

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Founded 1856

1343 Penniman Avenue

Plymouth, ME 48170

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Should we then bite and scratch each other like dogs and cats? No, but we should heartily forgive and ask, "[Why] should I accuse my brother? If God is merciful unto me and for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ forgives me so great a debt, why should I make so much ado about a penny or two? I will call it square, forgive and forget, and thank God that He has forgiven me and made me a partaker of His grace."



Martin Luther

House Postil, Trinity 22

Sunday, September 24, 2023

The Seventeenth 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: TLH 321 "O Faithful God, Thanks Be to Thee" (see next page) by Nikolaus Selnecker, (1532-1592)

321

○ Faithful God, Thanks Be to Thee

Ps. 6: 1

Wir danken dir, o treuer Gott

Nikolaus Selnecker, 1572

Tr., composite

L. M.

Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten

"Genevan Psalter," 1547

1 O faith-ful God, thanks be to Thee Who dost for-give in-
 2 Thy ser-vant now de - clares to me: "Thy sins are all for-
 3 O Lord, we bless Thy gra - cious heart, For Thou Thy-self dost
 4 Give us Thy Spir - it, peace af - ford Now and for - ev - er,

iq - ui - ty. Thou grant - est help in sin's dis - tress,
 giv - en thee. De - part in peace, but sin no more
 heal our smart Thro' Christ our Sav - ior's pre - cious blood,
 gra - cious Lord. Pre - serve to us till life is spent

And soul and bod - y dost Thou bless.
 And e'er My par - d'ning grace a - dore."
 Which for the sake of sin - ners flowed.
 Thy ho - ly Word and Sac - ra - ment. A - men.

STAND

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.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 103 The congregation will sing Hymn #234 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty."

Text: Joachim Neander (1650-1680).

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Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
 5 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when
 fend you; Sure - ly his good - ness and
 dore him! All that has life and breath,



he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 heed - less - ly fall - ing, has stayed you.
 mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear Now to his tem - ple draw
 Have you not seen All that is need - ful has
 What need or grief Ev - er has failed of re -
 Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can
 Let the A - men Sound from his peo - ple a -



near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 been Sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 lief? Wings of his mer - cy did shade you.
 do As with his love he be - friends you.
 gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-80; tr. composite.

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN (14 14 478) *Ander Theil Des Erneuertes Gesang-Buchs*, Stralsund, 1665, alt.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 14:5-9

⁵ One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶ The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸ For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

VERSE OF THE DAY (sung by the soloist)

Alleluia! My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia! (2 Corinthians 12:9a)

STAND

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³ "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him

the debt. ²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

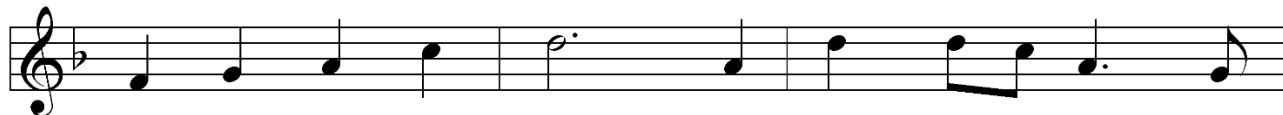
HYMN OF THE DAY: #493 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

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Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," You
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless The
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals The
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And



taught us, Lord, to pray, But you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
 bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owed to us; How great our debt to you!
 bonds of love Our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–87, alt. © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: DETROIT (CM) *A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony*, Harrisonburg, 1820.

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 SEVENTEENTH 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: Heavenly Father, in Your mercy You have forgiven our insurmountable debt of sin, ransoming us with the death of Your Son. Free us from our grudges and unforgiving nature, lest through our lack of mercy we exclude ourselves from Your forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, as You kept Joseph from evil and brought good from his suffering in Egypt, deliver us by Your grace so that we may learn patience in trials. Teach us to be slow to judge, quick to forgive, and steadfast in love for You and one another. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: We praise You, O Lord, for retaining among us Your Holy Word and Sacraments. Continue to raise up faithful stewards of Your mysteries, that repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Christ's name would be proclaimed in our midst and throughout the world. Prepare Your baptized children to be faithful confessors of the hope that is in them. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Caring Father, visit the homes of Your people. Keep them from all harm and danger, and grant that we would dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: God of power and might, sustain the nations of the earth and lead them in the way of justice and truth. Defend life and liberty, and give us honest and faithful rulers, that our nation may strive toward what is honorable, true and just. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Heavenly Father, according to Your will grant healing to the sick and infirm . Grant them patience to endure their time of suffering, and crown their days with Your mercy. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Merciful God, though we come to Your table as servants who owe a debt we cannot pay, Your Son has forgiven it in its entirety. As we receive His very body and blood for our forgiveness, let us be grateful and go out to serve others with the same spirit of forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

