



# Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**David B. Richards, Parish Musician**  
**Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant**



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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.*

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# SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the LORD when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."*

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## **HOLY COMMUNION** *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

### **\*GATHERING**

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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

*Hymn Fantasia*

arr. Chester Nordman

### **\*ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,  
you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.  
**Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus  
 and you are God's children through faith.  
 In the cross of + Christ,  
 and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
 your sins are forgiven.  
 Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

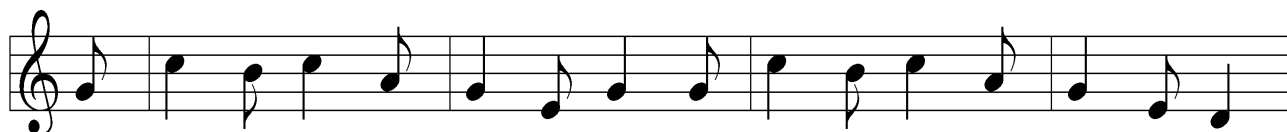
## Sweet Hour of Prayer



- 1 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care,
- 2 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, thy wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear
- 3 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, may I thy con - so - la - tion share,



and bids me at my Fa-ther's throne make all my wants and wish-es known.  
 to him whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless;  
 till from Mount Pis - gah's loft - y height I view my home and take my flight.



In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief my soul has of - ten found re - lief.  
 and since he bids me seek his face, be - lieve his word and trust his grace,  
 With joy I'll has - ten to the place where God my Sav - ior shows his face,



and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by thy re - turn, sweet hour of prayer.  
 I'll cast on him my ev - 'ry care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.  
 and glad - ly take my sta - tion there, thy prom-ise gained, sweet hour of prayer.

Text: William Walford, 1772–1850, alt.

Music: SWEET HOUR, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

## \*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 and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING

Genesis 18:20-32

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom, for the sake of the few righteous people who are in it, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

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

### SECOND READING

Colossians 2:6-15

*The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection, which is enacted in Baptism.*

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

\*GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to child-like trust and persistence in prayer.*

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

*Rev. John Gerike*

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*Ask the Complicated Questions*

ACS 1005

\*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**

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole hurch and pray for the needs of the world.

Loving God, create in your church a desire for union with you in prayer. Raise up leaders to teach Christ's devotion to prayer and model Christ's way of prayer, until all people experience prayerful intimacy with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation. With the breath of your Spirit, realign the balances of nature. Grant persistence in prayer and action for the sake of the earth, our common home. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Teach rulers of the earth to sing of your ways, caring for the lowly and having no preference for the powerful. Direct the heart of every person to seek your will on earth as in heaven. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

To all whose prayers are cries for help, give your good gifts, and satisfy their deepest needs. We pray especially for... . Gather them to your constant, loving presence, that they may rest in the confidence of life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Center the ministries of this assembly on prayer and service. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries and community partnerships. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Additional prayers may be added here in speech and silence.*

We give thanks for all who have gone before us, especially... . May we trust your steadfast love and continue in hope until we are united with all your saints. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

