

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School
Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.
26th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Annual Meeting, End Time

November 17, 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 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, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**



## **GOD'S WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Daniel 12:1-3**

*The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.*

This is a reading from the prophet Daniel, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:23-25**

*Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.*

This is a reading from Hebrews, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for the one who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

This is the Word of God, word of life.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 13:1-8**

*In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.*

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

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Jesus privately, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?"

Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 624 "Jesus, Still Lead On"**

- 1 Jesus, still lead on,  
till our rest be won;  
and, although the way be cheerless,  
we will follow, calm and fearless;  
guide us by your hand  
to the promised land.
- 2 If the way be drear,  
if the foe be near,  
let no faithless fears o'ertake us,  
let not faith and hope forsake us;  
safely past the foe  
to our home we go.
- 3 When we seek relief  
from a long-felt grief,  
when temptations come alluring  
make us patient and enduring;  
show us that bright shore  
where we weep no more.
- 4 Jesus, still lead on,  
till our rest be won;  
heav'nly leader, still direct us,  
still support, console, protect us,  
till we safely stand  
in the promised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt.

**MESSAGE: Signs** (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.*

O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth, and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence. Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. We lift up Ukraine and Middle East. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness. Bring them healing and wholeness. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

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

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With thanksgiving we remember Elizabeth of Hungary and all saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. 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 my grandmother,
Catherine Stevens, on her November 22nd birthday.
Given by her granddaughter, Marcia Darney.

In Honor of Kathy and Steve Sykes
on their anniversary, November 19th.
Given with love from the Mills family.

In Celebration of Madilyn's
10th birthday on November 24th.
Given with love, Doris Alkire.

Rose Vase

In Honor of my grandson, James Frederick V,
for his 11th birthday, November 18th.
Given by his grandmother, Irma Stockdale.

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

In Loving Memory of Audrey and Buzz Robinson  
on their shared birthday of November 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Given with love by the Mills family.

In Honor of Brian Mills' November 19<sup>th</sup> Christian birthday.  
From Aunt Kathy, Uncle Steve, Katie and Christy.

In Honor of our granddaughter,  
Allie Wilmot's November 21<sup>st</sup> birthday,  
and our daughter-in-law,  
Kristen Volz's November 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
All our best wishes, Lois and Fred Volz.

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Attendance for November 10, 2024: 38

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, will be held on Sunday, November 17th between the worship services. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

Blanket Blessing Sunday is November 24th! Please join us in saying blessings over the blankets donated to and made by St. Peter's quilters over the last year. Once blessed, the blankets are sent all over the world to people in need.

Thanksgiving Worship will be held on Tuesday, November 26th 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!

Thanksgiving Closings: The school will be closed November 27th-29th, and the church office will be closed November 28th & 29th. We wish you all a blessed and thankful Thanksgiving holiday!

Prayer Group: So, people, if you've been paying attention, the next "Fruit of the Spirit" is PATIENCE. Hmm, would that be reflected in harried shoppers and burnt Christmas cookies?? Certainly NOT!! Come and chat out this theme on Wednesday, December 4th. Join our prayer family at 11 am. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator accessible). No experience necessary.

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 24th.

The SPES/PACE Penny Wars run from November 18th-December 18th, 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.

Christmas Bazaar: Saturday, December 7th from 10 am.-4 pm. at St. Luke's (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). Handmade gifts, holiday crafts, local artisans, food sampling, vintage clothing, festive food, Fair Trade gifts, 50/50, gift wrapping station, kid's craft table, and more! Interested in being a vendor? Call 410-444-5171 for details.

Sponsorships Available: Flowers for 8:45 am. worship on 12/15 & 22, and bulletins for 12/8 & 22 (contact the church office).

On-line Giving: As the holidays and travel to family near and far approaches, remember that 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.

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.

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!

Help Stock Santa's Workshop! The magic of Christmas is just around the corner, and we're excited to announce PACE's annual Santa's Workshop on December 12th and 13th! We're asking for donations of new gifts that our students can purchase for Christmas for family members. Items are needed by December 1st and can be dropped off to the school office anytime. Remember, no new gift is too small for our workshop. Questions? Contact PACE at stpeterspace@gmail.com.

Join us on the 1st 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).