



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



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.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 27th, 2023 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

HOLY COMMUNION

WITH THANKSGIVING AND BLESSINGS

FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF AN ORDINATION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

***WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

based upon Psalm 8 and Genesis 1

**“O Lord, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth!
Your glory is higher than the heavens.”**

We gather to praise you!

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”

**“O Lord, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth!
Your glory is higher than the heavens.”**

We gather to celebrate you!

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”

And God saw that it was good...”

We gather to celebrate our God.

**“O Lord, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth!
Your glory is higher than the heavens.”**

We gather to worship you!

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”

And God saw that it was very good...”
We gather to worship our God!
**All praise, honor, majesty and power
belongs to our Creating God! Amen**

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***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Trusting God’s promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another. *Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

Let us pray. **Eternal God our creator, in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God + forgives us all our sins. **Amen**



***GATHERING HYMN**

God Is Here!

ELW 526

***GREETING**

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

*DIALOGUE OF THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
His mercy endures forever.

Open for me the gates of righteousness.
I will enter them and offer thanks to the Lord.

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord.
Happy the people who are chosen as God's own.

I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, says the Lord.
And they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed.

I will feed them with good pasture.
I will feed them in justice, says the Lord.

Alleluia! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.
In the assembly of the upright, in the congregation, I will give thanks. Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ, you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. Inspire all pastors to proclaim your Word diligently and your people to receive it willingly, that finally we may receive the crown of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayed responsively by leader and congregation.

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;
 I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name
 for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;
for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.
 On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.
 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.
 For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.
 Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
 you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.
 The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

*GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

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

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray in thanksgiving for the ministry of our co-worker in Christ, the Rev. Dennis J. Lauritsen, and for the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the whole world.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for pouring out your Spirit upon the Church and bringing forth abundant gifts for the ministry of the whole people of God. Fill the Church with truth and love, that all its members may serve you with true and godly lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for raising up men and women of faith to preach your Word and administer your Sacraments, especially we pray for Pastor Dennis. As you have blessed him during forty years of ordained ministry, grant that he may continue to keep his ordination vows, fulfill his duties of ministry, serve your people, build up your Church, and glorify your name. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks as well for Jane, his spouse, and for all his family and forebearers, who, in their love and support of Pastor Dennis, have made a significant self-offering to the mission of your Holy Church. As they have shared their love, so shower them with your love and blessings. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all bishops and pastors and those who hold authority in the Church, especially Elizabeth our Presiding Bishop and Wilma our Bishop, and the pastors of our sister congregations. Grant that by their faithful service, faith may abound and your kingdom increase. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heal the divisions which separate us and bring peace to the Church, that we may speak with one voice of our one Lord Jesus Christ. Shine your face upon those in need of healing for bodies, minds, and spirits, especially... Strengthen our faith and fill us with hope as we humbly kneel before you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make us all to follow the path of righteousness until we join that cloud of witnesses who have gone before, especially... that we may together live in the joy of your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

***PEACE**

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

***DIALOGUE**

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

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

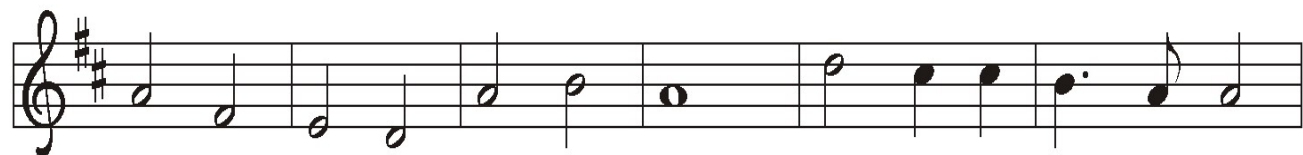
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS**

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

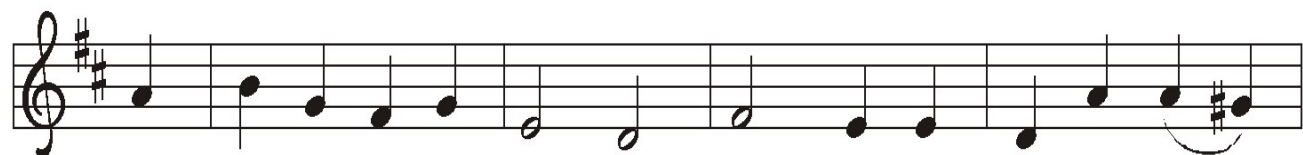
*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



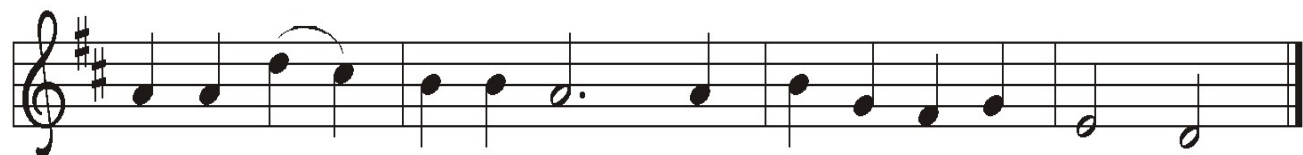
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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 God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel,
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever. Amen**

*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together.

