

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

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, August 24, 2025**

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**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.* O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

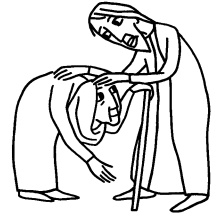
**GOD'S WORD**

**READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14**

*God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.*

This is a responsive reading from Isaiah, chapter 58.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
**if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,**



then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually  
**and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,**  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
**you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;**  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
**the restorer of streets to live in.**  
If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,  
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;  
**if you call the Sabbath a delight  
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;**  
if you honor it, not going your own ways,  
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;  
**then you shall take delight in the LORD,  
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;**  
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.  
This is holy Wisdom, holy Word.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17**

*Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the meeting places on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the congregation, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

This is the Good News of Christ's victory!

**HYMN of the DAY: # 886 "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!
- 2 My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of your name.
- 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears  
and bids our sorrows cease,  
sings music in the sinner's ears,  
brings life and health and peace.
- 4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,  
new life the dead receive;  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe.
- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,  
O fallen human race!  
Look and be saved through faith alone,  
be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love  
be now and ever giv'n  
by saints below and saints above,  
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

**MESSAGE**      **Repair/Restore**      *silence for reflection follows*

**The CHURCH PRAYS**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God,  
for God is near. *A brief silence.*

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give wisdom  
to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation leaders as they  
pursue a more just and equitable church and society. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in fresh and faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness. Manifest your healing presence in their midst. We pray for ELCA Bishop Elect Yehiel Curry and Secretary Rev. CeCee Mills, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl, Ebenezer Grace Worship, those hospitalized or recuperating at home, John, Greg, Lori, Mary Lue, Lynn, Joel, George, Joe, our at-home worshippers, .... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With Bartholomew and all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **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!**

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***Today's Sponsorships***

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*Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God*

In Honor of Lylah Medina's August 29<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by the Heinbaugh family.

*Rose Vase*

In Honor of Carlyn Wilder's August 26<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Mom-Mom, Ruth Diepold.

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*Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God*

In Honor of Uncle Bunk Weinreich on his birthday.  
Given with love by the Mills family.

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Attendance for August 17, 2025: 40

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**Bartholomew, Apostle**

Bartholomew is mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The list in John does not include him, but rather Nathanael. These two are often assumed to be the same person. Except for his name on these lists of the Twelve, little is known. Some traditions say Bartholomew preached in India or Armenia following the resurrection. In art, Bartholomew is pictured holding a flaying knife to indicate the manner in which he was killed.

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

**Blessing of Backpacks:** Students are invited to bring in their school backpacks to either worship service on Sunday, August 24th to receive a special blessing!

**Please Note: The church and school offices will be closed on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup> for the holiday.**

**Regular Office Hours** for the church and school offices begin Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Church: M-F 9a-3p; School: M-F 8a-3:45p.

**Cruse & Crabs:** TWO FREE tickets (can't be used by purchaser) for a cruise and crabs on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Gunther Tours bus leaves from White Marsh Park & Ride in the morning, travels to Hurlock for the cruise, arrives back in White Marsh early evening. Call the church office at 410-665-7300 for contact information.

**Prayer Group:** Join us in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access) as we pray through the "Whatever" series, based on Phillipians 4:8. Our season begins on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 am. with "Whatever is TRUE." No experience necessary, and ALL are welcome for lively discussion, uplifting prayer, and a mid-week re-charging!

**Back To School Picnic Party!** SPES invites you to celebrate the start of a new school year on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 11am. to 1 pm. Meet staff and make new friends! Bring a chair or blanket, food and drinks provided. Kona Ice will be available for purchase.

**Installation of Staff & Volunteers:** Join us on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> as we bless those who serve the Lord through St. Peter's Sunday school and Elementary School. At the 8:45 am. worship we will be installing Sunday school teachers and support staff. At the 10:15 am. worship we will be installing the Elementary School staff, school board members, and PACE officers.

**Rally Day Sunday** is September 14<sup>th</sup>! Let's "rally together" to celebrate a new year of learning and serving at St. Peter's!

**Chairs:** We have some stackable cushioned chairs up for grabs – FREE to a good home. If you're interested in taking a few, call the church office at 410-665-7300. This offer won't last long!

**Sponsorships Available:** Altar flowers for 8:45 am. worship on 9/28, and bulletins on 9/28 (contact the church office). Altar flowers for 10:15 am. worship on 9/14 & 28 (contact Nancy Barnes).

**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.

**Flea Market:** Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 8 am.-12 pm. at Christus Victor Lutheran (9833 Harford Rd., 21234). To reserve a space, call 410-668-8089. Indoor spots are \$25 (table and 2 chairs provided) or outdoor spots are \$20 (provide your own table/chairs/tent/canopy).

**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](http://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***

We are excited to be opening for the 2025-2026 school year on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>! It's not too late to enroll. Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions, want to schedule a tour, or to register. Referrals are always welcome!

Save the Date! SPES invites you to join them at the Beachmont Corn Maze on Saturday, October 4th from 5-9 pm. at Beachmont (6433 Mt. Vista Rd., Kingsville, 21087). More details to come!