



St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Highspire
Easter 7
June 1, 2025

Introduction

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

Overview

Praying for You

Today's gospel reading is first and foremost a prayer. It is Jesus' prayer, and we are given the privilege of listening in as he prays on behalf of his disciples and people of all times and places. Listeners are given a glimpse of Jesus' mission for the world—that all may be drawn into the life of the triune God. On the eve of his death, Jesus entrusts this particular community of disciples—but also our communities, our lives, and our world—into the care of God. What is it Jesus is doing when he prays? What is it the church does when it prays on behalf of the world and other people? To be prayed for by another is to know one's life is cared for and has value to the one praying on your behalf. It is to know that much of the future is out of one's own control but rests instead in the care of the Triune God. To be prayed for is to be vulnerable, dependent, and deeply loved. Here is the astoundingly good news: Jesus prays for you, and for the communities in which we find ourselves. Whether your cup is empty or full, whether your community is in crisis or experiencing joy, whether your future is foggy or clear, Jesus loves you deeply and your life is bound to the God who loved you before the foundations of the world. On the eve of his death, Jesus entrusted your life and the church's life and its entire future to the Father. What glorious, good news that the future rests in the care of the Triune God, and that we, the church, are set free to make God known to the world.

P Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
C **He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE *Living Water* Praise Team

The Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM p. 97

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

p.140

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

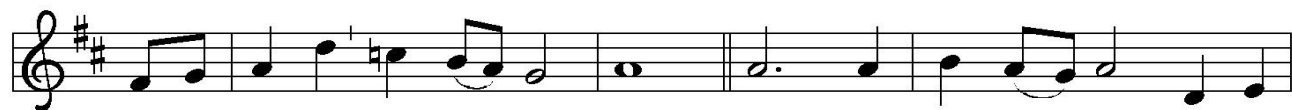
Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,

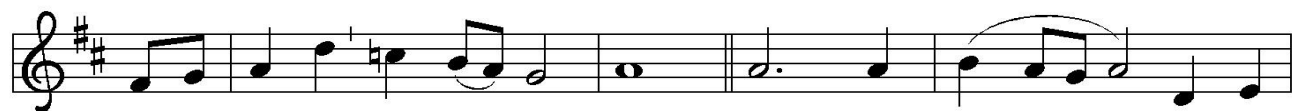


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Refrain

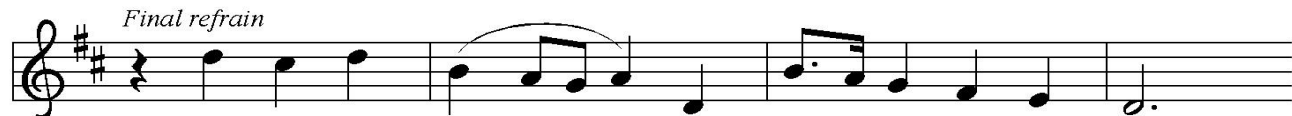
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Acts 16:16-34

16 One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. 17 While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." 18 She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. 19 But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. 20 When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city 21 and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe." 22 The crowd joined in attacking them and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. 23 After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. 24 Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. 25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains were unfastened. 27 When the jailer woke up and saw the prison

doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” 29 The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” 31 They answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” 32 They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. 34 He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

L This is the word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 97 (sung in unison)

¹ The Lord reigns; let the ^l earth rejoice;

let the multitude of the ^l isles be glad.

² Clouds and darkness sur- ^l round the Lord,

righteousness and justice are the foundations ^l of God’s throne.

³ Fire goes be- ^l fore the Lord,

burning up enemies on ^l every side.

⁴ Lightnings light ^l up the world;

the earth ^l sees and trembles.

⁵ The mountains ^l melt like wax

before the Lord of ^l all the earth.

⁶ The heavens declare your righteous- ^l ness, O Lord,

and all the peoples ^l see your glory.

⁷ Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight ^l in false gods!

Bow down before the Lord, ^l all you gods.

⁸ Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- ^l dah rejoice,

because of your judg- | ments, O Lord.

⁹ For you are the Lord, most high over | all the earth;
you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

¹⁰ You who love the | Lord, hate evil!

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand | of
the wicked.

¹¹ Light dawns | for the righteous,
and joy for the hon- | est of heart.

¹² Rejoice in the | Lord, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's | holy name.

