

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
24th Sunday after Pentecost ~ All Saints' Sunday, End Time

November 3, 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.*

P: 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 Hebrews, ch 9, CEV*

We die only once, and then we are judged.

**Christ died only once to take away the sins of many people.**

But when he comes again, it will not be to take away sin.

**Christ will come to save everyone who is waiting for him.**

Lord, have † mercy. **Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen**

**PRAYER of the DAY**

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **GOD'S WORD**

### **READING: Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

*As the children of Israel enter the promised land, Moses instructs them to love the Lord and to teach God's law to future generations. Verses 4-5 are called the Shema (Hebrew for "hear"), which is still used in Jewish daily prayer and which forms the basis for the "greatest commandment" in today's gospel reading.*

This is a reading from Deuteronomy, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Moses said to the people, Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 12:28-34**

*When a scribe asks Jesus which commandment is first of all, Jesus answers that love of God and love of neighbor are interconnected and define the heart of the kingdom of God.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Mark, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

One of the scribes came near and heard Jesus and the Sadducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"

Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'God is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love God with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the realm of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**RESPONSE to the GOSPEL: REVELATION 21:1-6a**

John gives witness to Christ's victory:

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

God will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

God will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

This is the Word of God, word of life.

**MESSAGE: Love and Life**

*(silence for reflection follows)*

**HYMN of the DAY: # 654 "The Church's One Foundation"**

- 1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

### **The CHURCH PRAYS**

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

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

O Lord our God, you sustain your church in every time and place. Inspire preachers and teachers of your word, so that we may always proclaim your love to our children and our children's children. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You lead us into lands flowing with your good gifts. Deepen our connection to the lands we inhabit and share with our fellow creatures, that all may delight and be nourished by the fruits of the earth. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You establish statutes and ordinances for the well-being of your people. Guide public officials and the leaders whom we will elect this week in the way of love, for there is no commandment or law greater than this. Grant discernment to all voters and safety to election officials. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You show us your love in Jesus our healer. Draw near to those who are ill, hospitalized, or undergoing rehabilitation or treatment. Reveal your love and healing presence through nurses, doctors, aides, and chaplains. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You hold us close all the days of our life. Instill in children and adults alike a desire for learning. Guide the faith formation ministries of this congregation, that we are emboldened to share our faith, whether at home or away. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We especially pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Mary Lou, Kathy, Lori, Jack, Jill, Agnes, ... Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You are the God of our ancestors. With thanksgiving we remember Martín de Porres and all your saints. Inspire us by their lives of love for you and for their neighbors. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray that God's rule will appear, 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.* Gracious God, you have welcomed us. 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.

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 Loving Memory of the women in our family:
Pauline, Elizabeth, Margaret, Nana, Gail, and Mom.
Given by Linda Gasiorowski and family.

In Honor of Leanne Van Dyke's birthday.
Given by the Heinbaugh family.

In Loving Memory of Madeline Thrift.
Given by her daughter, Nancy Barnes.

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Attendance for October 27, 2024: 36

**List of Remembrance**

Duane Barnes

Jack Bast

John and Mae Bast

Lillian H. Cox\*

George W. Diepold\*

Donald O. Fiedler, Sr.\*

Kenneth R. Grammer\*

Raymond Hawkins\*

Sandy Kohlway\*

Mary E. Myers\*

Herbert (Buzz)\* and Audrey Robinson

Herbert and Louise Robinson

Louisa L. Schultz\*

William B. Stockdale\*

Nancy Swartzendruber\*

Beth Thompson\*

Madeline Thrift

Herb Weinreich

Ruth (Betty) Weinreich\*

Wilhelmina Weinreich

*~~ and those we remember in our hearts ~~*

*\* those who passed away 11/1/2023 to 10/31/2024*

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

**All Saints' Sunday:** Today we remember those who have passed away since last All Saints' Day and those we remember fondly in our hearts.

**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.

**Sponsorships Available:** Flowers for Thanksgiving service on 11/26 and bulletins for 11/3, 10, & 24 (contact the church office).

**Just a reminder:** Please confirm your sponsorship payments 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).

**Prayer Group:** On November 6<sup>th</sup>, we'll pray about the fruit of "PEACE," and ALL prayers are welcome! We will meet at 11 am. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access). If you are not able to join us, consider leaving your prayer request in the jar (school lobby) or basket (church lobby). Join us for mid-week Hopefulness, Kathy Shull, Patty Read, Bill Lauer, Pastor Lans, Karen Yelovich & Y-O-U!

**Holiday Bazaar:** Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 am.-1 pm. at Christus Victor (9833 Harford Rd., 21234). Shop for unique handmade crafts and seasonal decorations! For more information, call 410-668-8089.

**Christmas Bazaar:** Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 am.-2 pm. at St. John's (8808 Harford Rd., 21234). Food, crafters, jewelry table, bake table, homemade candies, jams/jellies, handmade items, white elephant table, quilt raffle, and more!

**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 of the flier available at the school (410-665-4521).

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

Concordia Prep School Theatre Program presents "Peter and the Dream Catcher". Performances will be in the Black Box Theatre November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm., November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2 pm. and 7 pm., and November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 pm. Tickets are \$10 for students and senior citizens and \$15 for adults. Seating is general admission; doors open 30 minutes prior to the show. Tickets can be purchased on the school website, [concordiaprepschool.org](http://concordiaprepschool.org).

2024 Saints Bingo: Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at Concordia Prep School Gym (1145 Concordia Dr., Towson 21286). Doors open at 6 pm. and Bingo begins at 7 pm. The bingo will offer 20 bingo games and raffles with the opportunity to win bags from a variety of brands. All proceeds raised through this year's event will support the student experience here at Concordia Prep School. Tickets are \$35 each (\$320 for table of 10) and can be ordered through the school website or by calling 410-825-2323.