



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.*

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# THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.*

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## HOLY COMMUNION

*EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155*

### GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

*Lied*

Silcher

\*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

*based on Psalm 92:1,2,4; 95:1-3; 100:2-4*

It is good to praise the LORD  
and make music to your name, O Most High,  
**to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night.**

For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD;  
**I sing for joy at the works of your hands.**

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.**

For the LORD is the great God,  
**the great King above all gods.**

Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.

**Know that the LORD is God.**

**It is he who made us, and we are his;**  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
**and his courts with praise;**  
**give thanks to him and praise his name.**

**\*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**

*We Praise You, O God*

ELW 870

**\*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.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

# WORD

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

## FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*

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

## SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ACS 1088

### Hallelujah



Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah,



hal - le-lu-jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah!

Text: Traditional

Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

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

*Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.*

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

SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*If God My Lord Be for Me*

ELW 788

\*CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ, living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

**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

Strengthened by the Spirit who gives us words to speak and hearts that care, let us bring our hopes and needs to God who listens.

We pray for the church, that it continues to sow seeds of mercy, love, forgiveness, and joy, even as it anticipates your coming again to bring restoration to the new heaven and earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all creation, for the wonder of climate and tide, of mountains, valleys, rivers, and oceans, that we become better stewards of this bounty. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all nations, their leaders and governments, that they replace power, pride, greed, and enmity with justice, mercy, reconciliation, and peacemaking. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the lonely, the disheartened, those who suffer from debilitating illness, those who cannot speak for themselves, and those in any need, especially... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Other prayers may be added here in speech and silence.*

We give thanks for all the saints, especially... for their faithfulness and perseverance in following you, whose examples will bring us closer to you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and hopes, Good Shepherd, and bring us safely into all joy and peace, through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## \*PEACE

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

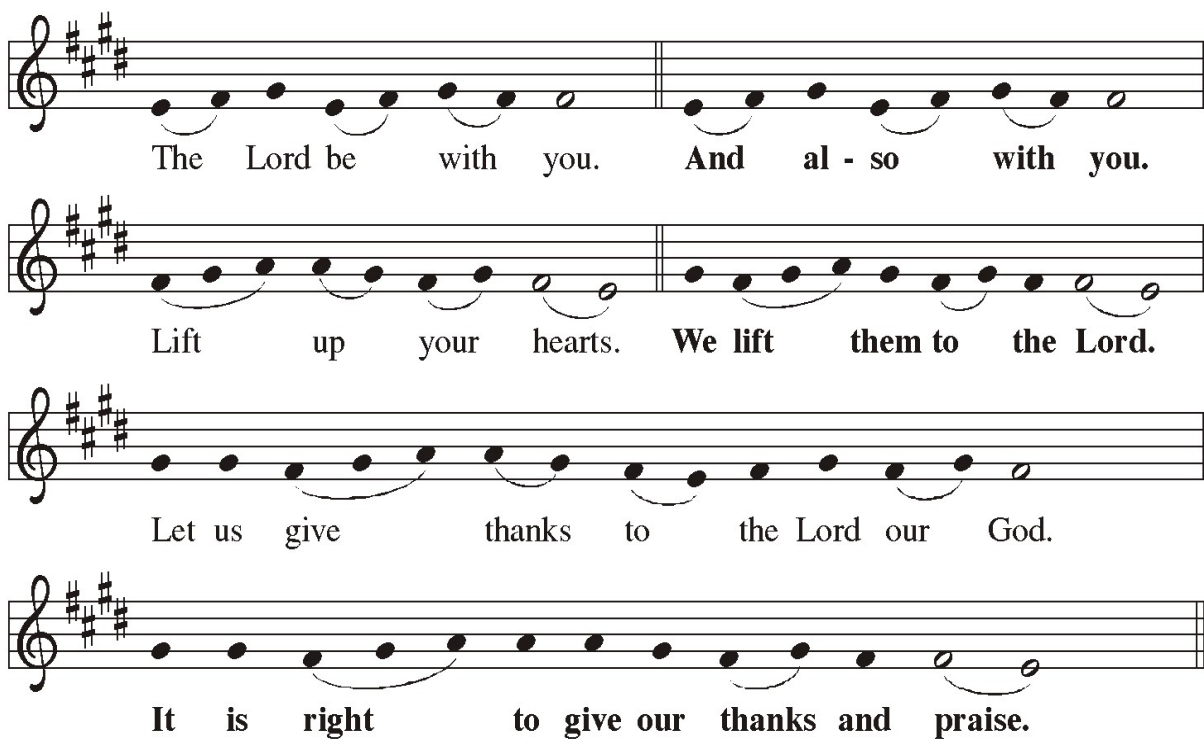
## MEAL

*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.

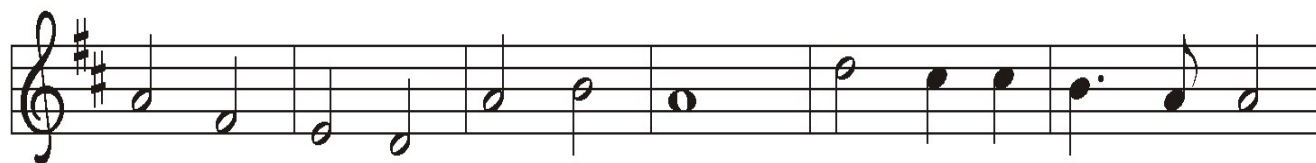
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### \*PREFACE FOR SAINTS

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 witness of the saints you show us the hope of our calling, and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy, and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

