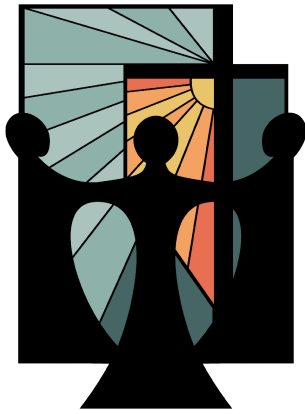




**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

250 Woodside Road
Riverside, Illinois 60546
Telephone: (708) 442-5250

Web page: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

Rev. Ken Johnson
Interim Pastor
773-947-4488

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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 6th, 2026 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

Conflict is part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

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

Songs My Mother Taught Me

Dvořák

*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,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.



Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupts your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Here this good news:
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun* ELW 557

*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. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual
mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything
that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkable, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*



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 offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned again another.

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

SERMON

Rev. Linnea Wilson

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

ELW 716



***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**

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. We pray especially for... . Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us, especially... . Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

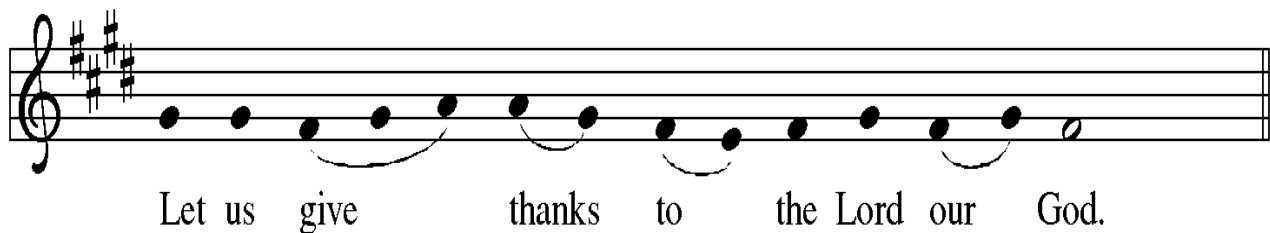
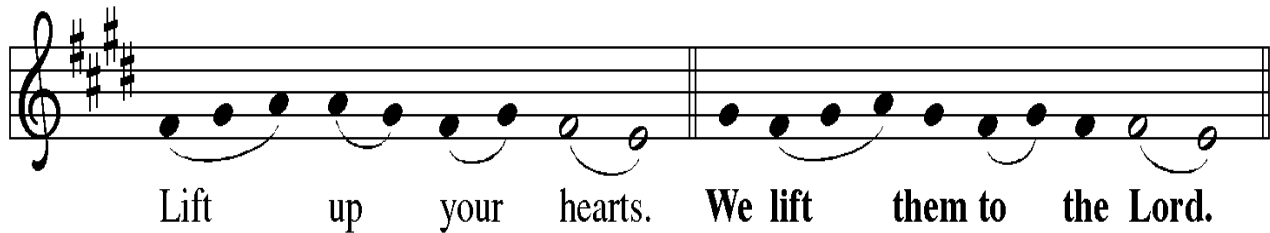
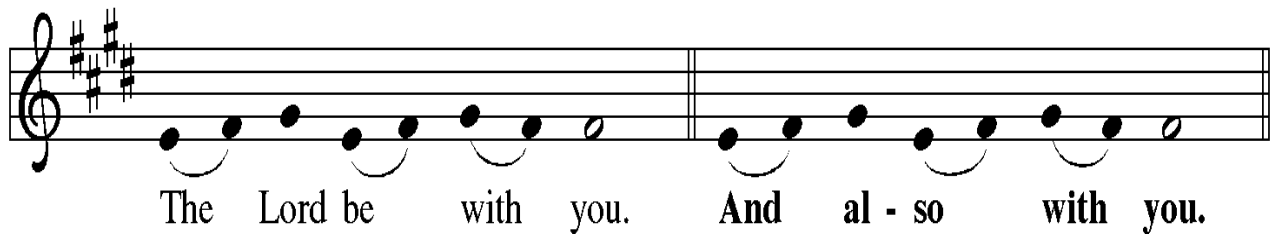
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING OF THE GIFTS

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of creation, you send rain and earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

