



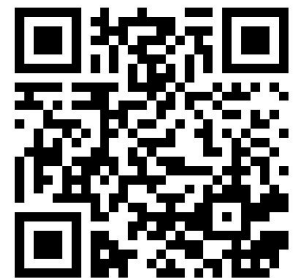
**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

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

Web page: [www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org](http://www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org)

**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. 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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THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.*

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR, PAGES 147-155**

**\*GATHERING**

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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE      “Prelude in G Major” from *WTC*      J. S. Bach

**\*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,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,  
**we confess to you all our sins.**  
**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**  
**In your mercy, call us back to you.**  
**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**  
**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**  
**In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, “Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest.”

In the name of God,  
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Rest in God’s love.

**Amen.**

\*GATHERING HYMN

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

ELW 883

\*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 have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of 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

Exodus 10:2-9a

*At Sinai God assured Israel, “You shall be my treasured possession,” and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God’s will.*

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

## SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-8

*We are no longer God’s enemies but have peace with God because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ’s death.*

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

### Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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

*The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.*

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

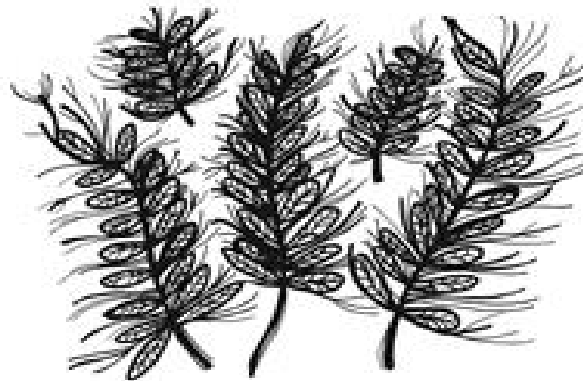
SERMON

*Rev. Marnie Rourke*

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

*In Christ Called to Baptize*

ELW 575



## \*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 together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

God of freedom, you ransomed Israel from slavery to be a holy people. As we observe Juneteenth this coming week, free us also to be a people who proclaim your liberating love. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you call all the earth to make a joyful noise to you. Let us join the chorus of the natural world in proclaiming your glory. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction, and sustain those who advocate for peace. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you pour hope and love into our hearts in times of shame and doubt. Protect those experiencing housing insecurity. Uplift anyone struggling with hopelessness, illness, or other worries, especially... . God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of all, you call your children to serve in a plentiful harvest. Give us the wisdom to know how best to serve our local community and our neighbors. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.*

God of eternity, your love is stronger than death and your passion more fierce than the grave. We rejoice in the lives of those whom you have drawn into your eternal embrace, especially... . Keep us in joyful communion with them until we join the saints of every people and nation gathered before your throne in your ceaseless praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.  
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 THE GIFTS

#### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us 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.

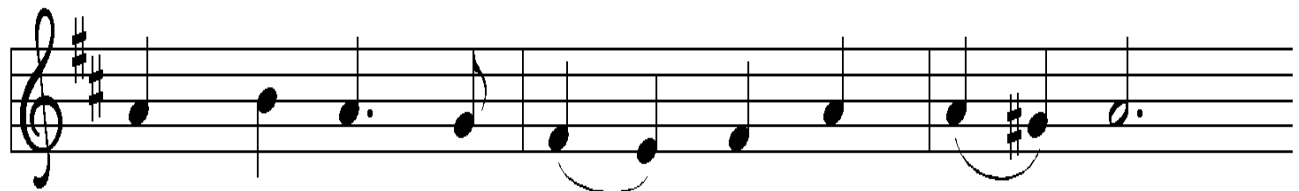
## \*PREFACE

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, 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:

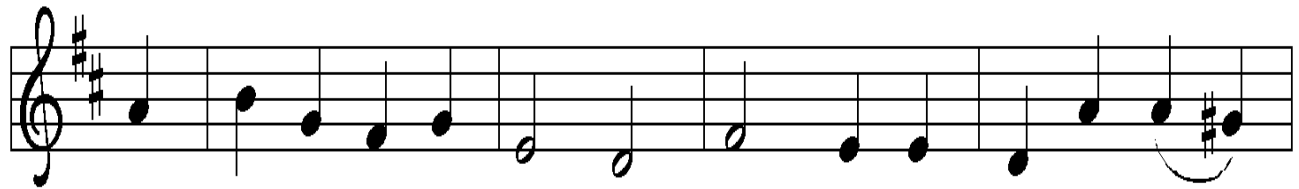
## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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**

