followed by the PreK/K closing celebration. All are welcome to join us for this special occasion!

Congratulations to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class of SPES who will be graduating at a special service and celebration at 7 pm. on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>! In the words of Martin Luther, "(We) wish you nothing but good," and God bless you all in your future endeavors!





**Celebrating Our Centenarians at St. Peter's  
On Sunday, June 16, 2024**

Did you know that we have three wonderful church members who are already, or will soon be, 100 years old?

Come join us at the 8:45 a.m. Worship service to celebrate these dedicated Christians who are truly pillars of our church. We will give them some well-earned recognition and love, followed by a reception in the open area in the church basement after the service. Refreshments provided by St. Peter's Church council members. (Elevator access available.)

***Everyone is welcome!***

Our 100-year-old honorees are:

Mrs. Ruth M. Diepold - born March 20, 2024

Mr. Lockered S. "Bud" Gahs - born June 25, 2024

Mr. Francis E. Thrift - born June 21, 1921  
(He will be 103 years old!)