

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, July 28, 2024
Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship

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**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.* Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**GOD'S WORD**

**READING: 2 Kings 4:42-44**

*Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

This is a reading from 2 Kings, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to Elisha, the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:1-21**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to John, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him

into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 480 "O Bread of Life from Heaven"**

- 1 O bread of life from heaven,  
O food to pilgrims given,  
O manna from above:  
feed with the blessed sweetness  
of your divine completeness  
the souls that want and need your love.
- 2 O fount of grace redeeming,  
O river ever streaming  
from Jesus' wounded side:  
come now, your love bestowing  
on thirsting souls, and flowing  
till all are fully satisfied.
- 3 We love you, Jesus, tender,  
in all your hidden splendor  
within these means of grace.  
Oh, let the veil be riven,  
and our clear eye in heaven  
behold your glory face to face.

Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862-1946, sts. 1, 3;  
tr. Philip Schaff, 1819-1893, st. 2

**MESSAGE: Feeding** (silence for reflection follows)

**The CHURCH PRAYS**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer. *A brief silence.*

God of generations, you work in us far more than we can ask or imagine. Bless the church you have called into being across time and space, and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of field and forest, streams and seas, you are the fullness of all things. As grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation. Protect harvests and give every person food in due season.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God beyond borders, you rule all in all. Bless the work of humanitarians and peacekeepers, shield those who live, work, or serve in harm's way, and bring an end to war and conflict in Ukraine, Gaza and Israel, Sudan, Yemen and Myanmar.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering, families in our community who endure hunger, those who seek asylum or citizenship, and our beloved for whom death is near.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you root us and ground us in love. As you inspired our ancestors in this place in their ministry, sustain us also in new endeavors, that your glory may be made known, and your lovingkindness shared anew.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We especially pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Mary Lou, our at-home worshippers, Lynn, Tim, Maren, ...

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of all, your love in Christ surpasses all knowledge. We give thanks for the departed who have come to know the fullness of your grace. Join our voices with theirs, and with musicians Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, George Frederick Handel, and all the saints in singing your praises.

In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **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.*

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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, 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 Audrey Robinson.  
Given by her family.

In Loving Memory of my dad on his July 31<sup>st</sup> birthday.  
Given by Doris Alkire.

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

In Honor of my husband, Albert, for his 82nd birthday.
Given by Linda Heinbaugh.

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Attendance for July 21, 2024: 31

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Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

These three composers have done much to enrich the worship life of the church. Johann Sebastian Bach drew on the Lutheran tradition of hymnody and wrote about two hundred cantatas, including at least two for each Sunday and festival day in the Lutheran calendar of his day. He has been called "the fifth evangelist" for the ways he proclaimed the gospel through his music. George Frederick Handel was not primarily a church musician, but his great work Messiah is a musical proclamation of the scriptures. Heinrich Schütz wrote choral settings of biblical texts and paid special attention to ways his composition would underscore the meaning of the words.

Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities

Sponsorships Available: Flowers for 8:45 am. service on 8/11 (contact the church office). Flowers for 10:15 am. service on 8/4 (contact Nancy Barnes).

11th Annual Car Show: Sunday, October 6th from 10 am.-2 pm. (rain date 10/20) at Joppatowne Plaza (Rt. 40/Pulaski Hwy. and Joppa Farm Rd.). Music by DJ Danny and food by Town Grill & Pub. Proceeds benefit Baltimore Cancer Support Group. For more information or to register your car, call Geri at 410-852-3688 or baltimorecancersupportgroup.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.

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***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!

PACE Movie Night on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. in the fellowship hall. Snacks provided.

PACE/Church Picnic rescheduled for Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> after the 10:15 am. worship. Bring a favorite dish to share. All are welcome to come!