

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 11, 2024 – 8:45 am.
Feast of the Faithful

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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:*
+ What are you praising God for today? +

PRELUDE: "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" –J. Brahms

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

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

P: 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**

***GATHERING HYMN: #676 "Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"**

***CALL to WORSHIP** *from Ephesians, ch 3*

P: Now to the One who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,

**to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
to all generations, forever and ever. Amen**

KYRIE

1. 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, . . . have mer cy.
 Christ, . . . have mer cy.

PRAYER of the DAY

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:4-8

First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the LORD is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

A: This is a reading from First Kings, the 19th chapter.

Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Sinai, the mount of God.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

We give our thanks to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:25—5:2 *Contemporary English Version*
Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

A: This is a reading from Paul's letter to the believers at Ephesus, beginning in the 4th chapter.

Paul writes: We are part of the same body. Stop lying and start telling each other the truth. Don't get so angry that you sin. Don't go to bed angry and don't give the devil a chance.

If you are a thief, quit stealing. Be honest and work hard, so you will have something to give to people in need.

Stop all your dirty talk. Say the right thing at the right time and help others by what you say.

Don't make God's Spirit sad. Spirit makes you sure that someday you will be free from your sins.

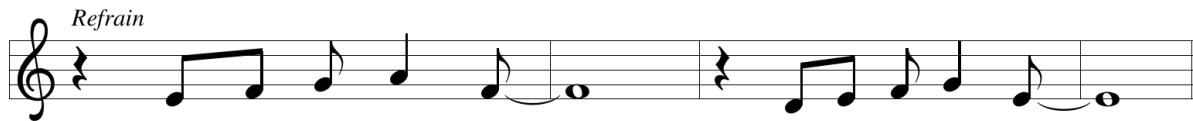
Stop being bitter and angry and mad at others. Don't yell at one another or curse each other or ever be rude. Instead, be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ.

Do as God does. After all, you are his dear children. Let love be your guide. Christ loved us and offered his life for us as a sacrifice that pleases God.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

We give our thanks to God.

***WELCOMING the GOSPEL: "Change My Heart, O God"**



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

***HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:35, 41-51**

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

P: This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to John, the 6th chapter.

We give glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowd, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Then the people began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

We give praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE: Pr. Ed Whetstone

(silence for reflection follows)

***HYMN of the DAY: #488 "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"**

APOSTLES CREED

With the whole Church, we confess our baptismal faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection † of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

A: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Reignite the prayer of the church. By your Spirit, and remembering Clare of San Damiano, who was known for her powerful prayer, root your church around the globe in prayer and spiritual practices.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We rely on the goodness of your creation in everything we do. We pray for trees that offer shade and for our fellow creatures that depend on the trees for shelter and food. Sustain the work of all who advocate for forests and wilderness areas. Protect us all from deadly heat.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Guide our leaders and nations with a spirit of justice and mercy. Let no evil come out of our mouths, but rather let us extend grace. We pray for our enemies: Hamas, Russia, Iran, North Korea, and China.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain feeding ministries and organizations such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries, like Victor's Vittles. We work and pray for a day when hunger is no more.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and for all who are gathered. Be present among anyone who cannot be with us today, including those who travel. Be with all who are hurting, grieving, or ill.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We especially pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Mary Lou, Angela, Lori, Sandy, our at-home worshippers, ...

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We remember the saints who have gone before us in faith. Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we find hope in your communion of saints of all times and all places.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen**

JESUS' SUPPER

PEACE

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

RECEIVING OUR TITHES and OFFERINGS

OFFERING HYMN: "Come to the Table"



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. *A brief silence.* Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING & PREFACE**

P: The Christ of God is with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts in Spirit. **Our hearts go up to God.**

We give honor and glory to the Holy One.

