

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Founded 1856
1343 Penniman Avenue
Plymouth, ME 48170
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



Sunday, September 17, 2023
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Service Notes:

- The following psalms in the front of the hymnal (page 64f) will aid you in your meditation before receiving the Lord's Supper: Psalms 34, 42-43, 51, 84, 116, 150. Prayers for preparation for worship are on pages 10 and 11 in the hymnal. A form for preparation for Communion is on page 156.

- Guests, please sign the guest registry in the narthex.
- If you have a prayer request or would like Pastor Schaefer to visit or call you, please talk to him (734-658-5735).

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. Our guests are kindly asked to note that it is our practice to first become a member of our communion fellowship before communing with us. Please speak to our pastor about becoming a member of our communion fellowship.

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

OPENING HYMN: #308 "As Surely As I Live, God Said"

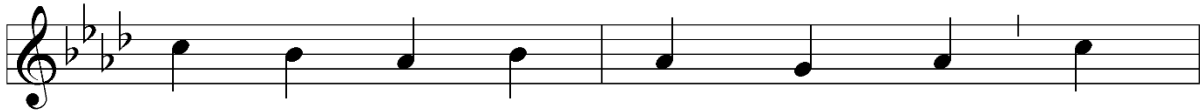
Text: Nikolaus Herman (1480-1561)

308

As Surely As I Live, God Said



1 "As sure - ly as I live," God said, "I
 2 To us, there - fore, Christ gave com - mand: "Go
 3 "All those whose sins you thus re - mit I
 4 "What you will bind, that bound shall be; What
 5 The words which ab - so - lu - tion give Are



would not have the sin - ner dead, But
 forth and preach in ev - 'ry land; Be -
 tru - ly par - don and ac - quit, And
 you will loose, that shall be free; Un -
 his who died that we might live; The



that he turn from er - ror's ways, Re -
 stow on all my par - d'ning grace Who
 those whose sins you do re - tain Con -
 to my Church the keys are giv'n To
 min - is - ter whom Christ has sent Is



pent, and live through end - less days."
 will re - pent of sin - ful ways.
 demned and guilt - y shall re - main.
 op'n and close the gates of heav'n."
 but his hum - ble in - stru - ment.

6 When ministers lay on their hands,
 Absolved by Christ the sinner stands;
 He who by grace the Word believes
 Forgiveness, sure and sweet, receives.

7 Praise God the Father and the Son
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
 As was, is now, and so shall be
 Forever and eternally!

Text: Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, abr.; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
 Tune: ST. LUKE (LM) Jeremiah Clarke, 1674–1707.

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.




C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,



but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.



O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,



you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;



you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the



King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 33:7-11

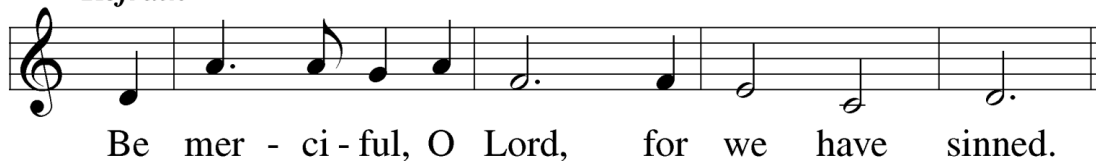
⁷ “So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

¹⁰ “And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 51a

Refrain Tune: Patricia Craig. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Psalm Tone: Paul Bunjes. © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A-722670. All rights reserved.

Refrain



Psalm tone



Have mercy on me, O God,*
according to your unfailing love.

Wash away all my iniquity,*
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,*
and my sin is always before me. ***Refrain***

Against you, you only, have I sinned*
and done what is evil in your sight.

