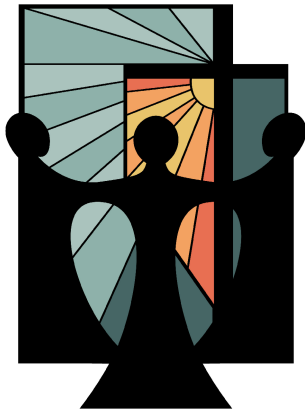




**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

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

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

**Rev. Ken Johnson**  
**Interim Pastor**  
**773-947-4488**

**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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TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

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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 C 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

*Gather Us In*

ELW 532

\*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 all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**WORD**

---

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God’s imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

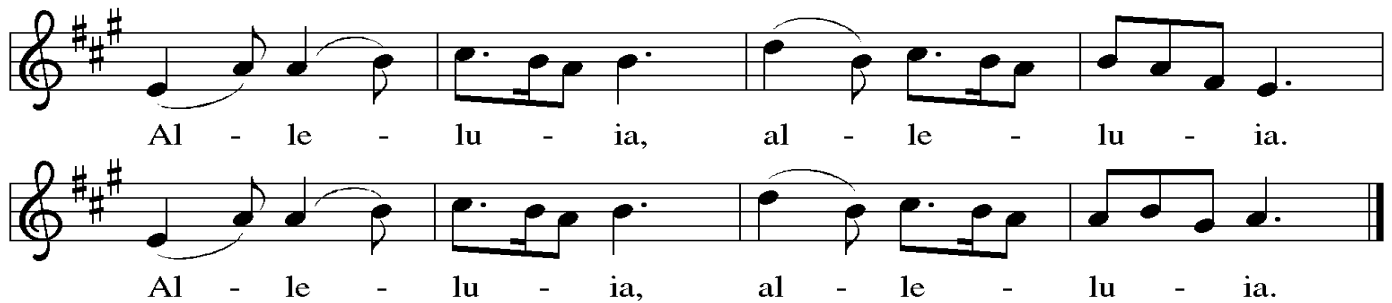
*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

Gospel Acclamation  
*Celtic Alleluia*



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

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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## \*GOSPEL

Matthew 15:10-28

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

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

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

## SERMON

Rev. Marnie Rourke

## \*HYMN OF THE DAY

*Healer of Our Every Ill*

ELW 612

## **\*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**

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind, especially... . Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

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

For the saints before us whose work is done, especially... that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**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.*

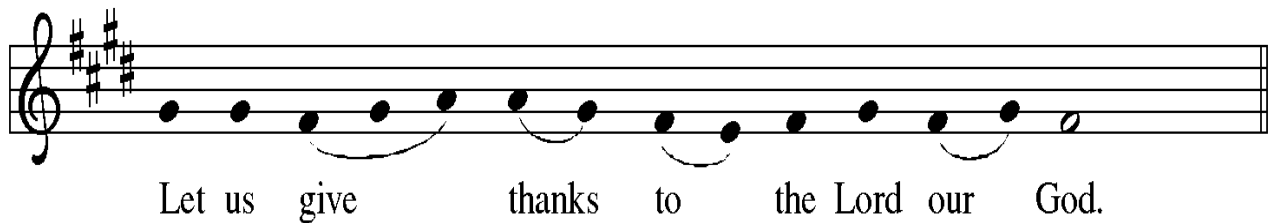
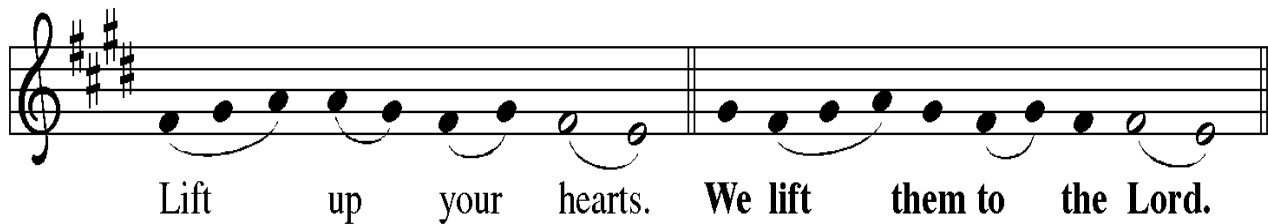
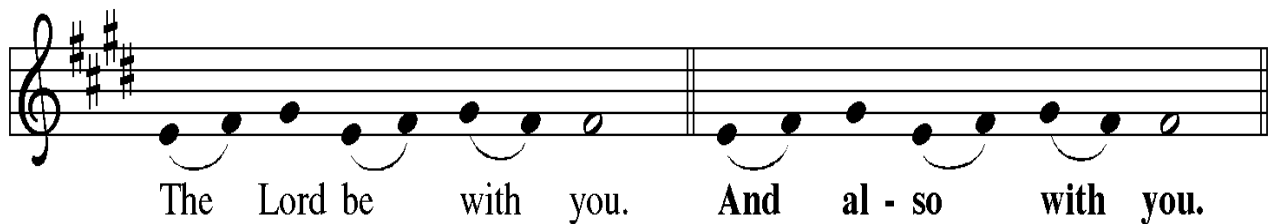
## OFFERING OF THE GIFTS

