



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

250 Woodside Road

Riverside, Illinois 60546

Telephone: (708) 442-5250

Parsonage: (708) 442-0238

Fax: (708) 442-5264

Web page: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

Email address: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org/service

Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor

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.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 27th, 2022 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away... the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

***WELCOME AND ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who brings us safely through the sea, who gives us water from the rock, who leads us into the land of milk and honey. **Amen.**

Let us come home to the Lord, confessing our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful Father, we have sinned against heaven and before you. We do not fully live as your sons and daughters. We use your gifts to our own ends. Forgive us and restore us, that we may resist all that draws us away from you, and be at peace with one another. Amen.

We are reconciled to God through Christ; for his sake, God does not count our trespasses against us. Once dead in sin, we are now alive to God. Once lost, we now are found. God clothes you in the finest robe of all, the righteousness of Jesus Christ, forgiving you all your sins and making of you a new creation. **Amen.**

*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. God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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

Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

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

ANTHEM

Wondrous Love

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

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

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

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believed it was his obedience that earned his place in the father's home.

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

SERMON

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Heavenly Father, when our wilderness journey ends and normalcy returns to our lives, remind us to look back and see where you carried us through, deepened our faith, and provided us with your loving care. In the day of trial: **Be present, Lord.**

Holy Spirit, when suffering is the result of our rebellion, inspire us to turn around, ask for help, accept your forgiveness, and live a new life in your grace. In the day of trial: **Be present, Lord.**

Holy Spirit, reconciling God, in Christ we ask you to make us a new creation by forgiving our sins and sending us with a mission to be your ambassadors of love, peace and new life. In the day of trial: **Be present, Lord.**

Almighty God, hope beyond hope, love beyond understanding, we pray that you would wait for us in patience, and nudge us with the memory of your loving self and your loving home. In the day of trial: **Be present, Lord.**

Lord Jesus, as you told parables in order to make the gospel clear, put us in a story of your choosing, and bring us to a deeper faith in you. In the day of trial: **Be present, Lord.**

We pray for those who need to be reminded that there is healing and homecoming in your presence because there is a home, praying especially for... . In the day of trial: **Be present, Lord.**

Additional prayers may be added here in speech and silence.

We give thanks for the saints, remembering especially... . Bring us to your eternal home that we may rejoice in the inheritance of your grace. In the day of trial: **Be present, Lord.**

From every wilderness day, good Lord, deliver us. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

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

MEAL

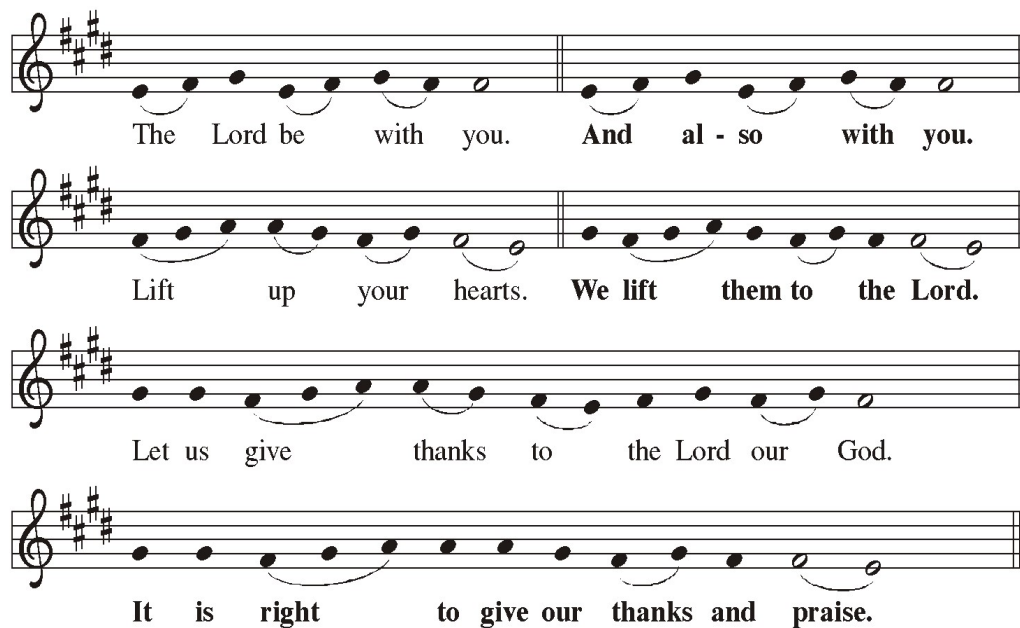
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 LENT

