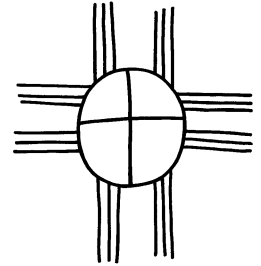


St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 18, 2024
Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship

~~~~~

**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**

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 the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus**  
**to all generations, forever and ever. Amen** *[from Ephesians, ch 3]*

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6**

*Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.*

This is a reading from Proverbs, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
Wisdom has built her house,  
she has hewn her seven pillars.  
She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,  
she has also set her table.  
She has sent out her servant-girls,  
she calls from the highest places in the town,  
"You that are simple, turn in here!"  
To those without sense she says,  
"Come, eat of my bread  
and drink of the wine I have mixed.  
Lay aside immaturity, and live,  
and walk in the way of insight."

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20**

*True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.*

This is a reading from Paul's letter to the believers at Ephesus,  
the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:51-58**

*In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.*

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

The people then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you,

unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

This is the Good News of Christ’s Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 542 "O Living Bread from Heaven"**

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,  
how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given  
have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing!  
O cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
in thankful song o'er flows.
- 2 My Savior, you have led me  
within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me  
with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given  
what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven,  
that now I shall not die.
- 3 You gave me all I wanted;  
this food can death destroy.  
And you have freely granted  
the cup of endless joy.  
My Lord, I do not merit  
the favor you have shown;  
and all my soul and spirit  
bow down before your throne.

- 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened  
with heav'nly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened,  
to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you  
where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you  
glad songs in endless joy.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

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

### **The CHURCH PRAYS**

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

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

Wisdom has built her house. May the church be a house of wisdom for all who enter. May we continue to grow and stretch in ways we never thought possible.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Wisdom has mixed her wine. May the harvest seasons be plentiful this year. We pray for orchards, vineyards, farms, and all of creation. Protect and conserve the earth, along with all those hurt by excessive storms and heat.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Wisdom has employed her laborers. Be with all who seek adequate employment. Guide our economic and governmental leaders to support the people of our world with fair wages and safe working conditions.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Wisdom has invited her guests. Make your presence known to all who feel lost, abandoned, or hurting at this time. Direct your spirit of care to all who seek healing and comfort.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Wisdom has set her table. May this congregation be a welcome table to all who seek the refuge of God. Break down walls and barriers that prevent us from offering a seat at this table to anyone who comes.

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.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Wisdom has shown her path of insight. May we journey on her paths, looking toward a bright future while remembering from where we have come. We give our thanks for those who have gone before us.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **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, 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 my Godmother,
Ruth Miller, for her August 23rd birthday.
Given by Ruth May.

In Honor of Kenneth Diepold's August 21st birthday.
From Mom, Ruth Diepold.

In Celebration of Olivia Lauer's 10th birthday.
Given by Cathy and Mark McQuade.

~~~~~

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

In Loving Memory of my aunt,  
Ruth Miller, for her August 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday.  
Given by her niece, Carole Grimm.

In Loving Memory of Uncle John Bast.  
Given by the Mills family.

~~~~~

Attendance for August 11, 2024: 35

Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities

PACE Movie Night: Saturday, August 24th at 6 pm. in the fellowship hall. Snacks provided.

Sponsorships Available: Flowers for 8:45 am. service on 9/29, and bulletins on 9/1 & 29 (contact the church office). Flowers for 10:15 am. service on 9/1, 22, & 29 (contact Nancy Barnes).

The church office will be closed on Monday, August 19th.

Prayer Group will resume gathering on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 11 am. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access). On September 4th, we'll start with the fruit of the spirit L-O-V-E! All are welcome!

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.

~~~~~  
**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!

We are eager to welcome back our teaching staff, on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, from a nice summer reprieve! The first day for students is Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Regular office hours resume on Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> (M-F, 8 am.-3:45 pm.).

St. Peter's ES Day at Camden Yards: September 8th, Oriole's v. Ray's at 7:05 pm. See flier for details.

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!



## St. Peter's Elementary Fundraiser at the Yard!

Join your faculty, staff, and classmates of St. Peter's Elementary School and bring your family and friends to an Orioles game on Sunday, September 8!

**Sunday, September 8 at 12:05 PM vs. Tampa Bay Rays**

Kids 4-14 Run the Bases Post-Game!

Upper Reserve (sections 342-346): \$21\*

*\$5 of every ticket sold will benefit*

St. Peter's  
Elementary School



For any questions or accessible seating, please call Gary at 410.547.6115

### To Purchase Tickets:

1. Click on the link or QR code below
2. Click the "Get Tickets" button, select your section, and place your seats in the cart.
3. After checkout, you will receive an email with instructions on accessing your mobile tickets.
4. Share this offer with your friends, family, and fellow RPBL teammates.

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Stpeters2024>



\*There is an additional 10% service charge per ticket.