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

**MEAL**

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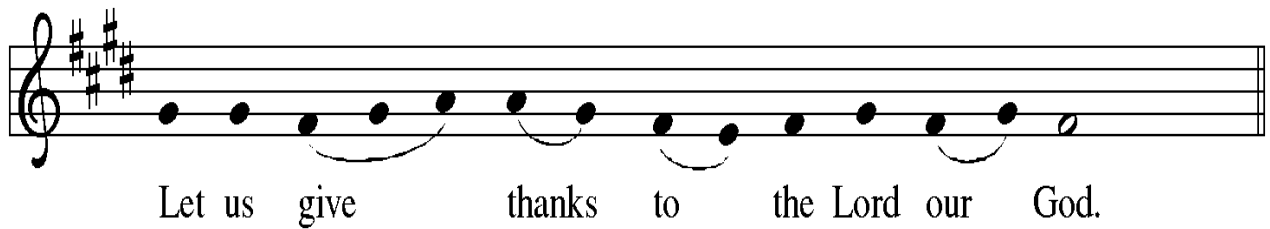
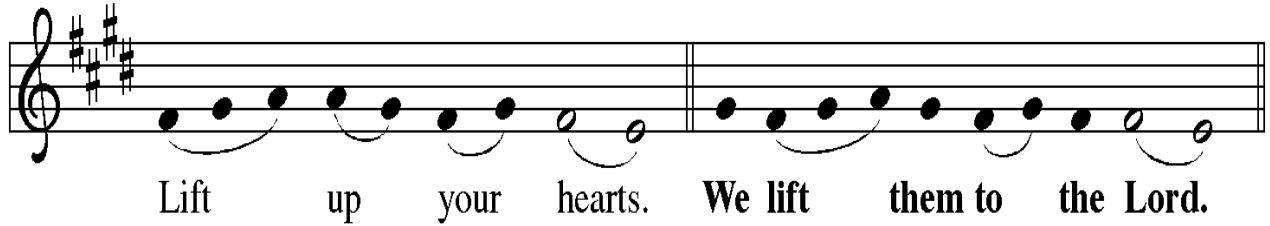
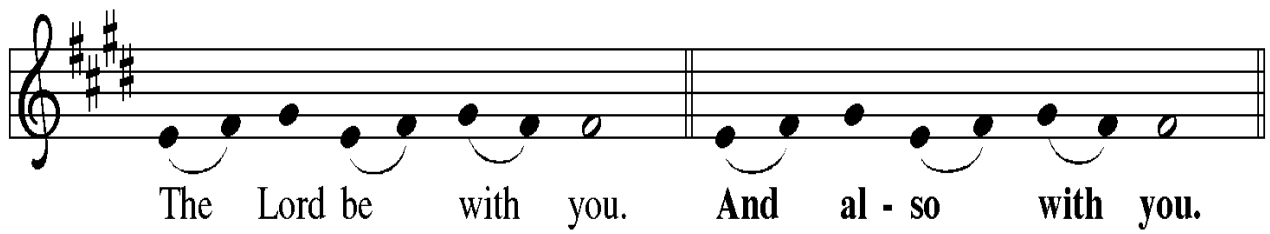
*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING OF GIFTS**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

# \*DIALOGUE

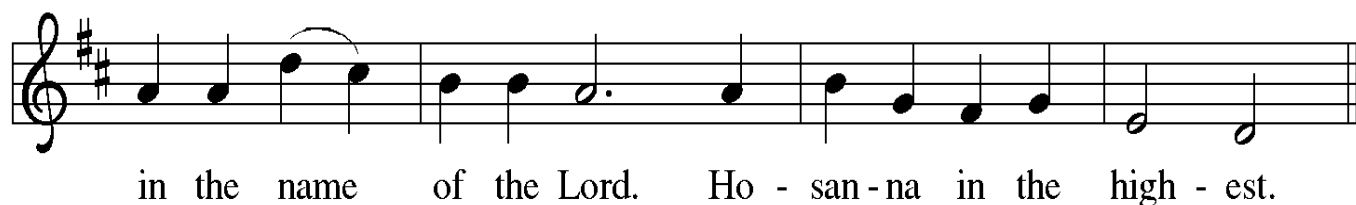
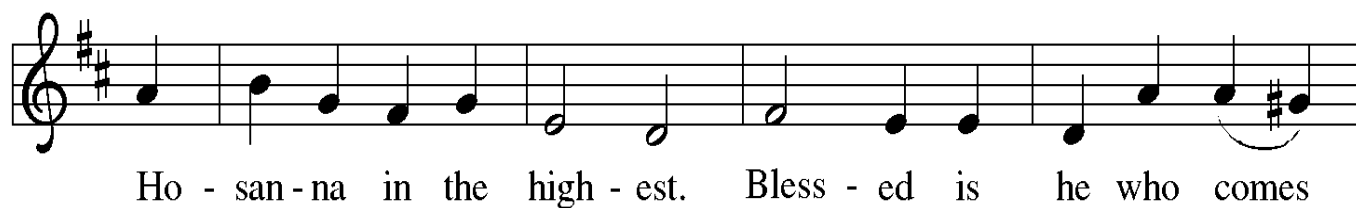
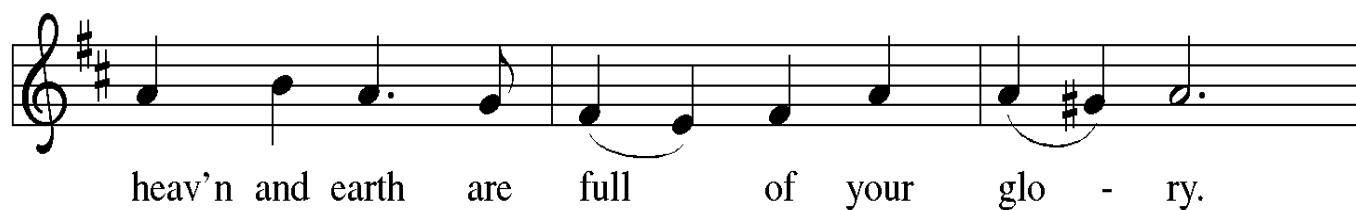
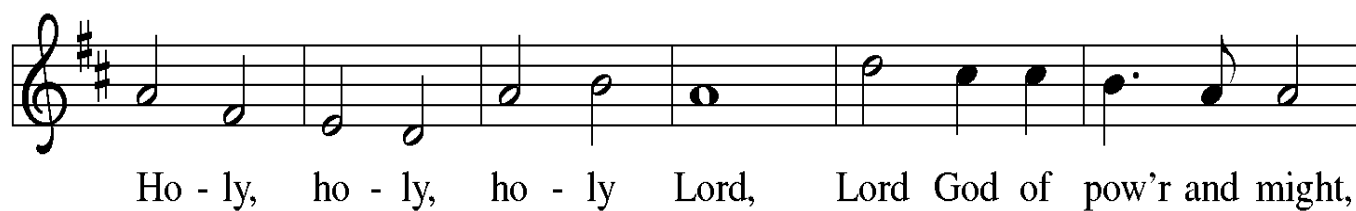




