

**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

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**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.

PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES
June 29th, 2025 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

Today we celebrate two great figures of the early church, Peter and Paul, who represent the spread of the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles and, according to tradition, were martyred on this date. The witness of Peter and Paul inspires us as we seek ways to faithfully proclaim the gospel in our contemporary context.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155

GATHERING

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,
**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**



You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ☩ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

O Holy Spirit, Enter In

ELW 786

*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. Almighty God, we praise you that your blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdoms. Grant that your church throughout the world may always be instructed by their teaching and example, be knit together in unity by your Spirit, and ever stand firm upon the one foundation who is Jesus Christ our Lord, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 12:1-11

King Herod had James killed and had Peter put in prison, under heavy guard. In what Peter first believes is only a vision, an angel leads him past unseeing guards, out of the prison, and to freedom.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

Paul has faithfully persevered in the mission the Lord had given to him. Near life's end he rests in the promise of eternal life, confident that the Lord who has rescued him in the past will bring him into the heavenly kingdom.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Celtic Alleluia

ELW 174

*GOSPEL

John 21:15-19

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus invites Simon Peter to declare his love for him three times, in a manner reminiscent of the three times that Peter earlier denied Christ. Jesus commissions him to feed his sheep and predicts that he will die as a martyr for God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Marge VanderWagen

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Faith of Our Fathers

ELW 812

*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**

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

We pray for the church. As you raised up apostles like Peter and Paul, raise us up to share your life-giving gospel. Enrich the proclamation of bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the earth. As you rescued Paul from the lion's mouth, rescue your creation from harm. Sustain fragile ecosystems; watch over dwindling numbers of insects, birds, and fish; and open our hearts to regard this earth as a gift. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations. As you bid Peter to feed your sheep, bid our leaders to feed all in need and work for their good. Make peace in places of conflict (*especially*), and bring justice to each community. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer. As you stood by Paul and gave him strength, stand by all who know loneliness, and give strength to all who know persecution. Comfort those in grief and heal those who are sick, especially... . Channel our restlessness into your work in the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for this assembly. As you freed Peter from prison, free us from lethargy and fear. Loose the chains of timidity and doubt, and teach us to pray fervently. Strengthen the ministry of prison chaplains and ministries, and accompany all who are incarcerated and their families. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

We give thanks for all who rest in your eternal mercy, especially... . As you reserved a crown of righteousness for Paul, reserve for us a place in your heavenly kingdom, and bring us to life that knows no end. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
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.

OFFERING OF GIFTS

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

*DIALOGUE

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

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

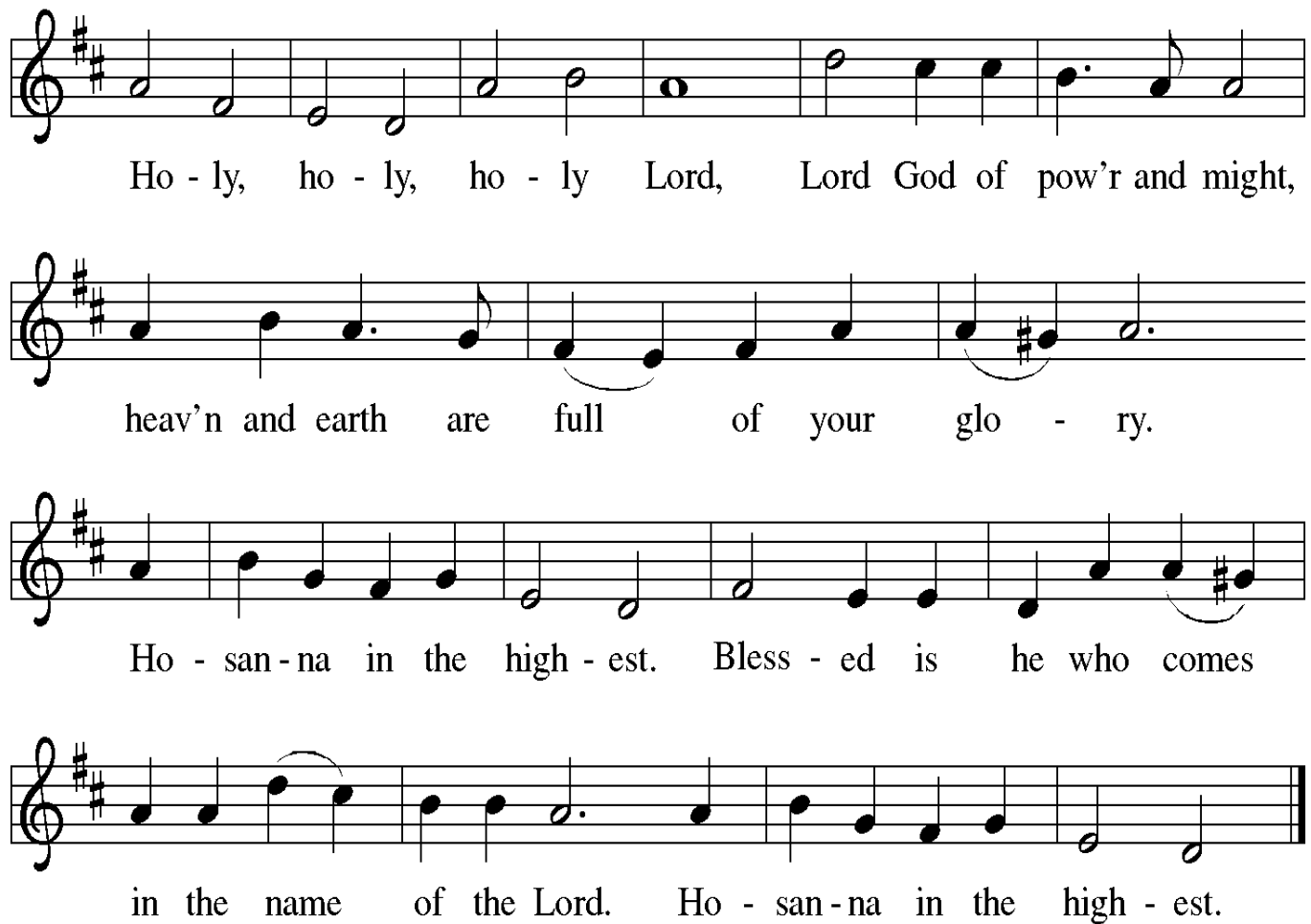
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE FOR APOSTLES

