



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church
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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 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.

CHRIST THE KING
November 23rd, 2025 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP

***GATHERING**

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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

Lied

Beethoven

***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Faithful God,

you have shown us the ways of your heart,

yet we stray from your paths.

We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression

and do not embrace the freedom

of your faithful promises.

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

We reject your abundance,

trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.

**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.
Amen.**

Hear the good news:
God the Faithful One loves you,
+ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW 434

*GREETING

The grace that is Christ's gift to us, 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 God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ACS 1088

Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah,

hal - le-lu-jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah!

Text: Traditional

Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

*GOSPEL READING

Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

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

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

SERMON

Rev. Michael Rothaar

HYMN OF THE DAY

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

***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**

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. Support equity across the globe, and heal division with accountability and truth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick, especially... . Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other prayers may be offered in speech and in silence.

We give thanks for all who have died in faith, especially... . May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; 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 ANTHEM

In Thee, Almighty King

Dan Forrest

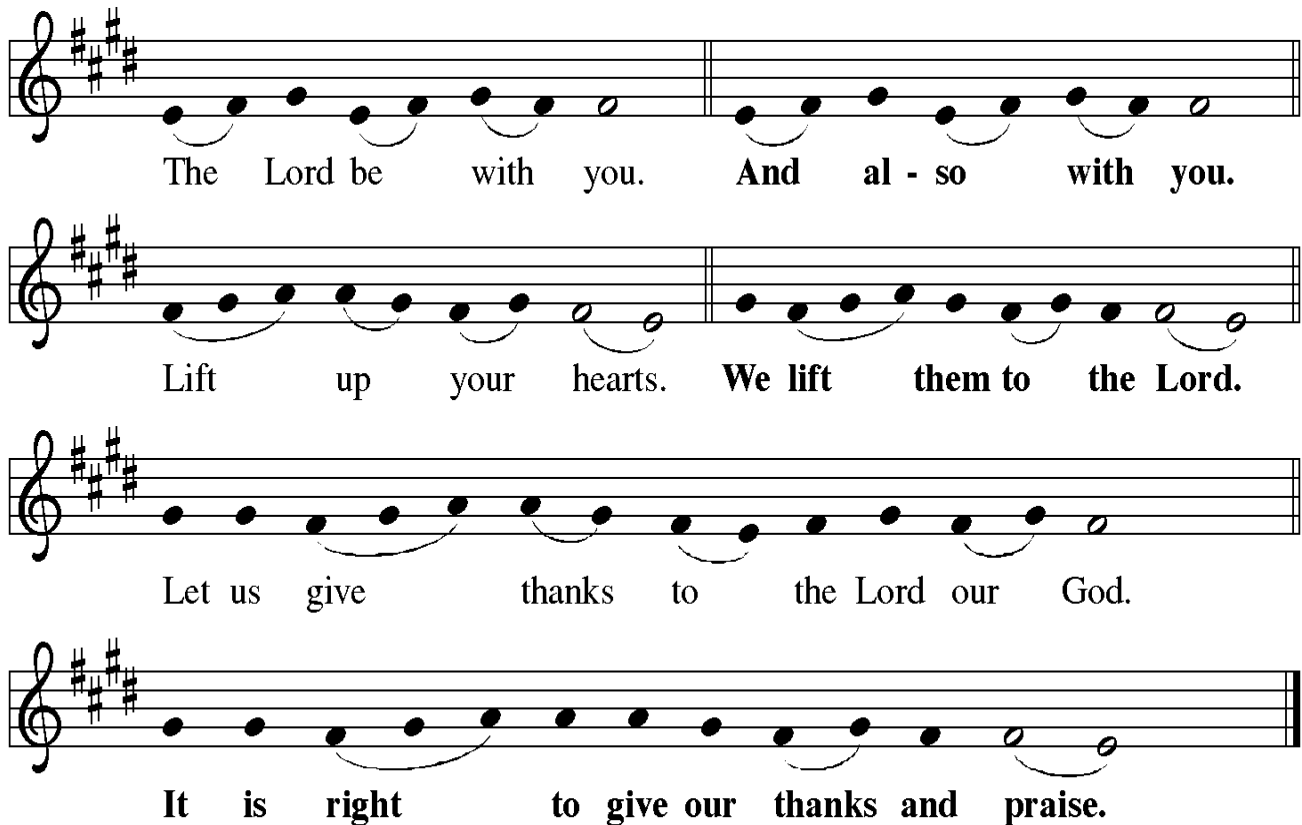
OFFERING OF GIFTS

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

Amen.

*DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

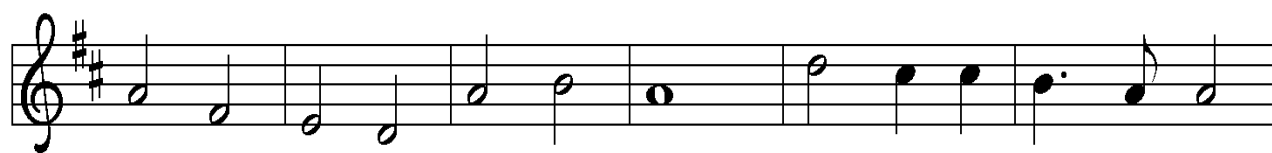
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who enthroned forever at your right hand intercedes for us as our great high priest. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

DISTRIBUTION *The King Shall Come* setting Howarth

*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. God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

*BENEDICTION

The love of God, the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you + and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Blessing and Honor

