Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
250 Woodside Road
Riverside, Illinois 60546
Telephone: (708) 442-5250

Web page: 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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TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
November 8th, , 2026 ✣ 10:15 a.m.

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

HOLY COMMUNION

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

*GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE *Lobt Gott* 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,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

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

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.
We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.
We trust the voice of our shame and fear,
which keeps us from entering fully
into relationship with you and others.
We are not awake to the coming of your reign.
Rouse us and rescue us,
that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace.
✙ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN *Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand* ELW 441

*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 of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING — Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
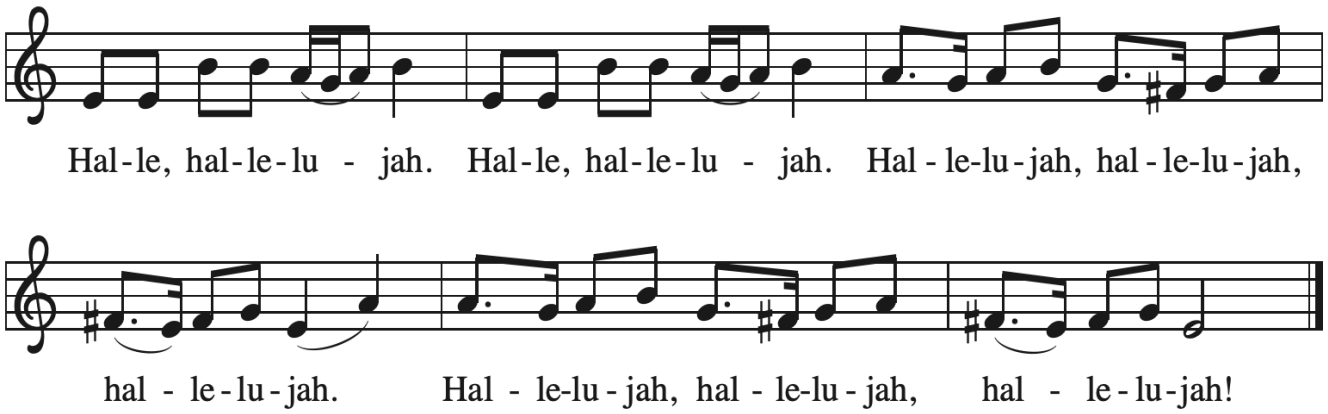
SECOND READING — 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — ACS 1088

Hallelujah



Text: Traditional
Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

*GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

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

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

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

SERMON *Rev. Ken Johnson*

*HYMN OF THE DAY *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness* ELW 488



*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

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. We pray especially for... . God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven, especially... . Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

*PEACE

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

MEAL

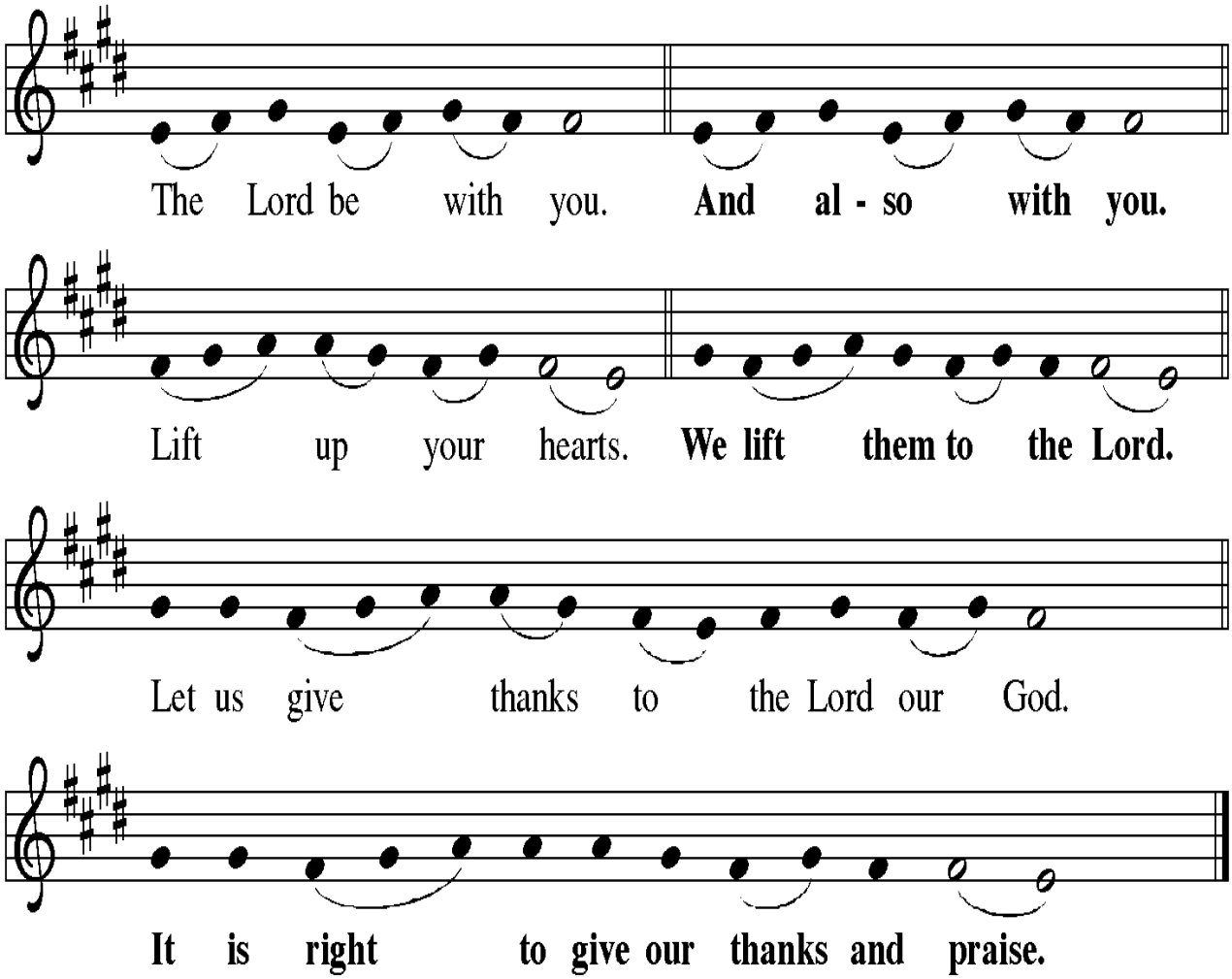
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING OF THE GIFTS