### \*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.**

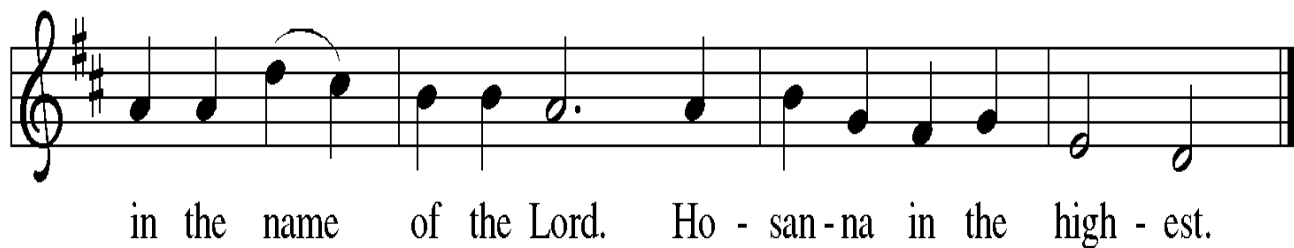
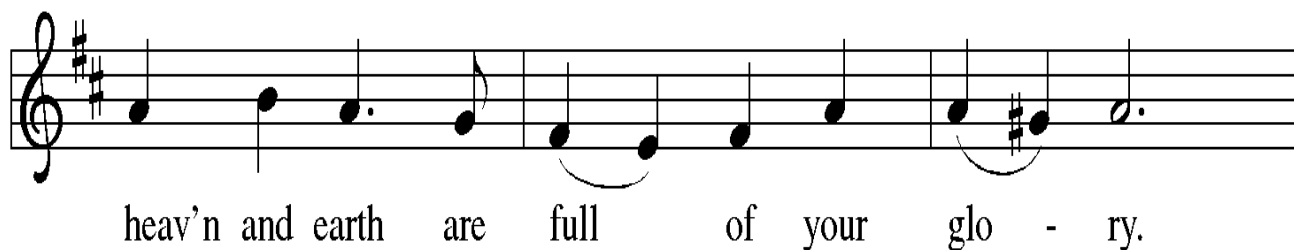
### \*DIALOGUE



## \*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

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

DISTRIBUTION

*Meditation*

Carol Kappus

## \*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

---

*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

*Jesus Shall Reign*

ELW 434

### \*DISMISSAL

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

### POSTLUDE

*Mazurka*

Godard

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

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PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Marnie Rourke

ASSISTING MINISTER

Carrie Watkiss

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

HARPIST

Beverly Tarbox

SERVICE LEADER

Beverly Tarbox

LECTOR

Fred Kuzel

GREETERS

Paul and Carrie Watkiss

LIVE STREAM

John Broussard

USHER

George Valek

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Edward and Joanne Sefara

## IN THE PRAYERS...

**Members of the Congregation:** Elaine Haase, Staci Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Robert Kubik, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lois Mika, and Gregg Valek. **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, and Tom Zajac.

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 August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

|                                                    |            |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2026:</i>          | \$1,827.00 |
| <i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i> | \$1,215.00 |
| <i>Shortage:</i>                                   | \$ 612.00  |

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

*Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, died 1153*

*Thursday, August 20, 2026*

Bernard, a Cistercian monk, was a man of great spirituality who wrote mystical works and criticized those whom he thought took an overly intellectual approach to the faith. He became an abbot, and wrote several hymns that are still beloved today.