Surely I was sinful at birth,*
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Hide your face from my sins,*
and blot out all my iniquity.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,*
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain*

SECOND LESSON: Romans 13:1-10

13 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴ for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

VERSE OF THE DAY (sung by the soloist)

Alleluia! Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Alleluia!
(Luke 6:36)

STAND

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵ "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained

your brother. ¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

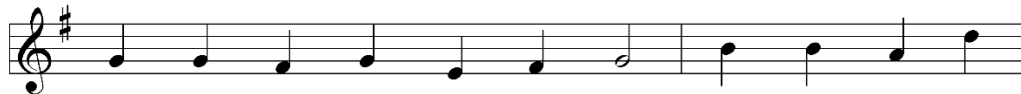


C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY: #304 “Jesus Sinners Does Receive”

Text: Erdmann Neumeister (1671-1756)



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; Oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the
 4 Come, O sin - ners, one and all, Come, ac - cept his
 5 I, a sin - ner, come to you With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 Lord for - sak - en; Wea - ry souls who lost their way
 in - vi - ta - tion. Come, o - bey his gra - cious call;
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



And from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope
 Here their ills have per - fect heal - ing Who with hum -
 Are by Christ, the shep - herd, tak - en In his arms
 Come and take his free sal - va - tion! Firm - ly in
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words



for all who grieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 ble hearts be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 that they may live— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 these words be - lieve— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 my soul re - ceive— Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

6 Oh, how blest it is to know,
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By your blood and bitter passion,
 For these words I do believe—
 Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive.
 Even I have been forgiven.
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to him I cleave—
 Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.; tr. composite.
 Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) *Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädisches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt,
 1699, alt.

SERMON

STAND

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true
God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from
heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the (+) life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR
THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

M: Blessed Lord, You have promised that where two or three are gathered in Your name, You are in the midst of them. Hear the prayers of Your people, and grant our supplications. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, You have sent us pastors as watchmen. Let them be ever faithful in calling sinners to repentance and joyfully announcing Your forgiveness to those who heed their warning. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Gracious Father, because You have made us our brother's keeper, fill us with care for the members of our earthly families and for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive our sins and strengthen us to live so that we owe no one anything except to love each other. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Righteous God, You give leaders to every nation and people. Grant us good and wise public servants to bear the sword righteously, defending the innocent and punishing wrongdoers. Guard those who protect us, especially our armed forces, police and firefighters. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Merciful Lord, look with compassion upon those who are struggling with illness, grief, loneliness or any malady. Reassure them of Your love, which is like that of the

shepherd who seeks and saves the one lost sheep. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: O Lord, grant that we would receive Christ's body and blood with childlike faith. Let us humbly trust that Your forgiveness is poured out for us in this Sacrament. May it strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, because You desire that none of Your little ones should perish and because sin is constantly crouching at our door, we beg You to call us back to Yourself when we are tempted to stray. Deliver us from temptation, and keep us in the faith. Make us humble like little children, seeing how Your Son humbled Himself for us and for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. Reprinted by permission

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.

BE SEATED

Please use this time for personal preparation or meditation before the Lord's Supper. A form to assist you is on page 156 in the front part of the hymnal.

NOTE: *Please be prepared to receive the host in your outstretched hand, rather than in your mouth.*

STAND

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.
 The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.
 You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.
 I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -
 va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.
 The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is the new testament in my (+) blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace (+) of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM: "In Hopelessness and Near Despair"

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1 In hopelessness and near despair, I cry to you, my Savior!
My guilt is more than I can bear. I have not earned your favor.
You know me as I really am: How much is truth, how much is sham;
Why should you heed my pleading?

2 I see my heart's condition now, My heart's diverse affections.
Why do I love the things you loathe; I'm torn in two directions:
Now prodigal, now Pharisee. O God, be merciful to me;
Who else but you can help me?

3 I tremble as I feel your hand, Expecting retribution,
Yet hear no curse or reprimand, But grace and absolution:
With you there is forgiveness, Lord,
You speak the sweet, consoling Word, and I am sure you love me!

