

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church
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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant
Donna Tuider, Preschool Director



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.

TO OUR GUESTS . . .

Greetings and welcome in the name of the Risen Lord Jesus. We trust that the Holy Spirit has called you to Sts. Peter and Paul Church and pray that your worship experience today will be meaningful for you and strengthen you in faith. Please sign the **guest register at the entrance** to the sanctuary or fill out a **“Welcome” card from a pew pocket.** Please indicate whether or not you would like to be placed on our mailing list as well as your desire for a visit by the pastor or a member of the congregation.

A Prayer Card has been placed in this worship folder (under the front cover) for you to enter prayers of thanksgiving as well as intercessions and petitions. These prayers will be added to the Prayer of the Church in the Sunday liturgies and included in the bulletin during the coming weeks.

Parents and children are welcome to make use of the nursery located up the stairs at the main entrance to the church.

Restrooms are located in the ushers room off the entryway and on the lower level. Please ask an usher for directions.

Interested in membership? We would be delighted to have you join our community of faith in worship and ministry. Pick up a “Welcome” folder from the pastor or an usher.

Silence: In addition to words, music and gestures, our liturgy includes several periods of silence. In our noise-filled world, we listen for the Word in the silence of our hearts. Before the liturgy begins the sound of the chimes calls us to a time of worship, reflection and centering. As you enter the sanctuary and greet other parishioners, please respect those already seated who either are prayerfully preparing for worship or quietly enjoying the Prelude.

Holy Communion: All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. Adults or children not communing may come forward for a blessing.

Please join us for coffee and conversation after worship in the dining hall on the lower level.

How to use this worship folder: Hymns for the service are in the back two-thirds of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (red book). In this bulletin: *—those who are able may stand; all **bold parts** are for the participation of all.

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 13th, 2011 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We, too, are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

**Please silence all cell phones and pagers
before the liturgy begins.**

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155

GATHERING

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND RINGING OF THE CHIMES

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

Sonata

Borelli

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

Gracious God,

we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

From the house of David, God raised up a mighty Savior.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.

Remembering the covenant, God delivered us from our enemies.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.

Before God we are holy and righteous, free to worship without fear.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.

With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace. **Amen**

*GATHERING HYMN

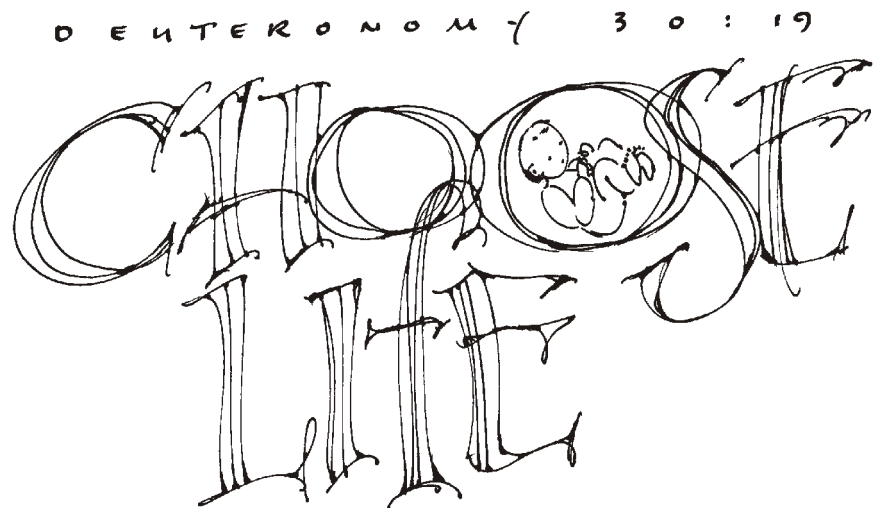
Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

ELW 582

*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, poured out in every gift of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.



***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**



Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The Lord sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving the Lord and holding fast to him. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 119:1-8

Prayed responsively by leader and congregation.

Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!

**Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**

who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.

**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**

Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!

**Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.**

I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

**I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.**

Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are fellow workers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' written below each staff. The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications

*GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Perfectly Merciful

*HYMN OF THE DAY

In All Our Grief

ELW 615

***CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As God's beloved children, let us pray that the light of Christ shine on the nations, the church, and all those in need.