## \*PREFACE

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**

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

**DISTRIBUTION**

*Nocturne*

John Field

**\*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. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

### \*BENEDICTION

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit  
+ bless you and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

### \*SENDING HYMN

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

ELW 543

### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

“Grand Waltz” from *Gizelle*

Adam

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. John Gerike

ASSISTING MINISTER

Beverly Tarbox

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Carrie Watkiss

LECTORS

Gary and Jocelyn Drahos

GREETERS

Edward and Joanne Sefara

USHER

Rafael Martinez

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Fred Kuzel and John and Janet Broussard

## PRAYER LIST

***Members of the Congregation:*** Larry Crachy, Heather Greer, Staci Harden, Shirley Kostelny, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lois Mika, Mary Sasuta, Edward Sefara and Gregg Valek. ***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Betty Bartel, Kurt Behrendt, Wally Bisping, Ann Boor, Rich Caliendo, Bill Costello, Dan Costello, Eric Dennison, Becky Dice, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Denise Fricano, Walid Jabbar, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Michael Kerney, Nicole Kisiel, Jeff Kubik, Lenyce Lawrenson, Darlene Loughlin, Marcia Matthies, Artem Molovkina, Donald Neal, Gail Purcell, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Greg Schaefer, Gus Sicaras, Thomas Sicaras, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Janie Tarbox, Marta Vrtichova, Eric, Rondell, Diane, Geoff Vana, and Tom Zajac.

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in memory of **+Anne+ and +Jacob Drahos+** from their loving family.

Welcome and thank you to **Pastor John Gerike** for serving as the preaching and presiding minister in the liturgy this morning during our time of transition.

Our prayers and condolences are extended to family and loved ones of **+Mildred "Millie" Londak+**, who passed from this life on July 15<sup>th</sup> and was buried from Woodlawn Funeral Home Chapel this past Friday. Interment is at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Forest Park. We share the grief of Mildred's loved ones, especially her children William, Ricky, and Susan and their families, but find solace and hope in the promise of the resurrection given to us through our baptism into Christ our Lord.



## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

*Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians*

*Monday, July 28, 2025*

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, *Messiah*, is a setting of scriptural texts.

*Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany*

*Tuesday, July 29, 2025*

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

*Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030*

*Tuesday, July 29, 2025*

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.

### **Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2025:</i>	\$2,615.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,175.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,440.00

Donations are welcome via Zelle at [donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org](mailto:donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org).