



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church
250 Woodside Road
Riverside, Illinois 60546
Telephone: (708) 442-5250

Web page: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

Rev. Ken Johnson
Interim Pastor
708-442-8511



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.

REFORMATION SUNDAY
October 26th, 2025 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

***GATHERING**

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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

Ein Feste Burg

Buxtehude

***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW 504

*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, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

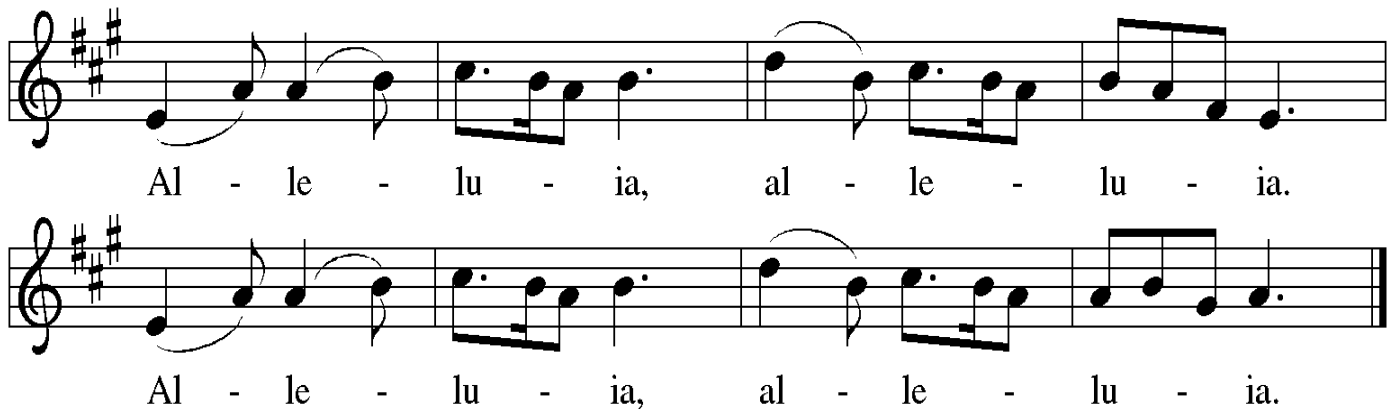
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Celtic Alleluia

ELW 174



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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*GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

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

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

***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**

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill especially... . Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

We give you thanks for all the saints and reformers who have gone before us who dwell in your holy habitation, especially... . Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

***PEACE**

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

MEAL

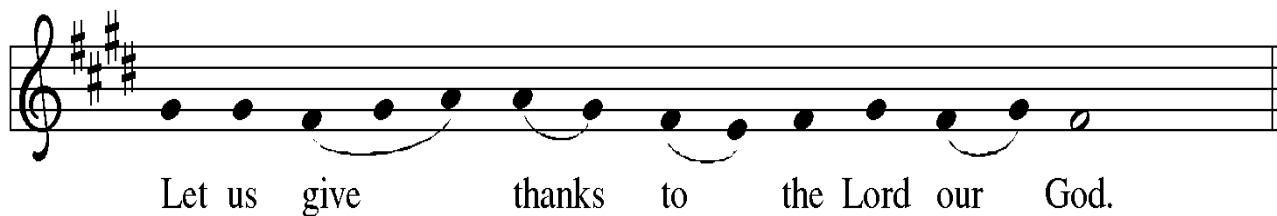
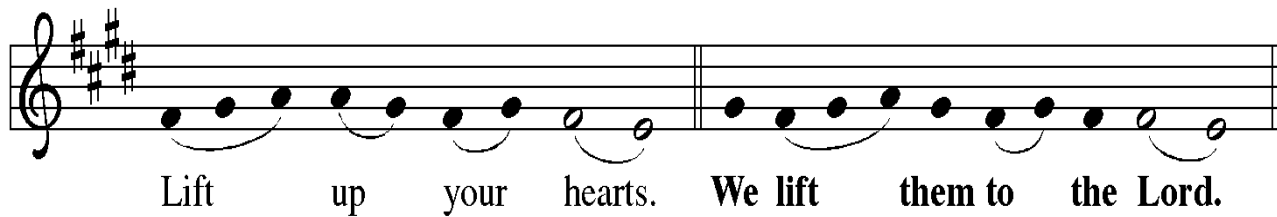
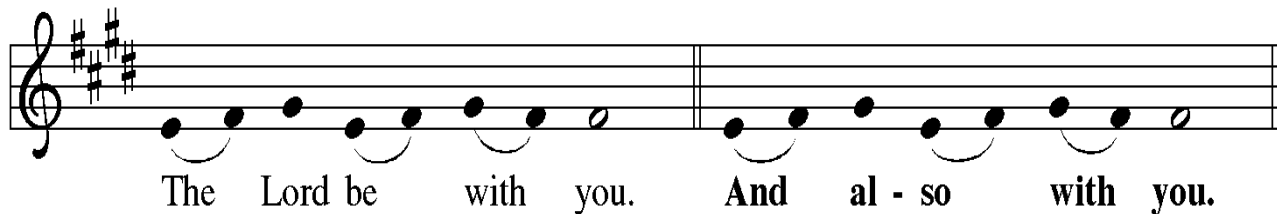
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING OF GIFTS