For the people of God, that they may walk in your ways and observe your commandments. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For nations, communities, and families that are estranged by conflict or violence, and for the gift of reconciliation and mutual forgiveness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the earth and its resources, that by choosing life our decisions will honor the welfare of generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For victims of sexual violence; for those affected by divorce; for those living with addiction, anger, fear, or illness (*especially*), that they may know your healing love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For this community of faith, that it may be a place of safety, support, integrity, and encouragement. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Other prayers may be added here.

For all your saints who served you in life and now rest from their labors, that you bring us all to the joy of everlasting life. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and hopes, God of mercy and justice, for we pray in the name of Christ, the light of the world.

Amen.



Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

ELW 691

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

*DIALOGUE

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

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

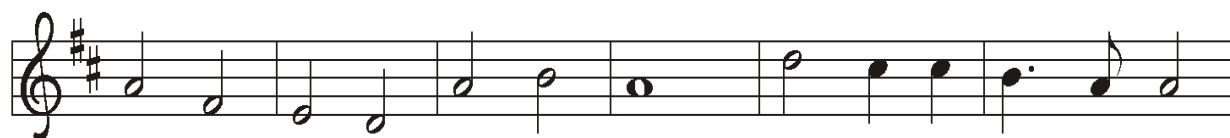
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, 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 death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW 612

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

ELW 605

***BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing

ELW 544

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Finale

Brahms

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SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis J. Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

PARISH MUSICIAN

David Richards

LECTORS

Olivia Lauritsen and Emily Kostelancik

COMMUNION MINISTER

Martin Pennino

GREETERS

Milan and Anita Horak

ACOLYTES

Jacob Czerak and Charles Haase

USHERS

Wally Kessler and Ann Pennino

NURSERY ATTENDANT

Katie Melnyk

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Ramona Suffern

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS – 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., M-F.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

THIS WEEK AT STS. PETER AND PAUL . . .

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 13

- 8:15 AM Service of the Word (in Slovak)
- 9:00 AM Sunday School, Children's Choir, Confirmation, Drama Group
- 9:30 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 10:15 AM Liturgy of Holy Communion (in English)
Worship and Music Committee meeting follows service.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 6:30 PM "Legends of the Game" Volleyball until 9:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 7:00 PM Missions and Outreach Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 6:30 PM Co-Dependents Anonymous
- 7:30 PM *No Choir Rehearsal*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 12:00 PM Myjavsky Group Meeting

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 7:00 PM Recovering Couples Anonymous

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- 7:00 PM AA Group

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 20

- 8:15 AM Service of the Word (in Slovak)
- 9:00 AM Sunday School, Children's Choir, Confirmation, Drama Group
- 9:30 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 10:15 AM Liturgy of Holy Communion (in English)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER . . .

Recovering from surgery: **George Waldman** at home, **Elaine Haase** at home, **Mary Sliepka** (*aunt of Carol Melnyk*) at home.

Recovering at home: **John McShane, Sr** (*husband of Linda*)

Dale Renville (*son-in-law of Bev and Steve Podzamsky*), **Leza Bernard** (*friend of Janet and John Broussard*), **Doris Ivaska** (*sister-in-law to Al and Luddy Kovalsky*), **Paul Matlas** (*dear friend of Ken and Shirley Wood*), **Dane and Beverly Bartlett** (*aunt and uncle to Ann Head*), **Russel Hartman** (*friend to the Dabrowski's*), **Martin and Elsie Pennino** (*parents of Martin*), **John Sasuta** (*brother of Nick*), **Cleo Costello** (*sister-in-law of Debbie Boor*), **Debbie Skonieczny** (*friend to Debbie Boor*), **Dan Dieska** (*member of St. Peter and St. Paul, Blue Island*).



The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given with thanksgiving for the faithful Christian witness of +**Marie Elizabeth Lauritsen**+ on the anniversary of her birth on February 12th by loving son Dennis and the Lauritsen families. If you would like to order flowers for the Lord's Table, please call the church office. Flowers cost \$18.00 per vase; please make checks payable to Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church. The cut-off day for ordering flowers is Tuesday.

Registration for our "**Fun through Learning**" **Summer Camp and Fall 2011 Preschool Program** has begun. Brochures with our summer schedule for camp and various morning and afternoon programs for preschool are available in the revolving stand in the dining hall. **For additional information**, an application, or to make an appointment to see our facility, contact Karen in the office or speak with Donna Tuidor, Preschool Director/Teacher.



