

**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. 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.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 5th, 2026 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155

***GATHERING**

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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

Bagatelle

Beethoven

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
source of hope in every nation,
rest for the weary,
glory and peace to the ends of the earth.
Amen.

Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy,
we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of ✚ Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good.

Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

Love Has Brought Us Here Together

ACS 1040

*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. Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

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

SERMON

Rev. Philip Lund

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Day by Day

ELW 790



*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

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Gathering God, send your Spirit on the church you have called out from every nation. Knit us together into one body and heal the divisions we have caused. Overcome our timidity to witness and act in the public square when your purpose is being thwarted. Bless rostered and lay leaders with clarity and courage as they center your people in the gospel. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

All your works praise you, O God. From the Arctic to the Caribbean, from the Atlantic to the western islands, these lands and waters have sustained its peoples over many centuries. As we take our part in creation's praise, revive our wonder at what you have fashioned, and enliven our will to ensure its health for future generations. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Holy Trinity, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. We come from many nations with many languages; make us a united people that delights in our many different gifts. As the United States of America marks its declaration of independence, give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, and curb every abuse of that trust, so that both here and abroad, justice, humility, and peace may flourish. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You are the Mother of exiles, O God. Extend your arms to all who are tired, who live with poverty, the tempest-tossed, all who yearn to breathe free. Embrace people seeking refuge; those incarcerated, detained, or disappeared; and neighbors fearing those they once trusted. Give healing and hope to people in any oppression and need, especially... . God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

We remember before you those who have died in every generation: Jan Hus, executed for protesting the ecclesial system; Benedict, teacher of a prayerful life; and those who have died ensuring the freedoms of this country: people in the armed services, peace officers, advocates, and activists. Gather us, together with those who have gone before us, especially..., and with saints of every tribe and nation, into the holy city you have prepared. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, 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 THE GIFTS

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits 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.

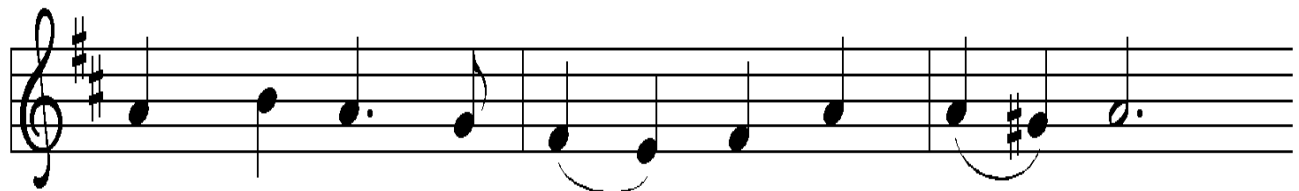
*PREFACE

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, 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**

Citizens of the commonwealth of heaven:
Taste and know that God is good to all.

DISTRIBUTION

America

setting Hassell

***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. We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

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

*BENEDICTION

The Author of life, the Word of salvation,
the Breath of new birth, ☩ one God,
bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day.
Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

ELW 888

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.
Thanks be to God.

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Philip Lund

ASSISTING MINISTER

Carrie Watkiss

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Philip Painter

LECTOR

Aidan Altavilla

GREETERS

Paul and Carrie Watkiss

LIVE STREAM

Charles Matthies

USHER

Fred Kuzel

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Fred Kuzel and John and Janet Broussard

IN THE PRAYERS...

Members of the Congregation: Elaine Haase, Staci Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Robert Kubik, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lois Mika, and Gregg Valek. **Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:** Mary Ann Babiari, Ann Boor, Rich Caliendo, Dan Costello, Tom Doran, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Michael Kerney, Brian Wickenheiser, Lisa Martin, Marcia Matthies, Artem Molovkina, Peter Spilotro, Marta Vrtichova, and Tom Zajac.

Our prayers and condolences are extended to the family and loved ones of **+Ann Head+** who passed from this life on June 30th. A visitation for Ann is scheduled for Sunday, July 12th at 4pm until time of funeral service, 7pm, at Hallowell & James Funeral Home, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside. Burial will take place in Owensboro, Kentucky. We share the grief of Ann's loved ones but find solace and hope in the promise of the resurrection given to us through our baptism into Christ our Lord.

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

Homebound members wishing a visit from **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. In the event of a pastoral emergency Pastor Johnson can be reached via e-mail at Ken6168@sbcglobal.net or his mobile phone 773-947-4488.



Thank you to all the walkers and parade participants that represented Sts. Peter and Paul in the Riverside Fourth of July Parade. Thanks also to Vera Borysek and Carrie Watkiss for preparing and selling pies at the festivities following the parade in Guthrie Park.



Our First of the Season...



welcoming our neighbors from Ascension Lutheran Church

next Sunday, July 12th

10:15 a.m.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Pets are welcome.

An Ice Cream Social will follow the service.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering

June 28th, 2026

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2026:</i>	\$1,827.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$ 635.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,192.00

Benevolence is our commitment to SZS and ELCA missionary support.

The budget's current need will be adjusted when a
new pastor accepts our call.

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

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415

Monday, July 6, 2026

Hus was a Bohemian (present-day Czech Republic) priest who spoke against abuses in the church, and was seen by Martin Luther as his predecessor in the reforming movement. He was found guilty of heresy by a council of the church, and burned at the stake.

Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, died around 540

Saturday, July 11, 2026

Benedict is known as the father of the Western monastic movement. Educated in Rome, he went to live as a hermit, and eventually gathered a community of monks around him. He wrote a rule for living in monasteries that is used by Benedictines and adapted by others.