ELW 854

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“Dona Nobis Pacem” from *Coronation Mass*

Mozart

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Michael Rothaar

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Philip Painter

LECTOR

Philip Painter

GREETER

Staci Harden

LIVE STREAM

Fred Kuzel

USHER

Rafael Martinez

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Beverly Tarbox

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation: Elaine Haase, Staci Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Fred Kuzel, Lois Mika, Mary Sasuta, Edward Sefara, and Gregg Valek. **Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:** Ann Boor, Rich Caliendo, Dan Costello, Becky Dice, Tom Doran, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Michael Kerney, Jeff Kubik, Lisa Martin, Marcia Matthies, Artem Molovkina, Greg Schaefer, Peter Spilotro, Marta Vrtichova, Geoff Vana, and Tom Zajac.

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

Homebound members wishing a visit from **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 as well as Christmas Eve. In the event of a pastoral emergency Pastor Johnson can be reached via e-mail or mobile phone at Ken6168@sbcglobal.net of 773-947-4488, or his home at 708-442-8511.

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in loving memory of beloved mother and grandmother +**Anna Stastny**+ on the 40th anniversary of her death by remembering daughter Audrey Bucz, grandson Brian Bucz, and granddaughter Adrienne Gana.

Thanksgiving Day

November 27th at 10:15 a.m.

A Service of the Word and Prayers of Thanksgiving

*The monetary offering will benefit the
Chicago Food Depository.*



UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America

Monday, November 24, 2025

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering

November 16th, 2025

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2025:</i>	\$2,615.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$2,299.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$ 316.00

A DIFFERENT KIND OF KINGDOM

“If my kingdom were from this world,” Jesus tells Pilate, “my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over For this I came into the world, to testify to the truth” (John 18:36-37). One of the signs of the kingdoms of this world is violence. The use and threat of force is one of the main sources of a government’s power. Christians disagree on whether and when violence or force is justified. We agree, though, that fighting back is not the way Jesus chose when he was arrested. In today’s gospel, Jesus speaks of a nonviolent power, the power of truth.

What we in this country call nonviolent resistance, Mahatma Gandhi called *satyagraha*, which can be translated as “truth force.” Gandhi taught that truth is vindicated not by inflicting suffering on others but by accepting suffering in order to bring change.