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, who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so, with Peter, Paul, and the glorious company of the apostles, with the choirs of angels and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their ending 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**

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**

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

***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. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

***BENEDICTION**

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✙ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN**

For All Your Saints, O Lord

ELW 427

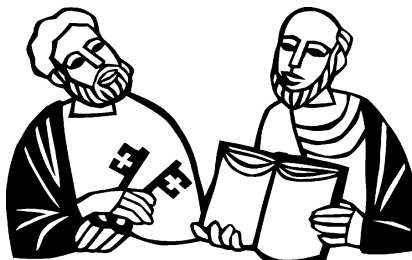
***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Midsommarvaka

Alfvén



SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Marge VanderWagen

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

PARISH MUSICIAN

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

Philip Painter

GREETERS

John and Shirley Kostelny

LIVE STREAM

John Broussard

USHER

John Kostelny

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Kristine Boike

IN THE PRAYERS..

Members of the Congregation: Heather Greer, Shirley Kostelny, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lois Mika, Mary Sasuta, Edward Sefara and Gregg Valek. ***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Betty Bartel, Kurt Behrendt, Wally Bisping, Ann Boor, Rich Caliendo, Bill Costello, Dan Costello, Eric Dennison, Becky Dice, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Denise Fricano, Walid Jabbar, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Michael Kerney, Nicole Kisiel, Jeff Kubik, Lenyce Lawrenson, Darlene Loughlin, Artem Molovkina, Donald Neal, Gail Purcell, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Greg Schaefer, Gus Sicaras, Thomas Sicaras, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Janie Tarbox, Marta Vrtichova, Eric, Rondell, Diane, and Tom Zajac.

Welcome and thank you again to **Pastor Marge VanderWagen** for serving as the preaching and presiding minister in the liturgy this morning during our time of transition.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering

June 22nd, 2025

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2025:</i>	\$2,615.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,425.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,190.00

Donations are welcome via Zelle at donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org.

TWO-FOR-ONE

Today is a two-for-one. The two apostles on which so much depends are honored on the same day. Although each is important in his own way, the wisdom of pairing them is in perceiving their respective ministries, roles, and equal stature. Paul is not Peter and Peter is not Paul, and yet each of them gives so much to the church it would be impossible to rank them.

In today's gospel we encounter Peter primarily through the repeated command of Christ. Peter is challenged by Jesus, "Feed/tend my lambs/sheep." It's a puzzling passage. Much has been made of the slight variations in the way Jesus asks his question and then gives his instruction. By the end of the exchange, we know how central Peter is to the ministry Jesus expects after his departure.

In the second reading we hear Paul's parting words written to Timothy. Many Pauline themes are echoed here. Paul has kept the faith. He has run the race. There has been a battle and suffering, but the Lord has stood by and strengthened, as the Lord always does. Paul lives from and expresses his profound hope. Hope has marked his whole ministry. Now it is articulated in his farewell.

Where the two texts come together is in the anticipated endings they communicate. Jesus describes how Peter's ministry will end, what kind of death he will endure. Paul also seems to be writing in anticipation of some kind of end, likely his own death, his being poured out as a libation. In both cases, in their deaths they will glorify God and God will illustrate God's faithfulness even in the midst of persecution and death. You will die, yet you will live.

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