

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH and ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 20, 2025

~~~~~

**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

We begin our worship as we began our life in the body of Christ:

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Baptized into Christ, we call to him to confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.* Merciful God, **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen**

You belong to Christ Jesus, and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

God's kindness, Jesus' peace, and Spirit's joy are always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

**GOD'S WORD**

**READING: Genesis 18:1-10a**

*The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.*

This is a reading from Genesis, chapter 18.

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little



bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.”

So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

This is holy Wisdom, holy Word.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42**

*During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Luke, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter. Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus’s feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me.”

But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

This is the Good News of Christ’s victory!

### **HYMN of the DAY: # 676 "Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"**

- 1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak  
in living echoes of your tone;  
as you have sought, so let us seek  
your straying children, lost and lone.
- 2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead  
the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;  
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed  
your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.
- 3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach  
the precious truths which you impart;  
and wing our words, that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many a heart.

- 4 Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,  
until our very hearts o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word,  
your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

**MESSAGE:**        **Attentive Faith** *silence for reflection follows*

### **The CHURCH PRAYS**

#### **PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world. *A brief silence.*

Inspire your church, like Sarah and Mary, to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair. Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent or are discredited by others. We pray for Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl, Ebenezer Grace Worship, those hospitalized or recuperating at home, John, Greg, Lori, Mary Lue, Lynn, George, Joe, Francis, Linda Heinbaugh and family, our at-home worshippers, .... God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha, Albert, and all the saints who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray for daily bread, 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**

#### **PRAYER for MISSION**

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Mothering God, **send us out by  
your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love  
in Jesus' name. Amen**

#### **BLESSING**

The love of God ☩ overflow in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus fill your hearts;  
and the life of Spirit bless you and give you peace. **Amen**

#### **SENT OUT for MISSION**

Our worship has ended. Our service begins.

Live by the Spirit of hope and joy!

**We will Learn God's Truth.**

**We will Share Spirit's Healing.**

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

We go in the peace of Christ

to love and serve all. **YES, we will!**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

**Today's Sponsorships**

~~~~~

Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

In Loving Memory of my father,
Bill May, for his July 22nd birthday
and In Honor of Carole Grimm's
July 22nd birthday.
Given by his daughter, Ruth May.

In Loving Memory of Thurley Gahs
for her July 22nd birthday.
Given by Bud Gahs.

~~~~~

*Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God*

In Honor of Carole Grimm's July 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday.  
Given with best wishes from her cousin, Ruth.

~~~~~

Attendance for July 13, 2025: 40

Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities

Upcycling Event: SPES is hosting a free e-waste recycling event. All items are due to the school lobby no later than Wednesday, July 23rd. See flier for a list of items.

Save the Dates! SPES Back to School Picnic Party on Saturday, September 6th from 11 am.-1 pm. and Beachmont Corn Maze on Saturday, October 4th from 5-9 pm. at Beachmont (6433 Mt. Vista Rd., Kingsville, 21087). More details to come!

Summer Sunday School is available for children who've just completed 6th grade and under! We gather for Bible stories, songs, games, and crafts at 10 am. in the Sunday school classrooms (lower level). If you're interested in helping 1 or more Sundays, please contact Mark McQuade or Ashley Kane.

St. Peter's Family Goods Center: Because there are many pantries and BCPS schools who offer food to the community, we are repurposing our former food pantry to distribute other needed items like toiletries, diapers, and paper products. If you are interested in volunteering for the Family Goods Center, please contact Bill Lauer. A list of needed items will be available soon. This is a great opportunity for service hours for your middle or high school student, and volunteer hours for SPES families.

Sponsorships Available: Bulletins on 8/31 (contact the church office). Altar flowers for 10:15 am. worship on 8/3, 24, & 31 (contact Nancy Barnes).

Kids Summer Arts Camp: August 4th-15th from 9a-3p at St. Luke (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). The camp is for children who've just completed 1st-5th grade. Activities include music making, dance & movement, and making art. Registration is \$225 per student and includes lunch and snacks. To register, call 410-444-5171.

Music Camp: August 11-15 from 9a-2p for students who've just completed 3rd-8th grade at St. John, Parkville (8808 Harford Rd., 21234). Registration is \$25 per student, non-refundable. Registration form and additional information can be found at www.stjohnsparkville.org.

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

SPES night at Camden Yards is Saturday, August 23rd! Join the SPES families as the O's take on the Houston Astros. Ticket prices: Upper reserve (section 348) \$29 and Lower reserve (section 61) \$33. See the flier on the "Welcome" table in the back of the church. Any additional questions, call Gary at 410-547-6115.

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!

Free E-waste Recycling

Partnered with Upcycle USA LLC

Website: www.upcyclellc.com

Acceptable Items

Computers (All-in-Ones), Desktops, Laptops, Towers/Servers, Ipads/Tablets, Cellphones, LCD Monitors, Printers/Copiers/Scanners, Switches, Routers, Modems, Network Equipment, Projectors, Fax Machines, VCR, DVD, Ipods, Speakers, Ink/Toner Catridges, Deskphones, Memory Cards, Video Cards, Hard Drives, Tape Drives, Keyboards, Mice, Chargers/Cables/Computer Accessories, Medical and Testing equipment.

Upcycle uses a proprietary version of software from DBAN that performs a DoD 5220.22-M data sanitization procedure on all data bearing devices. The DoD 5220.22-M sanitization method is one of the most widely used and secure sanitization methods used in data destruction software.

The DoD 5220.22-M data sanitization method is implemented in the following way: Pass 1: Writes a zero and verifies the write. Pass 2: Writes a one and verifies the write. Pass 3: Writes a random character and verifies the write. If there are any failures in the data sanitization process, all hard drives are shredded using a PRO SINO Double Shaft Shredder (PS-D2130).

Lauren LaCass
LaurenL@upcyclellc.com
973-575-5800 x4700

