

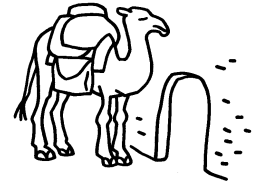
**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School**  
**Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Harvest Time**

October 13, 2024

**Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship**

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**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.* Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **GOD'S WORD**

### **READING: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15**

*Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.*

This is a reading from the prophet Amos, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Seek the LORD and live,

or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,  
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,  
and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate,  
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

Therefore because you trample on the poor  
and take from them levies of grain,

you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;

you have planted pleasant vineyards,  
but you shall not drink their wine.

For I know how many are your transgressions,  
and how great are your sins—

you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,  
and push aside the needy in the gate.

Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;  
for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil, that you may live;  
and so the LORD, the God of hosts,

will be with you,  
just as you have said.

Hate evil and love good,  
and establish justice in the gate;

it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,  
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-31**

*Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.*

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

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the realm of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the realm of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the realm of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**MESSAGE: Possessions**

*(silence for reflection follows)*

**HYMN of the DAY: # 685 "Take My Life, That I May Be"**

- 1 Take my life, that I may be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2 Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee.

- 3 Take my voice and let me sing  
always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold,  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use  
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.
- 5 Take my will and make it thine,  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own,  
it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, 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.*

Compassionate God, embolden the church to seek all who are lost, clothe those who are naked, and mend what is broken. May we be generous bearers of your eternal love. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Sustaining God, as we approach harvest time, we pray for farmers, field workers, and those who process crops. Keep us mindful of environmental threats to the nourishing food that feeds the world. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Steadfast God, inspire world leaders to share resources and work collectively to end global poverty, starvation, and preventable disease. Direct us to seek justice and equity, that all may live in peace. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for those who are afflicted, tormented, grieving, oppressed, and lonely. Deliver the strength of your love and compassion to all who need it today. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Generous God, we give thanks for the first nations and tribes who inhabited this land. We lament the harm done by colonization. Call us to deeper appreciation and care for the languages, rituals, and history of all Indigenous people. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We especially pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Mary Lou, Bärbel, Doris, Angela, Linda, Lori, our at-home worshippers, ... God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Ever-living God, we rejoice to be heirs of the eternal life made real in Jesus' death and resurrection. We give thanks for saints of all times and places, first and last, who still inspire us to faithful living. 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.*

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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 the 18th wedding anniversary of  
Selina and Chris Read, October 14th.  
Given with love and best wishes, Mom.  
And In Honor of my granddaughter,  
Seraphina Read, on her 14th birthday, October 15th.  
Given with love from her grandmother, Patty Read.

In Loving Memory of my mother,  
Mildred May's October 18th birthday.  
Given by her daughter, Ruth.

*Red Rose*

In Honor of Heather and Paul Rezek,  
October 16th, for their 20th wedding anniversary.  
With love, Mom-Mom Diepold.

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

In Loving Memory of my Godmother,  
Mildred May, on her October 18th birthday.  
Given by Carole Grimm.

In Honor of our son, Andy Volz's 52nd birthday October 16th,  
and our grandson, Jacob Volz, for his October 17th birthday.  
Given by his parents and grandparents, Lois and Fred Volz.

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Attendance for October 6, 2024: 44

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

**Sponsorships Available:** Flowers for 10:15 am. service on 10/20 (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 church office), and/or for 10:15 am. flowers (contact Nancy Barnes).

**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.

**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 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).

**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 are available by calling the school office at 410-665-4521.

**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 17th 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 or specify "St.Pete" when ordering online. Copies are available by calling the school office at 410-665-4521.

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

Join us for the Baltimore Lutheran/Concordia Prep Alumni Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 12th! 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 19th! 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.

The Drama Department is presenting "Peter and the Dream Catcher" November 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. More details coming soon!