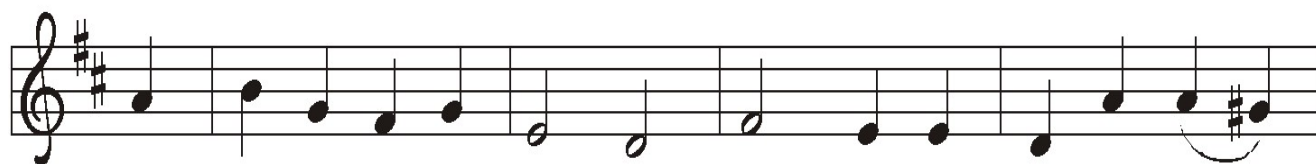
## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



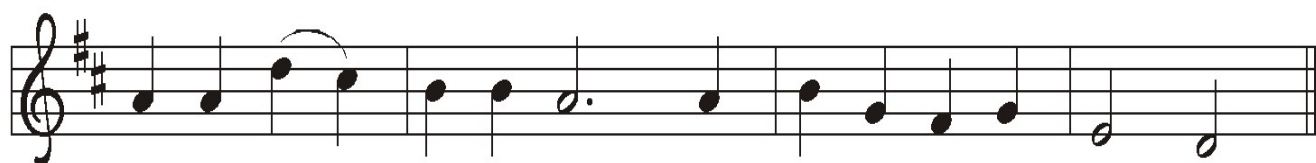
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.



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.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**Amen, amen, 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

*Adagio*

Weber

**\*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

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

### \*BENEDICTION

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. **Amen**

### \*SENDING HYMN

*Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*

ELW 707

### \*DISMISSAL

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

### POSTLUDE

*Minuet*

Boccherini

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Beverly Tarbox

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Beverly Tarbox

LECTOR

Charles Matthies

GREETER

Karyn Bute

USHER

Janet Broussard

LIVE STREAM

John Broussard

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

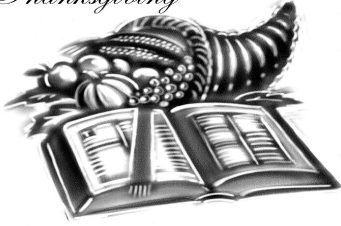
Beverly Tarbox

## IN THE PRAYERS...

***Members of the Congregation:*** Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Bettye Harden, Anita Horak, Marge Lemere, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel. ***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Betty Bartel, Wally Bisping, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Marilyn Dunne, Tom Duran, Barbara Dykes, Denise Fricano, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Mary Kmet, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Mary Frances Mason, Michele Mason, Julie Mroz, Donald Neal, Pat Pileggi, Gail Purcell, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Stevie Singer, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Gertrude Tarbox and Janie Tarbox.

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in memory of father and grandfather +**William Boor**+ on the anniversary of his birth on November 22<sup>nd</sup> by remembering sons William R. And Richard T., daughter-in-law Debbie, and their family.

*Prayer &  
Thanksgiving*



## **Thanksgiving Day**

November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
at 10:15 a.m.

### **A Service of the Word with Prayers of Thanksgiving**

*The monetary offering will benefit  
the Chicago Food Depository*

The Missions and Outreach Committee is hosting a **food drive to benefit the Riverside Food Pantry** which serves the communities of North Riverside, Brookfield, Lyons and Riverside. Grocery bags are available on the tables at the east end of the lower hallway and are to be returned by Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Monetary donations would also be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to order a poinsettia to help decorate the chancel of the sanctuary for the Christmas liturgies, a sign-up sheet will be posted in the dining hall **beginning Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**. You may also contact the church office to place your order. The cost per plant is \$17. The deadline for payment and sign-up is Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

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

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

*Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100*

*Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

*Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927*

*Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

*Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America*

*Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>*

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

*Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748*

*Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>*

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.



MICHAEL TEOLIS SINGERS PRESENTS

*Hark!*

Photo Credit: Hubble & NASA

Saturday, December 2, 2023 • 7:30pm

First United Methodist Church • 324 N. Oak Park Avenue • Oak Park, IL 60302  
Handicap Accessible

Online tickets at [www.MTSingers.org](http://www.MTSingers.org)

\$22 Adult  
\$17 Seniors / Students

Tickets at the door  
\$25 Adult  
\$20 Seniors / Students



THIS PROGRAM IS PARTIALLY SUPPORTED  
BY A GRANT FROM  
THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL AGENCY



THE MICHAEL TEOLIS SINGERS IS PARTIALLY  
FUNDED BY THE OAK PARK AREA ARTS COUNCIL,  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE VILLAGE OF OAK PARK,  
FOREST PARK, AND RIVER FOREST  
AND THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL, A STATE AGENCY

Sts. Peter and Paul members David Richards and Beverly Tarbox perform with The Michael Teolis Singers. Online ticket purchases may be made at [www.MTSingers.org](http://www.MTSingers.org).



LUX CANTORUM

Chicago's premier sacred choral ensemble  
Lux Cantorum Chicago presents:

# Manifest Love

*A testament to the power of spiritual love.  
Bringing solace, hope, and warmth to the season.*

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

**4:00pm**

**Saints Peter & Paul Lutheran Church  
250 Woodside Dr. Riverside IL**



A reception will follow the performance. For more information and ticket purchases, please visit [luxcantorum.org](http://luxcantorum.org). Performances will also be held on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Lakeview, Chicago, and on December 9<sup>th</sup> at Pilgrim Congregational Church in Oak Park. Brandon Michaels and Pastor Dennis of our congregation sing with *Lux Cantorum*.



*O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.  
As we experience the autumn months,  
may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.  
May the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.  
May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us  
that it is you who give us the breath of life.  
May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given  
and the bounty we are to share with others.  
May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great promise that death is  
temporary and life is eternal.  
We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen*