



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
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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.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 22nd, 2021 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's Gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

***GATHERING**

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

PRELUDE

Nocturne

Debussy

***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is observed for confession and self-examination.*

Gracious and merciful God, in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our + Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen**

*GATHERING HYMN *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun*
(Sung by leader)

- 1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun
thy daily stage of duty run;
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise
to pay thy morning sacrifice.

- 2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept
and hast refreshed me while I slept.
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake,
I may of endless light partake.

- 3 Lord, I my vows to thee renew.
Disperse my sins as morning dew;
guard my first springs of thought and will;
and with thyself my spirit fill.

- 4 Direct, control, suggest, this day,
all I design or do or say,
that all my pow'rs, with all their might,
in thy sole glory may unite.

- 5 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

*GREETING

Spoken responsively by the leader and congregation.

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. Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

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

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

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

*GOSPEL READING

John 6:56-69

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

The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”

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

SERMON

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence is observed.*

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence, especially... Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us, especially... Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O Lord, and those in our hearts known only to you; 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.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 him 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**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*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**

Prayed by the congregation.

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**

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

DISTRIBUTION

***BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

*BLESSING

The blessing of the living God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
surround and sustain you,
keep you from harm,
and fill you with courage. **Amen**

*SENDING HYMN

For the Bread Which You Have Broken
(Please kindly wear a face mask when singing.)

- 1 For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.**
- 2 By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.**
- 3 With the saints who now adore you,
seated at the heav'nly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.**
- 4 In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.**

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

***DISMISSAL**

Spoken responsively by the congregation.

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rhapsody

Enescu

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Vicki Michaels

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

John Broussard

GREETERS

Edward and Joanne Sefara

USHER

Janet Broussard

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Ruth Bakalich

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation: Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Dot Myers, George Pagurko, Steve Podzamsky, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel

Friends and Relatives of the Congregation: Kelly Alvey, Wally Bisping, Marge Boike, Mary Costello, Ramona Daus, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, Bob Hicks, Bill Holmes, Marjorie Hudnall, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Daryle Lauritsen, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Celia Martinez, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Patricia Pfeiffer, Pat Pileggi, Dolores Pollitz, Alice Puglise, John Racek, Dr. Craig Reckard, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Elaine Sorich, Peter Spilotro, Rev. Dave Stefanson, Harvey Swenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Ralph Thompson, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel, and Carol and Taz Zajac.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Bartholomew, Apostle

Tuesday, August 24th

Mentioned as one of Jesus' disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in John's Gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430

Saturday, August 28th

Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria.

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400

Saturday, August 28th

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering

August 15th, 2021

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2021:</i>	\$2,500.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,451.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,049 .00