4 Forgiven, free of guilt and shame, Grant me some time to render
A gift to glorify your name, Love to reflect your splendor:
This world must know what I have learned,
That you bestow what none has earned: The joy of full forgiveness!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

#315 “Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face”

Text: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889). Setting © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved..

315 Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
 2 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
 3 I have no help but yours nor do I need
 4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;
 5 Too soon we rise; the ves - sels dis - ap - pear.



Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,
 Here is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new.
 An - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on.
 Mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood.
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone.



Here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
 Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;
 Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace:
 The bread and wine re - move, but you are here,



And all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
 The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with you.
 My strength is in your might, your might a - lone.
 Your blood, your right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.
 Near - er than ev - er, still my shield and sun.

6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, abr., alt.
 Tune: FARLEY CASTLE (10 10 10 10) Henry Lawes, 1595-1662.

THANKSGIVING (page 36)

STAND

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - news his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



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“Thank the Lord” Tune: Richard Hillert. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*.
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OFFICIANTS:

Preacher and Celebrant: Pastor Paul Schaefer

Communion Assistant: Steve Wendland

Organist and Soloist: Julie Webber

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

- Today - 9:30 AM Divine Service and
- 10:45 AM Final Lemonade on the Lawn
- Tuesday – 7:00 PM Voters Meeting
- Wednesday – 9:30 AM Online Bible Class
- Thursday – 7:00 PM Senior Choir Rehearsal
- Friday - 3:30 PM Hope Christian Academy Celebration Night (family fun)
- Sunday - 9:30 AM Divine Service
- 11:00 AM Church Picnic

Serving next week: Altar Guild – Carol Schwartz; Ushering – Team 1

Altar Flowers are donated to the glory of God.

Hope Christian Academy plans to send out quarterly video updates to all of our churches. Below is the video link for Fall 2023. You should be able to open it (CTRL-click) from your emailed bulletin. Please help us share the ministry we do together through HCA, and let us know if you have any questions.

Serving together with you in Christ, Matt Foley, Principal.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LNlaudTSgPuUitFzQVZDCPkhLVXvWbwB/view?usp=drive_web

Mite Boxes are due next Sunday, Sunday Sept 24. Please deposit them in the large Mite Box in the narthex. If you choose to write a check, please make it out to **St. Peter's Lutheran Ladies Guild**. **The LWMS Fall Rally** is Saturday, October 10 at Trinity, Saline. The speaker is Rev. Allen Kirschbaum talking on mission work in Caledonia, MI. Registration begins at 8:30. Save the date!

The 2023 Church picnic will be next Sunday, September 24th from 11 AM to 2 PM (after church) at St. Peter's. The Board of Stewardship and Education will provide hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. A Sign-up Genius has been sent out for salads and desserts. Please plan on joining us for this event!

PASTORAL CARE & MERCY – Please remember with prayers, cards, and visits those whose needs have been reported.

<p>The Pastoral Staff Church Office: 734-453-3393 www.splp.org stpeterlutheran@hotmail.com Pastor: Rev. Paul Schaefer Pastor's Cellphone: 734-658-5735 Pastor's email: Peschaef5@gmail.com Music Director: Jan Jacobi Church Secretary: Tracy Pitt</p>	<p>St. Peter's Preschool Rebecca Lohrmann, Director</p> <p>Michigan Lutheran Seminary (MLS) (Saginaw) 989-793-1041</p> <p>Hope Christian Academy (Westland) 734-525-0160 (formerly Huron Valley Lutheran High School)</p>	<p>Congregation President: Bruce Winkler Vice President: Richard Cording Council Secretary: Jim Cutler Treasurer: Seth Anderson Financial Secretaries: Steve Jacobi Van Varner Board Chairmen: Elders – Ron Bude Stewardship/Education - Ernie Honke Trustees – Nils Peterson</p>
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Celebration Night

Hope Christian Academy

Sports, Games, and Family Fun!

Sept. 22, 2023

3:30 pm



Hope
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