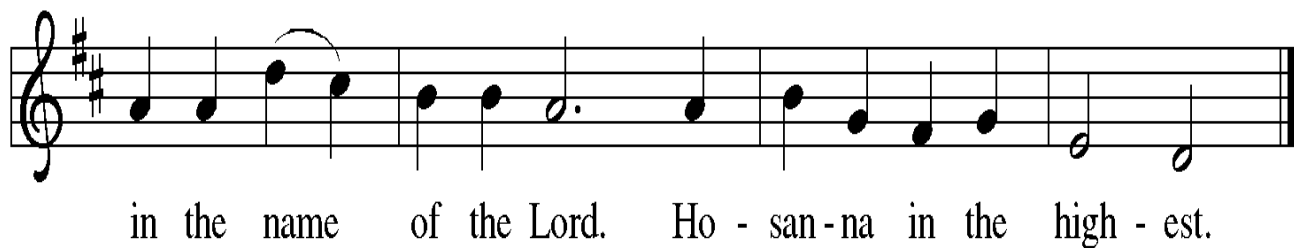
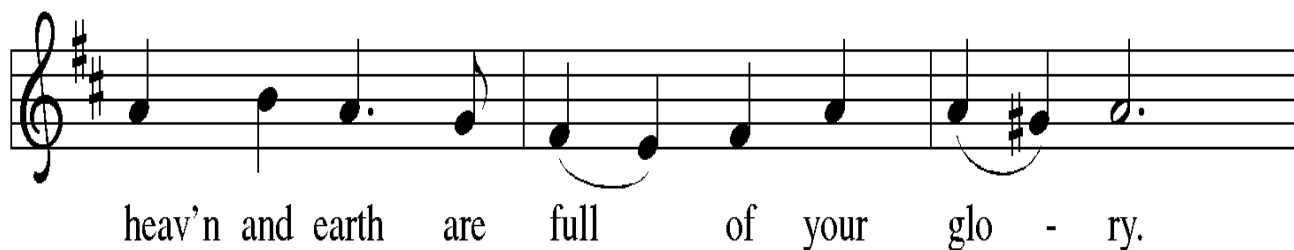
*DIALOGUE



*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

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

DISTRIBUTION

Allegretto Grazioso

Dvořák

*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. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

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

*BENEDICTION

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The god of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Faith Begins by Letting Go

ACS 1004

*DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sousedská

Dvořák

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Linnea Wilson

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Carrie Watkiss

LECTOR

George Valek

GREETER

Carrie Watkiss

LIVE STREAM

Paul Watkiss

USHER

George Valek

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Fred Kuzel

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 Babiar, Betty Bartel, 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.

Welcome and thank you to **Rev. Linnea Wilson** 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.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering August 30th, 2026

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2026:</i>	\$1,827.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$3,010.00
<i>Surplus:</i>	\$1,218.00

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

Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.



Prayer for the 25th anniversary of 9/11

We come together with people all over the world to remember the day our world changed. We come together in faith, in hope, in God's infinite love.

Gracious and Merciful God, we commend to your mercy and grace all who died in the 9/11 attacks and all who have died while laboring to end terrorism.

In New York City: 2,342 persons

In Arlington, Virginia: 184 persons

In Shanksville, Pennsylvania: 40 persons

411 New York City rescue workers that day, plus so many more from the aftereffects. Thousands of military personnel and civilians in the following years of war

Over 70 countries lost loved ones that day: family members, friends, co-workers, neighbors, heroes. In the face of all this loss, we claim your grace, your faithfulness, and your power to bring good out of evil.

Compassionate One, it's been twenty-five years, yet the harm continues. Comfort all who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones. Come with assurance and peace for all who remain traumatized, anxious, or fearful for the future. Come with protection and freedom for all who continue to live in the midst of hostility and oppression.

Bring wholeness and hope to every broken place- to broken bodies, broken hearts, and broken spirits. To broken relationships, broken systems, and broken faith.

Draw together leaders of every nation. Give them ears to hear your wisdom and the courage to respond. Inspire them to work together for peace, justice, and freedom. Inspire us, too.

Strengthen all who risk their lives to protect others. Guard and favor all who work to make your world a place of peace. Guard and guide us, too.

God of the Nations, hear our prayer for our enemies and for ourselves. Help us love and pray for those who profit from hate and destruction. Help us stop the injustice. We claim your abiding, your humility, and your strength as we strive to fulfill this call.

Save us from revenge, false teaching, and blind suspicion. Help us recognize our contributions to conflict. Help us understand the hurt that feeds the hate.

Change the hearts of all who seek their way by evil and violent means, by coercion and corruption and privilege, including our own. Create in us clean hearts that beat with your unconditional compassion.

Leave no one in the shadows of evil and death, O God. Fill us all with your light and make us all instruments of your peace.

Our world remains a dangerous place, O God, but with you there is shalom and hope. With you there is persevering and purpose. You are our Rock, our Shield, our Defender forever.

Blessed be your Name. Amen.

Prayer for the 25th anniversary of 9/11 by Lisa Degrenia, revlisad.com