M: Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: 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



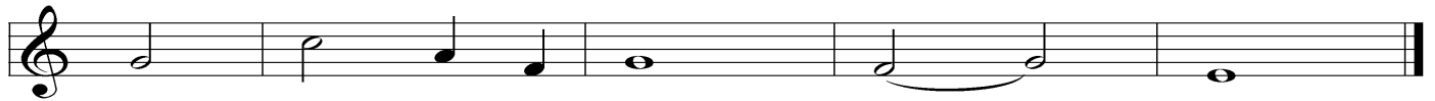
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



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: "Wilt Thou Forgive That Sin"

(Public Domain)

1 Wilt Thou forgive that sin, where I begun,
which is my sin, though it were done before?
Wilt Thou forgive those sins through which I run,
and do run still, though still I do deplore?

2 Wilt Thou forgive that sin, by which I have won
others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt Thou forgive that sin which I did shun
a year or two, but wallowed in a score?

3 I have a sin of fear, that when I've spun
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore.
Swear by thyself that at my death Thy Son
shall shine as He shines now, heretofore.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

#306 “Before You, God, the Judge of All”

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#387 “Drawn to the Cross”

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928 Setting: ©1978 Concordia Publishing House, Lutheran Book of Worship. © 2008 Concordia Publishing House, Organ Harmonization Vol. 5 by Jeffrey Blerch; podcast with permission under One License #A-722670. All rights reserved

Before You, God the Judge of All



1 Be - fore you, God, the Judge of all, With grief and shame I
 2 O Lord, my God, to you I pray: Oh, cast me not in
 3 O Je - sus, let your pre - cious blood Be to my soul a



hum - bly fall. I see my sins a - gainst you, Lord,
 wrath a - way! Let your good Spir - it ne'er de - part,
 cleans - ing flood. Turn not, O Lord, your guest a - way,



My sins of thought and deed and word. They press me
 But let him draw to you my heart That tru - ly
 But grant that jus - ti - fied I may Go to my



sore; to you I flee: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
 pen - i - tent I be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!
 house at peace to be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!

Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.

Tune: VATER UNSER IM HIMMELREICH, DER DU (88 88 88) attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

387

Drawn to the Cross



1 Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed With heal - ing
 2 How well you know my griefs and fears, Your grace a -
 3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
 4 To pledge my la - bor will - ing - ly, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in you my
 bused, my mis - spent years; So now to you with
 of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing through your
 sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 cross and pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855-1928, alt.
 Tune: JUST AS I AM (888 6) Joseph Barnby, 1838-96.

THANKSGIVING (page 36)

STAND



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 Assistants: Ron Bude

Organist: Mrs. Jan Jacobi; Soloist: Lois Bude

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

Today - 9:30 AM Divine Service

- 11:00 AM Church Picnic

Monday and Tuesday – Fall Pastoral Conference at Zion, Lansing

Tuesday – 7:00 PM Elders Meeting

Wednesday – 9:30 AM Online Bible Class

Sunday - 9:30 AM Divine Service

-10:45 Adult Bible Class and Sunday School

Serving next week: Altar Guild – Joy Schaefer

Ushering – Team 2

Altar Flowers are donated by Mark and Gretchen Castellese to the glory of God and in honor of their 37th wedding anniversary.

Adult Bible Class and Sunday School resume next Sunday, October 1 right after church. Sunday School meets in the preschool room in the school building. Adult Bible Class is held in the church basement.

Mite Boxes are due **today, 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 is today, 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. Please join 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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