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

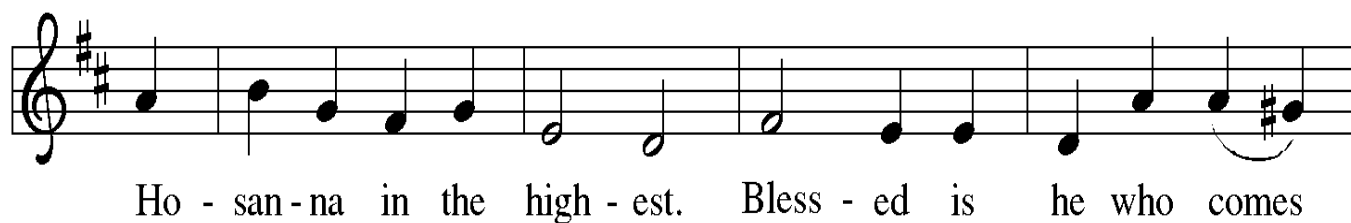
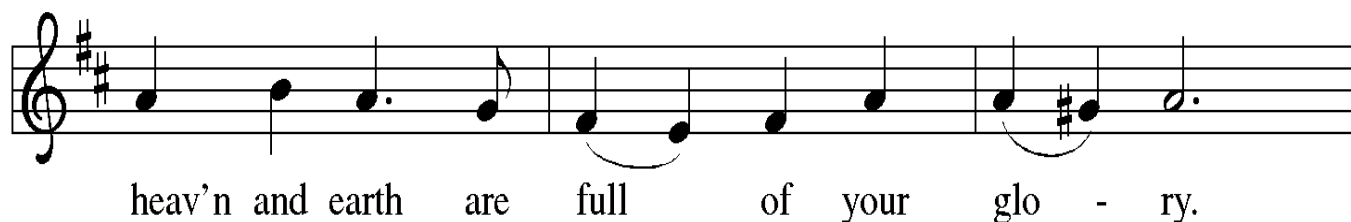
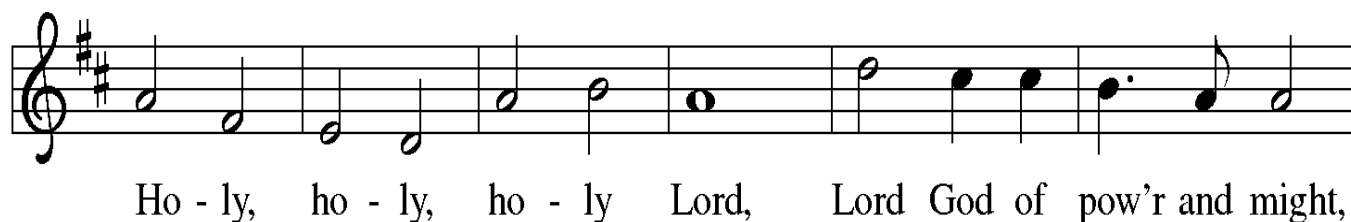
*DIALOGUE



*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; 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



*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.

