

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

November 10, 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.*

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.* O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **GOD'S WORD**

### **READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16**

*This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God's saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath.*

This is a reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Kings, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.

The word of the LORD came to Elijah, saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."

But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die."

Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth."

She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44**

*After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.*

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

As Jesus taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has

put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 707 "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"**

- 1 Lord of glory, you have bought us  
with your lifeblood as the price,  
never grudging for the lost ones  
that tremendous sacrifice;  
and with that have freely given  
blessings countless as the sand  
to the unthankful and the evil  
with your own unsparing hand.
- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you  
gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness  
melt our thankless hearts of stone  
till our cold and selfish natures,  
warmed by you, at length believe  
that more happy and more blessed  
'tis to give than to receive.
- 3 Wondrous honor you have given  
to our humblest charity  
in your own mysterious sentence,  
"You have done it all to me."  
Naked, sick, in prison, hungry—  
in the least, your face we view,  
saying by your poor and needy,  
"Give as I have giv'n to you."
- 4 Lord of glory, you have bought us  
with your lifeblood as the price,  
never grudging for the lost ones  
that tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust you boldly,  
hope, to stay our souls on you:  
but, oh, best of all your graces,  
with your love our love renew.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-1889, alt.

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

## **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.*

Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders: Bishop Bill, Pr. Lans, Pr. Teal, our Dean, the synod staff and council. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God. Sustain the earth and seas and all that is in them. Kindle in us a reverent awe for all creatures great and small, and strengthen us in our pursuit of climate justice. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew the nations, O God. Heal our nation's veterans from the unseen wounds of war. Tend to their trauma and soothe burdened consciences. Guide leaders of the world to end conflicts and pursue peace in Ukraine and the Middle East. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew your people, O God. Protect those in our communities who are vulnerable or ill. Accompany persons who are unemployed or underemployed, children who are in foster care, and those who live alone. Watch over and uphold them. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God. Give us clarity in our mission and boldness in our witness. Bless our ministries that attend to basic needs of any who lack sufficient resources, that all may live with dignity. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We especially pray for John, Greg, Genevieve, Mary Lou, Kathy, Lori, Jack, Jill, our at-home worshippers, ... Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Happy are those whose help was in you. We give thanks for all your faithful ones who praised you as their God all their life long. As we eagerly wait for you, inspire us by their lives of service. 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.*

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 Walter Sueck  
for his November 15<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by Terri and Rich Murphy.

In Loving Memory of the  
November 13<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
of Francis and Madeline Thrift.  
Given by Francis Thrift.

~~~~~

Attendance for November 3, 2024: 39

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

**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.

**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.

**Thanksgiving Worship** will be held on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access). Lite refreshments will be served in the open area after the service. Let's all give thanks with a grateful heart!

**Christmas Poinsettias:** The church is taking orders for red, white, and marble poinsettias to decorate the altar for Christmas Eve. Each 6" plant is \$8. Order forms are available on the church website or by calling the church office at 410-665-7300. Order forms and payment should be returned to the church office by Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**The SPES/PACE Penny Wars** run from November 18<sup>th</sup>-December 18<sup>th</sup>, and the church has its own collection jar! Points are earned with each penny, \$1 bill, \$5 bill, \$10 bill, and wrapped roll of pennies. But beware, points can be subtracted if nickels, dimes, or quarters are found in the collection jar. See the fliers posted at the red awning door and hallway by the church office for point values.

**Sponsorships Available:** Flowers for 8:45 am. worship on 12/1, 15, & 22, and bulletins for 11/24, 12/8 & 22 (contact the church office). Flowers for the 10:15 am. worship on 12/8 (contact Nancy Barnes).

**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 & PACE***

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!

Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month for a delicious fundraiser at Frank's Pizza & Pasta (6620 Belair Rd., 21206). Fliers with additional details are posted at the red awning door and the church office lobby. You can also obtain a flier through the school office (410-665-4521).

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

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.