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... 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 God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel,
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
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**

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are
called to his supper.
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

DISTRIBUTION

*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. Merciful and Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

*BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



*SENDING HYMN *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

ELW 779

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Jane Lauritsen

LIVE STREAM

Paul Watkiss

LECTOR

Joanne Sefara

GREETERS

Larry Crachy and Karen Kubik

USHER

Edward Sefara

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Ruth Bakalich



PRAYER LIST

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

Friends and Relatives of the Congregation: Kelly Alvey, Wally Bispington, Mary Costello, Ramona Daus, Eric Dennison, Denise Fricano, 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, Bill Redis, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Elaine Sorich, Peter Spilotro, Rev. Dave Stefanson, Harvey Swenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel and Taz Zajac.

FLOWERS AND EASTER LILIES

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in memory of dear mother and grandmother +**Betty Kany**+ on the second anniversary of her passing on March 8th by remembering children Dr. Robert Kany and Liz Rouck, son-in-law Mark, and grandchildren Dr. John and Lauren.

Easter Lilies will be available for \$16.00 per plant for those who wish to place a lily in the chancel for the upcoming Easter celebrations. Please sign-up on the sheet posted in the dining hall or call the church office. **The final day for ordering is Thursday, April 7th.**

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824
Tuesday, March 29th

Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings.

John Donne, poet, died 1631
Thursday, March 31st

After finishing his education at Oxford University, Donne seemed headed for a career in the English public service. But a series of circumstances led him into the ordained ministry. He is well known as a writer of both secular and sacred poetry.

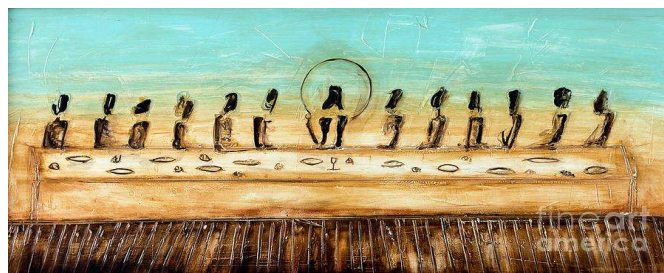
Into your hands, O hovering Spirit, we place ourselves: take us and fashion us after your image; let your comfort strengthen us, your grace renew us, and your fire cleanse us, soul and body, in life and in death, in this world of shadows and in your changeless world of light eternal, now and forever. Amen.



LESS GRUMBLING, MORE HUMBLING

Grumbling! The crowd around Jesus—the “in” crowd, that is—was grumbling. Grumbling because Jesus welcomed those who traditionally had been set apart: tax collectors and sinners. Who are those who cause us to grumble? Whose seemingly undeserved handout or unearned status-change filled our hearts with resentment this week? Jesus speaks to us today because we too often see life as a game with winners and losers, points and play-books, offense and defense. Can we open our hearts and minds to hear today’s humbling good news? God’s love is freely shared with all: we cannot earn it, we cannot deserve it.

When we attend worship, we do so out of thanksgiving and praise for God’s glory, hunger and thirst for God’s Word and sacraments. We do not attend worship to achieve some status within God’s kingdom. When we help a neighbor, share with a stranger, assist the afflicted, or acknowledge the overlooked we do so because Christ first did the same for us. We respond to God’s grace and mercy with our own feeble attempts to emulate God’s perfect love. It is challenging, exhausting, never-ending, perspective-altering, radically humbling work. It’s work that is impossible to do without the inspiration of Christ, the nourishment of wine and bread, and the strength of the saints who have gone before us and with whom we walk Christ’s path today. Let us find those in our world who teach us about Christ’s unending reconciliation, so that we can all celebrate and rejoice as the family of God.



Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering March 20th, 2022

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2021:</i>	\$2,500.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,603.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$ 897.00