Second Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

12 "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." 14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. 16 "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." 17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. 20 The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! 21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen

L This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW #172



Music: Caribbean traditional

***GOSPEL: John 17:20-26**

P The holy gospel according to John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus prayed:] 20 “I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. 25 “Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. 26 I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*HYMN OF THE DAY *One Bread, One Body*

W&P #111

*NICENE CREED

p.105

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Welcoming God, you invite all people to come and encounter your love. Give your church open hearts and minds to embrace all who seek your presence. Increase the capacity for cooperation between denominations and congregations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, your might is seen in storms and in silence. Where drought threatens, bring rain. Where waters flood, ease them back. Where fire, earthquake, hurricane, or tornado destroy, shelter your people and restore your land. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Discerning God, fill the hearts of leaders with your passion for justice and mercy. Call the nations of this world to tables of peace and collaboration. Encourage governments to seek avenues of collective benefit and joy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abiding God, all people are held in your care. Accompany survivors of abuse, trauma, and exploitation. Strengthen our resolve to listen and advocate on behalf of all who are unnoticed. Hear our prayers for those close to our heart *especially Don Alsedek, Connie Barner, Duck Harris, Rose Hoover, Samson Kennedy, Bernie Kunz, Rob Lipsitt, and Jeff Myers.* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing God, be with this congregation as summer begins in the northern hemisphere. Keep travelers safe. Keep the vulnerable cool. Invigorate summer ministry efforts in our community and support the well-being of children and young people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Loving God, the beginning and the end, you are with us throughout our lives. In gratitude for the saints who have died, we look toward your coming again among us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us, in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C **Amen.**

*PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Proof of Your Love

Praise Team

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW #184

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung)

p.144

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

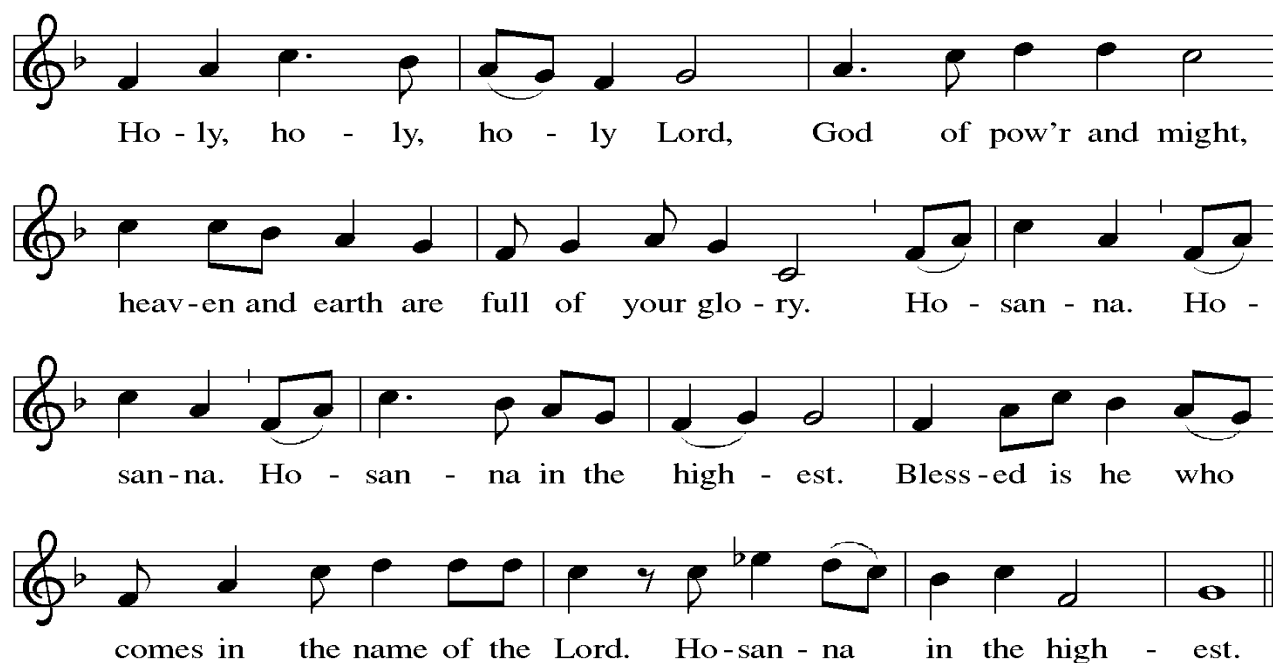
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p.144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, living and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people of Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer. We give you thanks for Jesus who living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and his glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit now and forever

C Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

p.145

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

***SHARING THE MEAL**

P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

Lamb of God

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Thine the Amen

p.146

ELW #855

ELW #826

The Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

C Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C Amen.

*BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, Son, ✝ and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

*HYMN

In Christ There is No East or West

ELW #650

*DISMISSAL

A Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

A Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Proof of Your Love (reprise)

Praise Team

Permission to podcast/ stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #736549-A and CCLI License #CSPL 19029 except where notated, All Rights Reserved. From sundayandseasons.com. Copyright @2025 Augsburg Fortress. All Rights Reserved. License #SB179760.

Prelude - "Living Water" recorded by Ellie Holcombe by Ben Bannister & Ellie Holcombe CCLI Song# 7074676 @2017 Full Heart Music *Praise Team*

Gathering Hymn - "Bind Us Together" W&P #18 Bob Gillam CCLI Song# 1228 @1977 Thank You Music

Hymn of Praise - "This is the Feast" p. 140-141

Psalm 97 (sung) - tone 1, p.337

Gospel Acclamation - "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" ELW #172 (2 times) PUBLIC DOMAIN

Hymn of the Day - "One Bread, One Body" W&P #111 John Foley @1978, 2001 Alfred Sacred

Offertory Anthem - "Proof of Your Love" recorded by King & Country by Jonathan Lee, Joel & Luke Smallbone, Fred Williams, Mia Fieldes and Ben Glover CCLI Song# 6086707 @ 2011 JLee Publishing *Praise Team*

Offertory Hymn - "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" ELW #184 Ronald Nelson @ 1978, 1993 Augsburg Fortress

The Great Thanksgiving p.144, setting 3 ELW

"Holy, Holy, Holy" p.144, setting 3 ELW

Distribution of Communion - Lamb of God, p. 146

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" ELW #855 PUBLIC DOMAIN

"Thine the Amen" ELW #826 Herbert Brokering & Carl Schalk @1983 Augsburg Fortress

Sending hymn - "In Christ There is No East or West" ELW #650 PUBLIC DOMAIN

Postlude - "Proof of Your Love" (reprise) *Praise Team*

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Highspire Contact Information:

Saint Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

240 Broad St., P.O. Box 97

Highspire, Pennsylvania 17034-0097

Office Phone: 717-939-3492

E-mail: stpetershighspire240@gmail.com

If you need pastoral care, please reach out to our church office at 717-939-3492 or by email at stpetershighspire240@gmail.com . You can also reach out to our Council President, Rich Deutsch at 717-512-1136.

PENTECOST June 8th, 2025 GERANIUM ORDER FORM

St. Peter's Altar Guild is asking for your help to decorate our Sanctuary for Pentecost on June 8th, 2025! This year we are decorating with Red geraniums. If you would like to order, please fill out the order form below and either:

1. Place your order in the offering plate
2. Call Helene Hoch (717-343-8397)
3. Mail the form to Helene – 49 E. Emaus Street, Middletown PA 17057
4. Mail the form to St. Peter's – 240 Broad Street, PO Box 97, Highspire PA 17034

Please indicate the number you wish to donate and include your check payable to: St. Peter's Altar Guild. The deadline for orders is June 1st. Thank You!

Number of Geraniums @ \$6.00 each _____

In honor of _____

In Memory of _____

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Vases are presented to the Glory of God as a gift to the church by Judy Souders.

Attention Graduates and family members!

Please call or email the church office with the names of anyone in your family who is graduating high school, college, technical school, or vocational school. For the high school graduates, please also feel free to share any future plans the students may have. We want to acknowledge their achievements and give thanks to God for the Gifts God has given to all of them and with your help we will be able to do this. Thank you so much.

Worship Participants for June 1, 2025

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Presiding Minister | Pastor Jeff Compton |
| Music Director | Stephen Strauss |
| Musician | Arthur Berg |
| Worship Assistant | Brian Keyser |
| Acolyte | Landon Keyser |
| Lector | Matt Hunt |

Worship Participants for June 8, 2025

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Presiding Minister | Pastor Jeff Compton |
| Music Director | Stephen Strauss |
| Musician | Arthur Berg |
| Worship Assistant | Sally Schonewolf |
| Acolyte | Brady Keyser |
| Lector | Clydene Strauss |

Announcements from St. Peter's Council:

Beginning June 1st, 2025 our Worship time will change to 10AM until further notice.

Congregational Conversation Today!!

Your council members invite you to a time of Conversation and questions on what our next steps are going to be and where our congregation is heading in the coming days. Please plan on attending after worship on June 1st, and if you are unable to attend, please let any council member know your questions or concerns you may have.

Come to church and stay for fellowship every Sunday in the Parlor. Enjoy coffee and snacks and friendly conversation! If you would be interested in "Hosting a Sunday" please check the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board located in the hallway outside the Music Room/Church Office.