**Appalachian Service Project 2011
June 11th through June 18th**

Sts. Peter and Paul and Ascension Lutheran Churches

13 years of age or going into high school.
No building construction experience is necessary.
Friends are welcome to join you.

If interested in participating,
please speak to Sheryl Hallmann or Carol Melnyk.

Instruction for the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be offered to children of the congregation during “Pastor’s Time” at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings during the educational hour beginning February 6th through March 27th. **Full participation in the Sacrament** will be celebrated at the conclusion of this period of instruction, and following conversation with the children’s parents, on **Easter Sunday, April 24th at the festival liturgy**. Whether or not your child is communing already, this time of instruction and preparation will be beneficial. *Who should be admitted to the Lord’s Supper and when? . . . The standard should be the same for children and adults: those who grasp the promise of Christ’s proffered body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.*

A Prayer of St. Augustine for Epiphany

O Holy Spirit, Love of God, infuse Thy grace, and descend plentifully into my heart; enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling, and scatter there Thy cheerful beams; dwell in that soul that longs to be Thy temple; water that barren soil, overrun with weeds and briars, and lost for want of cultivating, and make it fruitful with Thy dew from heaven. Oh come, Thou refreshment of them that languish and faint. Come, Thou Star and Guide of them that sail in the tempestuous sea of the world; Thou only Haven of the tossed and shipwrecked. Come, Thou Glory and Crown of the living, and only Safeguard of the dying. Come, Holy Spirit, in much mercy, and make me fit to receive Thee. Amen.

**The Holy Season of Lent begins
Ash Wednesday, March 9th**



Spoken Liturgy of the Word

with Imposition of Ashes

at Noon

Liturgy of Holy Communion

with Imposition of Ashes

at 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Vespers, Supper and Study

every Wednesday in Lent,

beginning March 16th thru April 13th.

Vespers (Evening Prayer) is Sung at 7:15,

preceded by Supper at 6:30.

Then join us for a study and discussion of

"Job and the Life of Faith:

Wisdom for Today's World."



Valentine's Day

A HISTORY OF SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day started in the time of the Roman Empire. In ancient Rome, February 14th was a holiday to honor Juno who was the Queen of the Roman gods and goddesses. The Romans also knew her as the goddess of women and marriage. The following day, February 15th, began the Feast of Lupercalia.

The lives of young boys and girls were strictly separate, however, one of the customs of the young people was name drawing. On the eve of the festival of Lupercalia the names of Roman girls were written on slips of paper and placed into jars. Each young man would draw a girl's name from the jar and would then be partners for the duration of the festival with the girl whom he chose. Sometimes the pairing of the children lasted an entire year, and often they would fall in love and would later marry.

Under the rule of Emperor Claudius II, Rome was involved in many bloody and unpopular campaigns. Claudius the Cruel was having a difficult time getting soldiers to join his military leagues. He believed that the reason was that Roman men did not want to leave their loves or families. As a result, Claudius canceled all marriages and engagements in Rome. The good Saint Valentine was a priest at Rome in the days of Claudius II. He and Saint Marius aided the Christian martyrs and secretly married couples, and for this kind deed Saint Valentine was apprehended and dragged before the Prefect of Rome who condemned him to be beaten to death with clubs and to have his head cut off. He suffered martyrdom on the 14th day of February, about the year A.D. 270.

At that time it was the custom in Rome, a very ancient custom indeed, to celebrate in the month of February the Lupercalia, feasts in honor of a heathen god. On these occasions, amidst a variety of pagan ceremonies, the names of young women were placed in a box, from which they were drawn by the men as chance directed.

The pastors of the early Christian Church in Rome endeavored to do away with the pagan element in these feasts by substituting the names of saints for those of maidens. And as the Lupercalia began about the middle of February, the pastors appear to have chosen Saint Valentine's Day for the celebration of this new feast. So it seems that the custom of young men choosing maidens for valentines, or saints as patrons for the coming year, arose in this way.

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Missions and Outreach Fund-raiser

“PIZZA NIGHT” with Entertainment by
Line Dancing Lessons with Diane Knight
Swing Music by John Broussard

Saturday, March 5th, 2011
6:30-10:00 p.m.



Admission: \$2.00
Pizza, Salad, Soda and Homemade Desserts
Available for Purchase
Pizza provided by "Vini's" of Lincoln Park

Complimentary Popcorn and Raffle

Tickets available from any member
of the Missions and Outreach Committee
**A limited number of tickets
will be available at the door.**

For more information, contact Ramona Suffern.