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.

_____

_____

_____

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
November 15th, , 2026 ✣ 10:15 a.m.

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

HOLY COMMUNION

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

*GATHERING

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

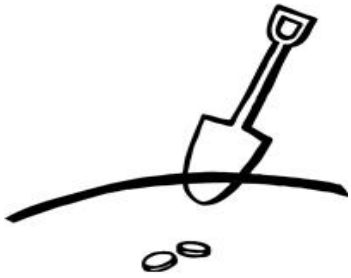
WELCOME AND PRELUDE *Sonata* Mozart

*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 *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us* ELW 707

*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. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING — Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

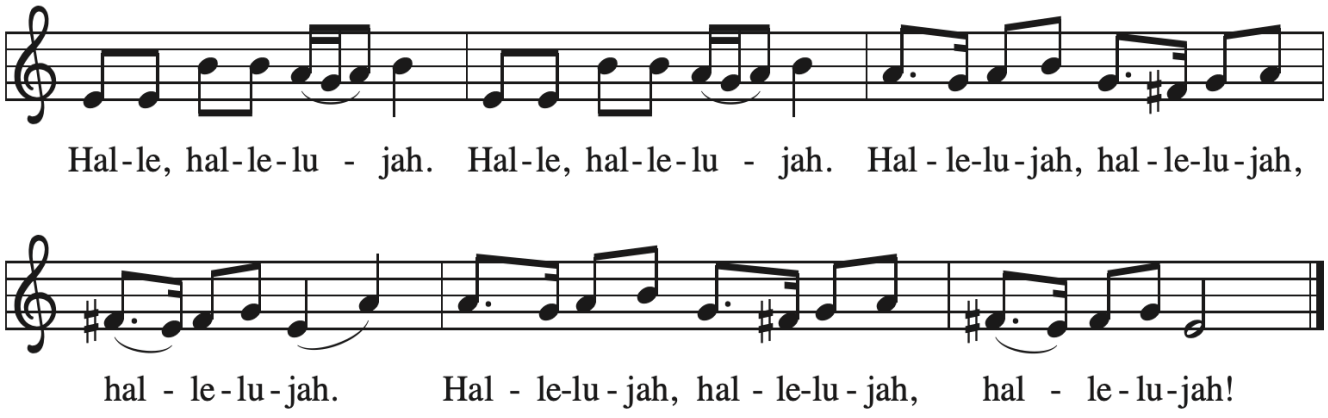
SECOND READING — 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — ACS 1088

Hallelujah



Text: Traditional
Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

*GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

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

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

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

SERMON *Rev. David Olson*



*HYMN OF THE DAY *O Christ the Same* ELW 760

1 O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
eternal Lord, the king of all the ages,
unchanging still amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze,
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

2 O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
still as of old upon your body bearing
the marks of love, in triumph glorified:
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven,
O Prince of life, in all your saving pow'r,
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

3 O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain,
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
for all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
Text © 1984 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*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 build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven the worship, outreach, and service work of our congregations and ministries with the hope of your good news. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals; show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine. Disrupt complacency among national and local leaders. Recommit our communities to transforming the systems that divide and oppress into those that empower and unite. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are separated or estranged, accompany all undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing, especially... . God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, finance committees, volunteer coordinators, and property teams. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech and silence.

The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you, especially... . 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