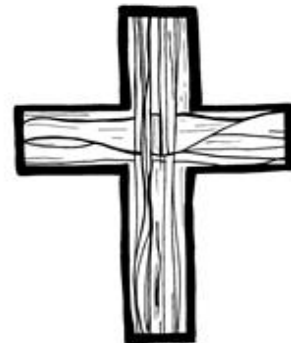
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

DISTRIBUTION

New Britain

setting, Zach Unke

*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. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

*BENEDICTION

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
+ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Built on a Rock

ELW 652

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Čardáš

J. Strauss

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. David Olson

ASSISTING MINISTER

Carrie Watkiss

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

George Valek

GREETERS

John and Shirley Kostelny

LIVE STREAM

Fred Kuzel

USHER

John Kostelny

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Beverly Tarbox

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation: Elaine Haase, Staci Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Fred Kuzel, Lois Mika, Mary Sasuta, Edward Sefara, and Gregg Valek. ***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Betty Bartel, Ann Boor, Rich Caliendo, Dan Costello, Eric Dennison, Becky Dice, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Michael Kerney, Jeff Kubik, Marcia Matthies, Artem Molovkina, Greg Schaefer, Peter Spilotro, Marta Vrtichova, Geoff Vana, and Tom Zajac.

Welcome back and thank you to **Rev. David Olson** for serving as the preaching and presiding minister in the liturgy this morning during our time of transition.

Shut-ins wishing a visit from our **Interim Pastor Ken Johnson** can use the contact information below to arrange an in-person or phone visit. Pastor Johnson will serve as the presiding minister at our services on the second Sunday of the month as well as Christmas Eve. In the event of a pastoral emergency Pastor Johnson can be reached via e-mail or mobile phone at Ken6168@sbcglobal.net of 773-947-4488, or his home at 708-442-8511.

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in memory of mother and grandmother +**Betty Zittman**+ on the 39th anniversary of her passing on October 27th, by remembering family Roacky, Tina, and grandchildren.



Next week, on **All Saints Sunday**, November 2nd, a table will be placed at the front of the nave near the lectern. On this day, worshipers who wish to do so may light a votive candle in memory of a deceased loved one to commemorate their dwelling among the saints who have gone before us. Please plan to join us for this special service of commemoration.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering
October 19th, 2025

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2025:</i>	\$2,615.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,090.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,525.00



Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday, November 2nd. Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Saturday evening.

Village of Riverside
150th Anniversary Church Tours

As part of Riverside's 150th Anniversary, Sts. Peter and Paul along with five other churches will participate in a tour of churches to learn about the architecture, stories, people, and quiet, peaceful and joyous places that are the churches of Riverside.

*The following churches will be open for tours on Saturday, November 1st, 2025
from 12 noon until 3 pm.*

Ascension Lutheran Church, 400 Nuttall Road
Riverside Presbyterian Church, 116 Barrypoint Road
St. Mary Catholic Church/St. Paul VI Parish, 105 Herrick Road
St. Paul's Parish, 60 Akenside Road
Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church, 250 Woodside Road
Woodside United Methodist Church, 82 Woodside Road

Guided tours will be offered at each site on the hour and half-hour. You are also free to visit and photograph the sanctuaries independently in any order. If lot parking is unavailable, please follow village signage for street parking. No tickets are required. Anyone interested in helping with our tour that day, talk with Carrie Watkiss.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676; hymnwriters

Sunday, October 26, 2025

These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.

Reformation Day

Friday, October 31, 2025

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

All Saints Day

Saturday, November 1, 2025

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

Thanksgiving Day

November 27th at 10:15 a.m.

A Service of the Word and Prayers of Thanksgiving

*The monetary offering will benefit the
Chicago Food Depository.*



NOT ASHAMED

In many congregations, Reformation Sunday is treated as a sort of “Lutheran heritage” day, a time for singing chorales and remembering the theological reforms of the sixteenth century that gave birth to Lutheranism. In other parishes, a greater focus is placed on the church’s need for continual reform; the church’s history is secondary to an emphasis on the issues and needs of the church today. Both approaches have much to commend them.

But the true center of this day is found in the appointed readings. In Jeremiah we are reminded of a new covenant and the promise that God will forgive, the promise written on our hearts. In Romans Paul brings the full force of the law to bear on our lives: “since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). With this reality, how can we have any hope apart from divine grace? Finally, in the gospel reading from John we are reminded that our freedom comes from Christ alone. We are neither bound to the past nor slaves to our anxieties of the present.

Psalms 46 brings all of this together with the powerful proclamation: “God is our refuge and strength.” The God we know in the person of Jesus is the one we can turn to in times of crisis, the one we call upon in times of fear, the one we trust to pour out mercy and forgiveness upon us. This Jesus is our solid foundation. In a world of chaos, confusion, and change there is a constant: the enduring and life-giving grace of God.

On Reformation Sunday—as every Sunday—we remember that we are not ashamed of this good news, this gospel.