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

**DISTRIBUTION**

*Solvejg's Song*

Grieg

**\*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. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

### \*BENEDICTION

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.  
**Amen.**

### \*SENDING HYMN

*I Love to Tell the Story*

ELW 661

### \*DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Norwegian Dance*

Grieg

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Marnie Rourke

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

Joanne Sefara

GREETERS

Edward and Joanne Sefara

LIVE STREAM

Paul Wakiss

USHER

Janet Broussard

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Kristine Boike

## IN THE PRAYERS...

**Members of the Congregation:** Elaine Haase, Staci Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lois Mika, Gregg Valek, and Ann Vana. **Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:** Mary Ann Babiar, 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, Geoff Vana, and Tom Zajac.

*Please note: The cost of altar flowers beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> has increased to \$25.00 per vase.*

Welcome back and thank you to **Rev. Marnie Rourke** 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](mailto:Ken6168@sbcglobal.net) or his mobile phone 773-947-4488.

### Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2026:</i>	\$1,827.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,125.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$ 702.00

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](mailto:donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org).

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

*Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, died 379; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389; Macrina, teacher, died around 379*

*Sunday, June 14, 2026*

The Cappadocian fathers, as the three men in this group are known, explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Basil's monastic rule forms the basis for Eastern monastic life. Gregory of Nazianzus defended orthodox Christianity in Constantinople. Gregory of Nyssa, Basil's younger brother, wrote on the spiritual life. Macrina, older sister of Basil and Gregory of Nyssa, was the leader of a community dedicated to asceticism, meditation, and prayer.

*Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died 2015*

*Wednesday, June 17, 2026*

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged reaffirm their commitment to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

## HOW FLAG DAY BECAME A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

Every June 14, Americans raise the Stars and Stripes to mark the day the flag was born. The date is fixed, but the holiday behind it was anything but inevitable. It took a single line of congressional record, a devoted schoolteacher, and the better part of two centuries to turn an anniversary into a national observance.

The story begins in Philadelphia. On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress passed a short but momentous resolution: "Resolved, that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." With those few words, a new nation gave itself a new symbol. There was no ceremony, no fanfare, no holiday. Just a young country, at war, deciding what it would fly.

### *A schoolteacher's idea*

For more than a hundred years, the anniversary passed largely unmarked. Communities held the occasional observance, and Hartford, Connecticut, is often credited with one of the earliest, in 1861. But the man most responsible for turning June 14 into a tradition was not a politician or a general. He was a teacher.

In 1885, Bernard J. Cigrand, a young schoolteacher in Wisconsin, asked his students to observe what he called the flag's "birthday." He had them write essays on what the Stars and Stripes meant to them. It was a small gesture in a one-room schoolhouse, but Cigrand spent the rest of his life expanding it. He wrote articles, gave speeches, and pressed anyone who would listen to set aside a day for the flag. History remembers him as the Father of Flag Day.

*One teacher believed the flag deserved a day of its own,  
and he never stopped saying so.*

### *A proclamation and a law*

The idea gathered momentum. Cities and states adopted their own celebrations, and patriotic societies took up the cause. The turning point came in 1916, when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation officially establishing June 14 as Flag Day across the country. For the first time, the anniversary had the weight of the presidency behind it.

Even then, it was an observance rather than a law. That final step came in 1949, when President Harry S. Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 as National Flag Day. What had begun as a schoolteacher's classroom exercise was now written into the statutes of the United States.

*Not a federal holiday, and that is the point*

Here is the detail that surprises many people: Flag Day is not a federal public holiday. Banks stay open and the mail still runs. It is a day of recognition, not a day off. In a way, that suits it. Flag Day asks nothing of us except attention. It invites every American to step outside, raise the colors, and remember that the symbol overhead is older than almost anything else we share.

From thirteen stars to fifty, through war and reconstruction and reinvention, the flag has been there the whole time. Flag Day is simply the moment we stop to say so.

—*National Flag Foundation*  
*2026 Flag History*