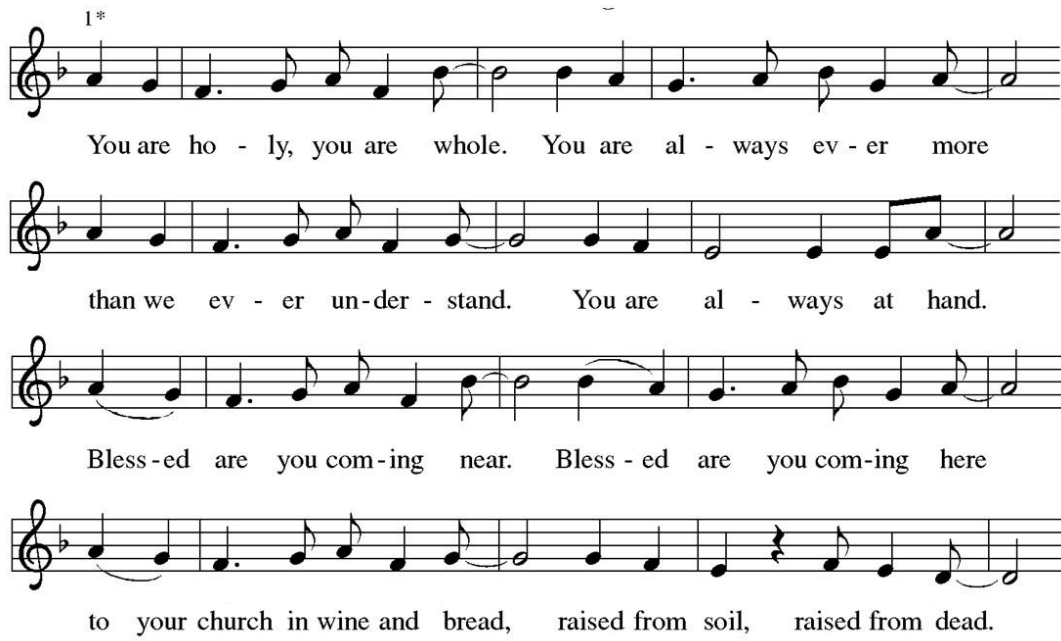
We give thanks and praise to Abba God.

It is right and good, our duty and our joy,
that we should thank and praise you,
most Holy One, always and everywhere,
through Christ Jesus, our Servant Leader,
the source of light and life, hope and peace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the church triumphant,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY**

1*



You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

***THANKSGIVING at the TABLE**

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
when you created a world of peace and harmony,
the plants and animals, the seas and stars,

**and all your children celebrated their wholeness
and wellbeing under your care.**

When sin had scarred the world,
**you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.**

In the night of his suffering, ...
... we are gathered in the new creation of God.

Remembering Jesus' acts of healing, his body given up,
and his victory over death,
**we wait for that day when all the nations of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.**

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
**as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the bread of life, your Son.**

All glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
through Christ Jesus, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

So that all the world may be fed, we pray 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**

***INVITATION to the FEAST**

Bread is broken. **Love is shared.**

Sharing Communion *Please take time for meditation & prayer.*

SONG during SUPPER: # 487 "What Feast of Love"

SPIRIT'S SENDING

PRAYER for MISSION

A: Let us together pray. *A brief silence.* Jesus, Bread of life, **we have
received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have
nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with
your own life. In your name we pray. Amen**

MISSION UPDATE: *opportunities for learning & service*

***BLESSING**

P: 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.*



***SENDING HYMN: # 618 "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"**

***SENDING into MISSION**

A: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ!

We will Learn God's Truth.

We will Share Spirit's Healing.

We will Follow Jesus' Way.

P: Let's share Christ's peace as we go
to love and serve all!

Amen. Yes, we will!

Please take care as you greet your neighbors with the Peace.

POSTLUDE: "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" –J.B. Carlson

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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 Honor of August birthdays and travelers.  
Given by Patty Read.

In Celebration of Daniel Barnes' 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given with love by Nancy Barnes.

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

In Honor of Jade Mills for her August 12th birthday.
Given with love, Mom and Dad.

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Attendance for August 4, 2024: 24

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Helping with today's worship

Worship Assistant: Holly Vogt Usher: Kathy Shull

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**Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, died 1253**

At age eighteen, Clare of Assisi heard Francis preach a sermon in a church in town. From that time, she determined to follow in his example of Christian living. With Francis's help (and against the wishes of her father) she and a growing number of companions established a women's Franciscan community, called the Order of Poor Ladies, or Poor Clares. She became a confidante and advisor to Francis, and in standing up against the wishes of popes for the sake of maintaining complete poverty, she helped inspire other women to pursue spiritual goals.

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

**Thank You to Pr. Ed Whetstone** for leading today’s worship while Pr. Lans is away.

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show:** Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 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 24th at 6 pm. in the fellowship hall. Snacks provided.

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