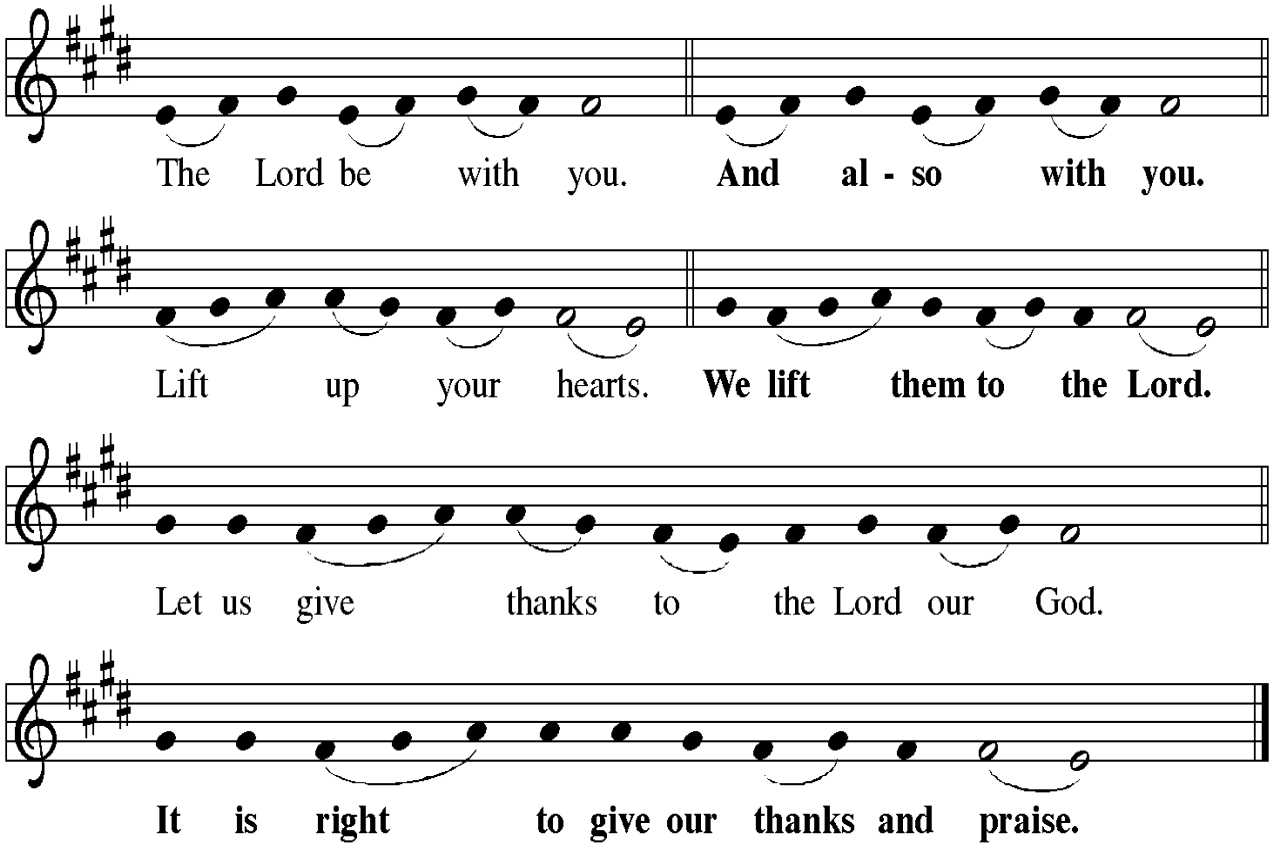
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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.