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

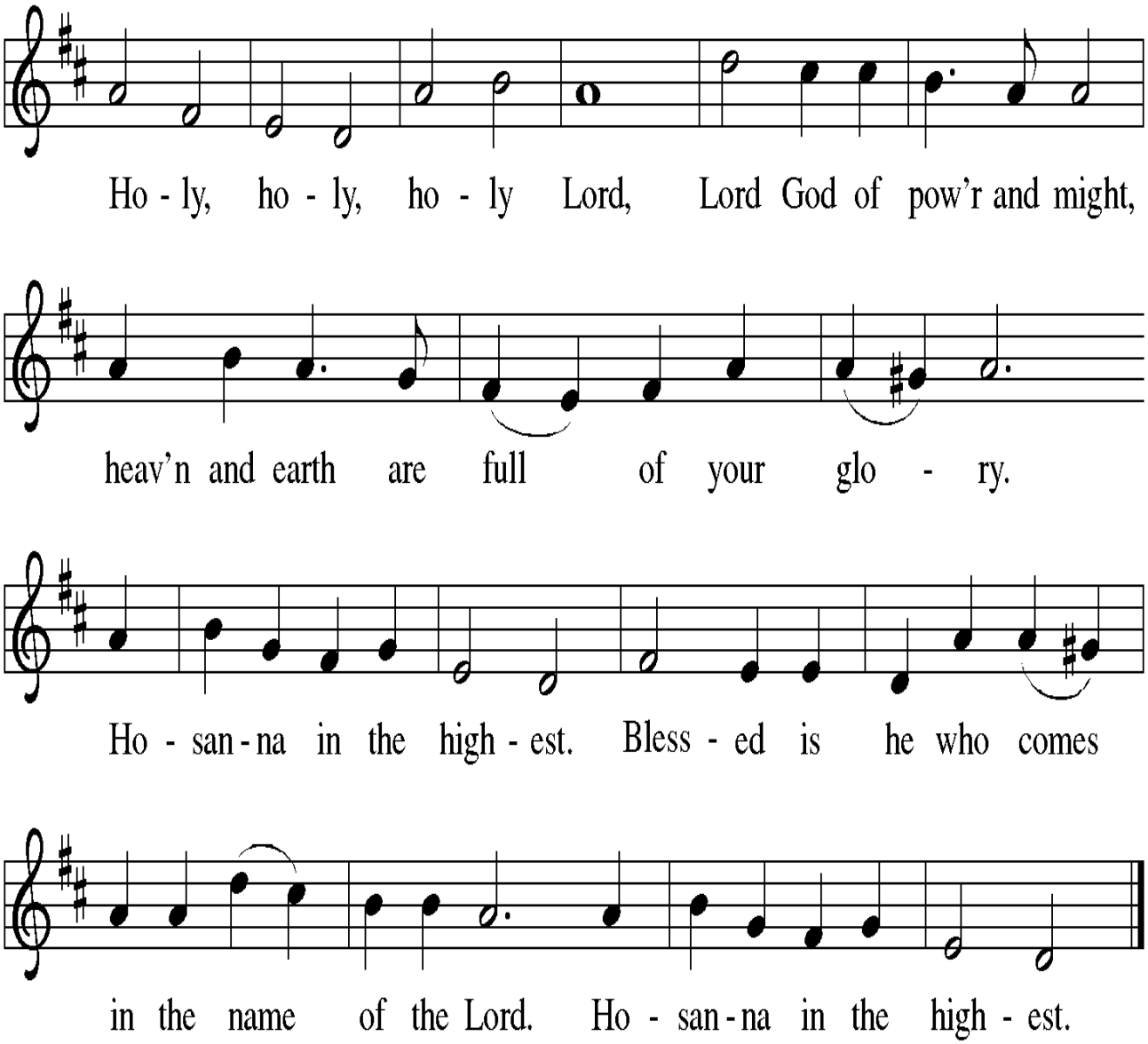
*DIALOGUE



*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

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

DISTRIBUTION *Choral Prelude* Brahms

*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. Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

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

*BENEDICTION

The holy Trinity,
✙ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen.

*SENDING HYMN *Soon and Very Soon* ELW 439

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *LaTromba* Couperin

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER	Rev. Ken Johnson
ASSISTING MINISTER	Tom Myers
MUSIC MINISTER	David Richards
SERVICE LEADER	Philip Painter
LECTOR	Charles Matthies
GREETERS	Walter and Judith Cudecki
LIVE STREAM	John Broussard
USHER	Walter Cudecki
ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN	Beverly Tarbox

IN THE PRAYERS...

Members of the Congregation: Larry Crachy, Elaine Haase, Staci Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Karen Kubik, Robert Kubik, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lois Mika, and Gregg Valek. ***Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:*** Mary Ann Babiar, Betty Bartel, Ann Boor, Rich Caliendo, Dan Costello, Tom Doran, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Michael Kerney, Lisa Martin, Artem Molovkina, Peter Spilotro, Marta Vrtichova, Brian Wickenheiser, and Tom Zajac.

Welcome back and thank you to our Interim Pastor **Rev. Ken Johnson** 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 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 or his mobile phone 773-947-4488.

Philip and Linda Painter have graciously offered a **fifty percent match** to any donations received from October 1st though December 1st designated for current, memorials, maintenance, and the building maintenance fund. Please use this opportunity to increase our giving. Thank you to The Painters for their generous offer.

Thank you to everyone that baked for and purchased at our **"Mini Bake Sale"** last Sunday. It was a huge success and the proceeds from the sale were over $500. The variety of baked goods offered were outstanding. Thanks also to **Linda Painter** for coordinating the event and **Shirley Kostelny** for her help in pricing. Watch for additional pop-up bake sales to come.



Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for the men and women who have served and defended our country and the values of freedom and justice we hold so dear. Help us be mindful of the sacrifices they made and the hardship endured by their families and friends, so that we never take for granted the privileges they have secured for us. Hear us, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Avers String Quartet
with guest pianist David Richards

Today at 2:30 p.m.
Music by Haydn, Beethoven and Mendelssohn

Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church
250 Woodside Road, Riverside, IL

Free Admission. Donations appreciated.



Save the date...

Christmas Cookie Exchange
Sunday, December 6th
More details to follow.
In the meantime contact Shirley Kostelny at 630-968-5204 for more information.

Thanksgiving Day
November 26th at 10:15 a.m.

A Service of the Word and Prayers of Thanksgiving
The monetary offering will benefit the Chicago Food Depository.





Our parish musician David Richards is pianist for this choral concert.



Saturday, November 14th, 2026 - 7:30 p.m.
St. John Lutheran Church, Forest Park, IL

Sunday, November 15th, 2026 - 4 p.m.
Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest, IL

General Admission: $25
Seniors: $20
Students through high school: No ticket required

Beverly Tarbox is a member of Heritage Choir

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering
October 25th, 2026

Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2026:	$1,827.00
Offering Received for the Above Categories:	$1,706.00
Shortage:	$ 121.00

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.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397
Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army. Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man, whom he later understood as representing Christ. He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead. After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop.

Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855
Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Kierkegaard was a Danish theologian whose writings also gave rise to the modern philosophy of existentialism. He frequently attacked the complacency of the state church of his day, as well as its desire to be accepted by polite society rather than be a stumbling block.