

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School**  
**Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Renewal of Vows - October 6, 2024**  
**Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship**

~~~~~

**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**



**WELCOME** *Theme of the day, Prayer concerns, & Praise time:*

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

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

We bless the holy Trinity, Sovereign, Savior ✝ and Spirit,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen**

In hope, we confess our sin and come to God for healing.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.* Gracious God, have mercy on us. **We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Savior. Amen**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen**

**CALL to WORSHIP** *from James, ch 1*

Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above.

**These gifts come down from the Father,  
the creator of the heavenly lights,  
in whose character there is no change at all.**

God chose to give us birth by the true word,  
and here is the result: **we are like the first crop  
from the harvest of everything God created. Amen**

**PRAYER of the DAY**

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **GOD'S WORD**

### **READING: Genesis 2:18-24**

*Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).*

This is a reading from Genesis, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken."

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16**

*Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Mark, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. Jesus said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the realm of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the realm of God as a little child will never enter it." And Jesus took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**MESSAGE: Family Life**

*(silence for reflection follows)*

**HYMN of the DAY: # 656 "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"**

- 1     Blest be the tie that binds  
      our hearts in Christian love;  
      the unity of heart and mind  
      is like to that above.
- 2     Before our Father's throne  
      we pour our ardent prayers;  
      our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
      our comforts and our cares.
- 3     We share our mutual woes,  
      our mutual burdens bear,  
      and often for each other flows  
      the sympathizing tear.
- 4     From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
      and sin we shall be free;  
      and perfect love and friendship reign  
      through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

### **The CHURCH PRAYS**

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

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation. *A brief silence.*

God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church toward renewal and justice. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Creator of every creature on earth, direct our lives toward the renewal and sustaining of cattle, birds of the air, animals of the field, and those who share our homes. Reveal the ways we can work alongside creation for the health and well-being of all. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even us, mere mortals. Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice and hearts for compassion. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and suffering. Work through medical professionals to diagnose, ease pain, and give life to all who seek their wisdom and experience. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its creatures, and one another. Forgive us when division threatens companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We especially pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Mary Lou, Bärbel, Doris, Angela, Linda, Lori, Agnes, ... God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet especially William Tyndale, translator and martyr, whom we commemorate today. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

With the confidence of the children of God, 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**

**SPIRIT'S SENDING**

**PRAYER for MISSION**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

**BLESSING and PEACE**

Receive the blessing. *A brief silence.*

God all mighty, God most merciful  
bless you, keep you, ✚ and give you peace. **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 Honor of the 13th wedding anniversary of  
Laura and James Frederick, IV, October 8th.  
Given by their parents,  
Irma Stockdale and Janice Frederick.

In Celebration of granddaughters,  
Madeline's and Caroline's birthdays.  
Given by Nancy Barnes.

*Rose Vase*

In Honor of Christy Sykes  
on her Christian birthday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Given with love by the Mills family.

~~~~~

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

In Loving Memory of Madeline Thrift  
who passed away on October 7th.  
Given by the Thrift family.

~~~~~

Attendance for September 29, 2024: 28

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

**Sponsorships Available:** Flowers for 10:15 am. service on 10/13 & 20 (contact Nancy Barnes).

**Your Help Needed in Sunday school!** We're looking for volunteers to help as teaching assistants and/or substitute teachers. As little as once a month or as much as weekly is greatly appreciated. See/contact Janice Frederick or Heather Frederick for details.

**Just a reminder:** As we enter the final quarter of the calendar year, please confirm your sponsorship payments are up to date for bulletins and 8:45 am. flowers are up-to-date (contact the church office), and/or for 10:15 am. flowers (contact Nancy Barnes).

**Hiding in Plain Sight** is a youth mental awareness documentary that will be presented in 2 parts on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at Christus Victor Lutheran (9833 Harford Rd., 21234) beginning at 10:30 am. Counselors will be in attendance as the content of the documentary may evoke strong, emotional reactions. Attendees under 18 years of age must have a parent/guardian in attendance. To register, contact the church at 410-668-8089.

**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](http://baltimorecancersupportgroup.org).

**Crab Feast:** Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 pm. at St. Luke (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). Menu includes crabs from Parkville Crabs, chicken, corn, salads, tea, lemonade, sodas. Bring your own beverage (adult beverages okay). Tickets are \$65 in advance and \$75 at the door (if available). Call the church office at 410-444-5171 or Kim at 443-415-5824 to reserve tickets or for more information. Proceeds benefit the church's community outreach in Parkville and Hamilton.

**Ribbon Cutting Celebration:** Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. at Prince of Peace (8212 Philadelphia Rd., 21237). We are celebrating the 3+ years of work and the completion of our stormwater retrofit project, The Prince of Peace Gardens! Please RSVP by Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to 410-866-8766.

**PACE Pancake Breakfast:** Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am. in the fellowship hall. Menu includes pancakes, eggs, juice & coffee, and a surprise for the kids! All are invited!

**PACE River Stone Grill Fundraiser:** Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3 pm. – close, enjoy a delicious meal and help the school earn 10% of all sales! Restaurant is located at 8720 Cowenton Ave., Perry Hall, 21128. Copies of the flier are available on the table in the back of the church.

**PACE Trunk-or-Treat:** Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 2-5 pm. (on the back parking lot by the blue awning). Join us for fun, games, and a trunk decorating contest! To register your trunk, email [stpeterspace@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterspace@gmail.com).

**32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bullroast Fundraiser for Baltimore Cancer Support Group:** Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 pm.-12 midnight at Columbus Gardens (4301 Klosterman Ave., 21236). Call Geri Booker at 410-852-3688 or Karen Haughey at 410-960-1148 for tickets and information.

**November Annual Meeting:** The November annual meeting, to discuss and vote on the 2025 budget, council members, and investment committee members, is scheduled for Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> between the worship services. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

**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).

### ***News from St. Peter's Elementary School***

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!

Let's Raise Some Dough! PACE invites you to this delicious dine-in or carry out fundraiser on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at Frank's Pizza and Pasta (6620 Belair Rd., 21206) from 12-8 pm. The school will earn 15% of your pre-tax total, and an extra \$1 for each cannoli purchased. Just present the flier (copies on the table at the back of the church) or specify "St.Pete" when ordering online.

### ***News from Baltimore Lutheran/Concordia Prep School***

Join us for the Baltimore Lutheran/Concordia Prep Alumni Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>! Meet up with former classmates over some German classics from 4:00-7:00 pm. No RSVP required.

Concordia Prep Open House and Homecoming 2024 arrives on October 19<sup>th</sup>! Open House starts at 10:00a.m. The football game starts at noon. Direct questions to [advancement@concordiaprepschool.org](mailto:advancement@concordiaprepschool.org).



The Annual Concordia Prep Saints Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, October 25, 2024, at Greystone Golf Course. Check-in will begin at 8:00 am. with a shotgun start at 9:00 am. Registration is now available and should be submitted by Sunday, October 20th. Call the school at 410-825-2323 for details.