We have been blessed in our lifetimes to see many people living out this “truth force” in the face of terrible persecution. Six-year-old Ruby Bridges was escorted by federal marshals every day to school through a gauntlet of people protesting school integration, sometimes threatening her life. Every day Ruby calmly prayed for them, because that’s what Jesus did when people hurt him. Countless others, whether famous like Jackie Robinson or anonymous to history, showed under persecution that they were strong enough *not* to fight back. Thanks to their courage, change came.

In Liberia recently, the Women in Peacebuilding Network played a key role in spurring the powerful men at stalled peace talks into productive negotiation by their nonviolent communal actions. The group’s leader, Leymah Gbowee, became involved in peace work at a Lutheran church. Now there are women’s peace movements in countries throughout Africa, representing a different kind of kingdom.

We celebrate a kingdom not from this world, but—thank God!—breaking into our world today.



Send Our Troops a Little Taste of Home for the Holidays

Kuratko-Nosek Funeral Home is proud to be participating in the

“Christmas Stockings for Soldiers”

initiative. Starting today, you may stop in to pick-up a Christmas stocking to take home, decorate and stuff with Christmas cheer.

You will receive a list of recommended items along with the stocking.

Kuratko-Nosek Funeral Home

will then ship the stockings at their expense, to troops abroad in time for Christmas.

Please return your stuffed stocking(s) to us no later than Friday, December 5th.

Thank you!

Pick up/Drop Off Hours

Monday - Saturday | 10:00am - 4:00pm

2447 S. DesPlaines Avenue - North Riverside.

For more information, please call (708) 447-2500

Thank you for helping to make this program a success!



Stockings are available today in the usher's room.



List of Recommended Items:

Food:

Candy / Gum	Granola bars	Beef jerky	Mac&Cheese Singles
Poptarts	Snack pack pudding	Trail mix	Peanuts
Individual cerals boxes	Tuna Packets	Hot cocoa	Coffee / Tea
Candy canes	Keurig coffee k-cups	Flavored creams	Protein powder / bars
Workout supplements	Vitamins	BBQ sauce / Hot sauce	Microwave popcorn
Seasonings	Peanut butter / Nutella	Sugar / Salt / Pepper	Ramen noodles
Crackers / Chips	Campbells soup-on-the-go	Individual powdered drink mixes	

*Toiletries – *Travel Size Preferred:*

Shampoo / Conditioner*	Body wash*	Dental Floss	Sun block*
Toothpaste / Toothbrush	Mouthwash*	Foot / Body powder*	Vicks vapor rub
Cough drops	Lip balm	Eye glass cleaner	Eye glass repair kit
Eye drops	Saline soulution*	Toilet paper	Feminine products
Small sewing kit	Wash clothes	Febreeze / Air fresheners	Travel kleenex
Laundry soap / Pods*	Clorox wipes	Hand / Toe warmers	
Dryer sheets	Dish soap		

Clothing / Linens:

Mens underwear	Mens t-shirts (L & XL)	Shoe insoles	Gloves
Warm socks	Washcloths	Flip flops / Shower shoes	Towels

Just for Fun:

Beanie Babies	Batteries (AA & AAA)	Playing cards	Crossword puzzles
Sudoku	Magazines / Comics	Mechanical pencils	Pens / Markers
Small ornaments	iTunes gift card	Letters & cards	Post-its
Holiday decorations	Tableware	Pre-paid phone cards	Board games
Flashlights/small	Blender bottles	Coloring Books / Crayons	Movies
Speakers / Headphones	Amazon gift cards	Insulated tumblers	Zip Lock bags

Drop-Off Hours:

*Now through December 5th
Monday through Saturday 10:00am to 4:00pm*

Kuratko-Nosek Funeral Home
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North Riverside, IL 60546
(708) 447-2500
www.KuratkoNosek.com

Please do not mix food items with non-food items.

When mixing soaps and other toiletries with food, the food begins to smell and taste like the soap it is boxed with. Although the soldiers appreciate everything we send, they would probably not rather have their food taste like soap. Thank you!