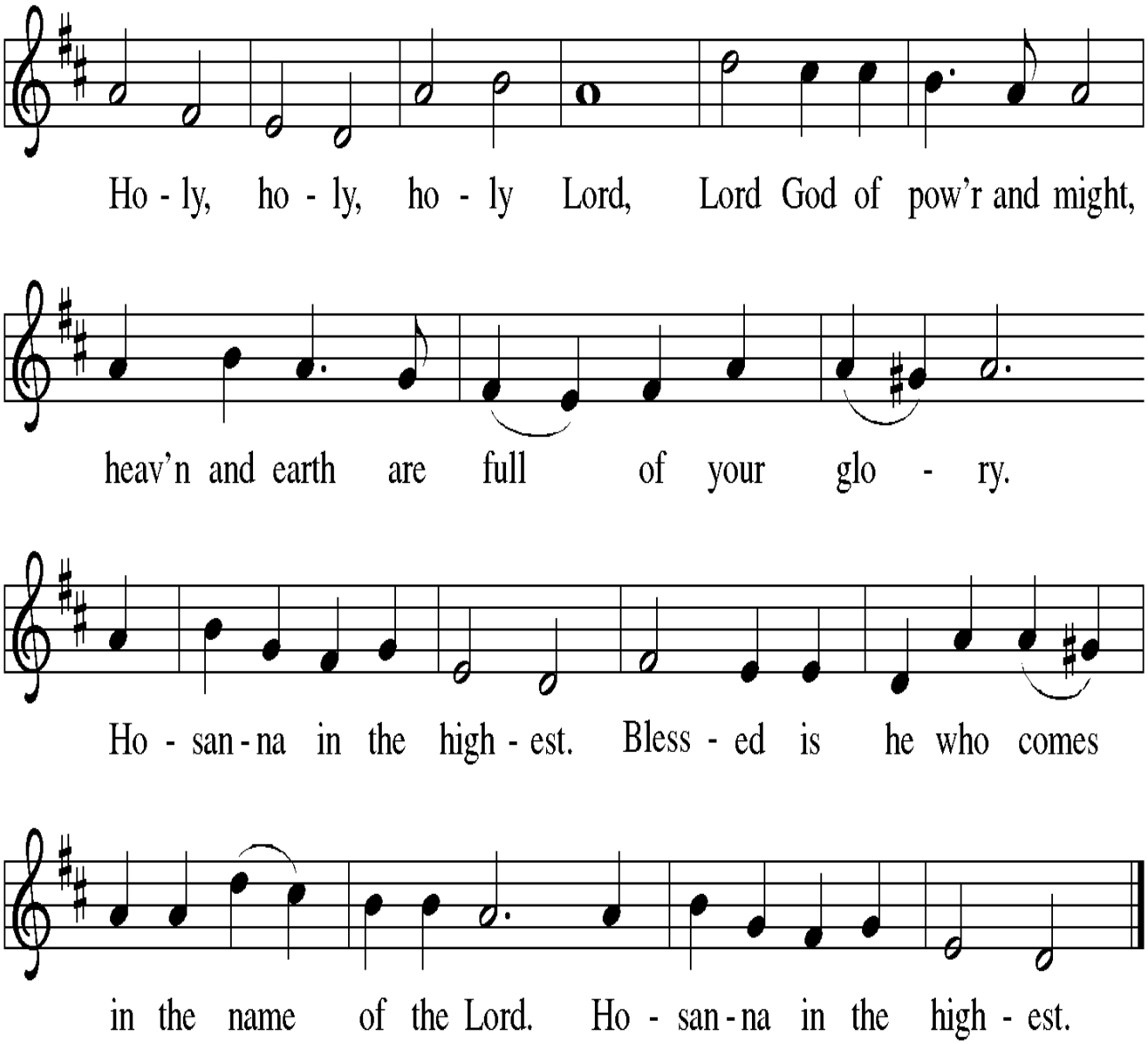
*DIALOGUE



*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 *Nocturne* Borodin

*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 *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* ELW 632

*DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE "Rondo" from *Trumpet Concerto* Hummel

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER	Rev. David Olson
ASSISTING MINISTER	Beverly Tarbox
MUSIC MINISTER	David Richards
SERVICE LEADER	Carrie Watkiss
LECTOR	Fred Kuzel
GREETER	Staci Harden
LIVE STREAM	Charles Matthies
USHER	George Valek
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, Edward Sefara, 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 **Rev. David Olson** 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 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.

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.





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.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering
November 8th, 2026

Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2026:	$1,827.00
Offering Received for the Above Categories:	$5,437.00
Surplus:	$3,610.00

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.



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



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

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231
Tuesday, November 17, 2026
Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.