DISTRIBUTION

*BLESSING

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

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have fed us with this heavenly food. In your grace and by your Spirit, help us to be what we celebrate, the body of Christ in the world. Send us out, renewed by this sacramental meal, to do the work you have given us to do: to witness for Christ, to love you with singleness of heart, and to serve you with clarity of purpose; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

SENDING

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

BLESSINGS

Pastor Dennis, may the Lord God bless you and keep you always in his care. May the Lord equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight. **Amen**

May the Lord God always be with you, in your going out and your coming in. May the Lord fill your heart and your mind with his love in Jesus Christ. And may the Lord always inspire you to share that love with all those whose lives you touch. **Amen**

May the Lord God always be on your lips, that you may declare his saving word of grace and forgiveness to his people. May the Lord give you understanding of the Gospel, sincerity of purpose, diligence in ministry, and the beauty of life in Christ, that many people will be served and God's name be glorified. **Amen**

May the Lord God bless you and reveal himself in you and through you. May the Lord bless those whom you bless, guide those whom you baptize, forgive those whom you forgive, strengthen those whom you feed with Christ's body and blood, and bring to eternal life those whom you commend to him. May the Lord prosper the work of your ministry for the salvation of souls and the increase of his kingdom. **Amen**

Pastor Dennis, may the Lord God be your rock and your refuge, that you may fear nothing except losing him, and that you may lay all your cares on him. May the Lord always hear your prayers, that you may be protected from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, and that you may always know and believe in his love for you. May the Lord bless, guide, forgive, and strengthen you, that you too might be brought to eternal life. **Amen**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty and gracious God, that you have blessed us with the ministry and friendship of our pastor, and we pray that he may continue to exemplify in word and deed the Gospel of your Son. Grant that we, with him, may serve you now in the Church on earth and rejoice before your throne in heaven forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

***BENEDICTION**

The blessing of the living God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen**

***SENDING HYMN**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 597

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace and joy. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Little Prelude in F Major

J. S. Bach

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Tom Myers

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Beverly Tarbox

LECTOR

George Valek

GREETERS

Edward and Joanne Sefara

USHER

Janet Broussard

LIVE STREAM

John Broussard

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Edward and Joanne Sefara

IN THE PRAYERS...

Members of the Congregation: Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban and Mary Sasuta. **Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:** Wally Bisping, David Basek, James and Lori Broussard, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Tom Duran, Barbara Dykes, Denise Fricano, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Mary Frances Mason, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Julie Patron, Pat Pileggi, Gail Purcell, Sandy Rossella, Stevie Singer, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox and Mike Yavorski.

*Please let us know when people may be removed
from the prayer list, and we will offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their healing!*

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in celebration of **Pastor Dennis Lauritsen's 40th Anniversary of Ordination** on Sunday, August 28th, 1983 by the Congregation at Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church.



The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 27th
Observing the Fortieth Anniversary
of the Rite of Ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacraments
for "Pastor Dennis"
Sunday, August 28th, 1983
Bethesda Lutheran Church, Moorhead, Iowa.



Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away (1 Peter 5:2-4).

Please join us in the dining hall (lower level) at a reception following worship to celebrate with Pastor Dennis and Jane, their family, friends, colleagues and congregation.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430

Monday, August 28th

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400

Monday, August 28th

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.

Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872

Saturday, September 2nd

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the nineteenth century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation. He wrote over a thousand hymns.

Dear Creator of all, thank you for summer! Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight. Thank you for the beauty we see all around us and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy your creation. Thank you for the time we have to be with friends and family, and for the more relaxed pace of the summer season. Draw us closer to you this summer. Teach us how to pray no matter where we are or what we are doing. Warm our souls with the awareness of your presence and light our path with your word and counsel. As we enjoy your creation, create in us pure hearts and a hunger and thirst for you.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering

August 20th, 2023

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2023:</i>	\$2,524.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$0.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$0.00

Upcoming Outdoor Worship Services

15th Sunday after Pentecost, September 10th

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

A Day of Remembrance: Patriot Day, September 11th
and Grandparents' Day with Potluck Meal

18th Sunday after Pentecost, October 1st

Blessing of Pets and Animals

in Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi,
renewer of the church, died 1226.



Luther's Sacristy Prayer

O Lord God, dear Father in heaven, I am indeed unworthy of the office and ministry in which I am to make known Your glory and to nurture and to serve this congregation.

But since You have appointed me to be a pastor and teacher, and the people are in need of the teaching and the instruction, be my helper and let Your holy angels attend to me.

Then if You are pleased to accomplish anything through me, to Your glory and not to mine or to the praise of [others], grant me, out of Your pure grace and mercy, a right understanding of Your Word and that I may also diligently perform it.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, shepherd and bishop of our souls, send Your Holy Spirit that He may work with me to will and to do through Your divine strength according to Your good pleasure. Amen

Prayer for Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled, as to console;

To be understood, as to understand;

To be loved, as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive,

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

~ St. Francis of Assisi