



**ST. PEDER'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



Rooted in our heritage and embracing the future, we joyfully live the gospel with open hearts, open hands, and open doors. St. Peder's is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA); and a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, explicitly affirming the welcome of God to all persons regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression, race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability.



Welcome to Worship at St. Peder's!

We are glad you have come to worship today. If you find yourself in need of assistance during worship, our ushers are here to assist you.

St. Peder's uses an ancient tradition called liturgical worship. The liturgy involves participation; sometimes you'll be asked to sit or stand (as you are able) and we encourage all to read or sing the bold-fonted text. If you're not used to this form of worship, it can feel very unfamiliar. If you're not sure what you're supposed to do, it's okay to ask. It can take time to get used to this way of worship and we don't expect any of us to "get it right" all the time. We're glad you're here and we hope you feel welcomed in this community of faith.

LARGE PRINT and Braille Bulletins are available, please see an usher for these resources.

-You will find everything you need to participate in worship on the following pages.

-Please note that we invite congregational participation on the parts printed in **bold**.

Children are always welcome in worship. We know that children learn by experience; their presence in worship piques their curiosity and models how we worship. Just as adults fidget and move throughout worship, we don't expect children to sit completely still, in fact we invite their standing and moving about as they express their worship to God as part of our community.

COVID Safety Please continue to be respectful of one another's level of comfort for close contact (including shaking hands or hugging) and mask wearing. If you are not feeling well we ask that you stay home to care for yourself and protect others.

Our Worship schedule offers opportunities to worship in person or online. For those who don't join us in person you can livestream the service or find a recording of the worship service on St Peder's YouTube channel linked at www.stpeders.org

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month and ALL are welcome to participate in this tangible gift of God's grace. For those who choose not to receive Communion please come forward for a blessing. If you would prefer to have Communion brought to you, please let the usher know and our Communion team will come to you.

Fellowship time is an opportunity to check-in with one another and care for members of our community. We ask that all who attend coffee hour be fully vaccinated if they are eligible for vaccination. We ask that all food and drink be consumed only in Fellowship Hall or outside on the patio. Please remain masked unless you are actively eating or drinking.

GATHERING

Introduction

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

Prelude

Divinum Mysterium

setting by Ronald A. Nelson

Welcome, Peace and Announcements

Pastor Sara Spohr

Opening Prayer

Dwight Lundby
See back inside cover of red hymnal

Gathering Hymn

God Is Here!

ELW 526

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have hurt our community.

We have squandered your blessings.

We have hoarded your bounty.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy:

you are freed and forgiven.

In the name of Jesus. Amen

Kyrie

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Canticle of Praise

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Prayer of the Day

God of love, giver of life, **you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

WORD

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-10, 5:1-2

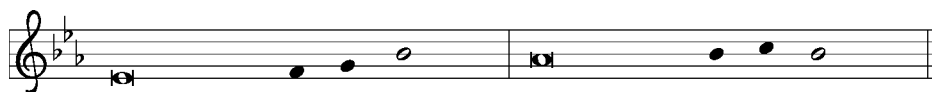
^{3:1} Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he lead the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of Fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³ So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." ⁴ When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." ⁵ "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. ⁷ The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. ⁹ And now the cry of the of the Israelites have reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." ^{5:1} Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel says: 'Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.'" ^{5:2} Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God!

Psalm 25:1-9

Leader to sing plain text verses, congregation **bold text**.



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.
- ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,**
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.
- ³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.
- ⁴**Show me your | ways, O LORD,**
and teach | me your paths.
- ⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.
- ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,**
for they are from | everlasting.
- ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.
- ⁸**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;**
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.
- ⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

Gathering of the Children

Pastor Sara Spohr

Gospel Acclamation

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Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not';

but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.’

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Pastor Sara Spohr

Hymn of the Day

Lead Me, Guide Me

ELW 768

Apostle’s Creed

See back inside cover of red hymnal

Prayers of the People

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

We put out trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way, especially those on our hearts and minds. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our hearts, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Offering

Take a moment to reflect on the many gifts we offer to God in our lives – our time, our talents, and our treasures. Offer to God the gifts that you will use in the coming week and the ways you will bless others with these gifts that you give freely in the name of God’s glory. If you would like to give online, please find a QR code on the back of the bulletin.

A Gift of Music

You Will I Love
Performed by the St. Peder’s Singers

Kevin Hildebrand

Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty, **all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

MEAL

The Lord be with you,
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts,
We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Loving God, as we gathered today, we brought with us all that we have experienced, heard, and felt. We brought with us a yearning for relationship and wholeness. We brought with us differences in social and economic status, age and ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, race and culture, and we have been united under the banner of God’s radical welcome and love. Each of us bear your image in the world and we work to honor, protect, and recognize it in each other and all we meet.

As people gathered, forgiven, and united by your lovingkindness, we have come to your table, trusting that you have a place for us and yearning to be a part of what you are doing. As you have done for ages past and will do for ages to come, remind us of your love through this bread and wine and the invitation that Jesus still offers. Relying on your calling and care, we echo the song of creation:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

On the night of his betrayal, Jesus took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it, and gave it to his followers. He told them, “Take this bread and eat; it is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks for it, and gave it to his followers. He told them, “Take this cup and drink; it is the new promise of my sacrifice, given to you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.” Brought together at this table, sharing in this meal with people of all time, language, and place, we bring ourselves to God, revealed in water, bread, wine, creation, and each other. We come at the invitation of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

Lord’s Prayer

See back inside cover of red hymnal

Then come, beloved of God, and share in the meal that God has prepared for you.

Communion Distribution

All who desire to receive the free gift of love and forgiveness that is ours in this meal Christ has given us are invited to communion. Those not communing are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you prefer to have Communion brought to you, please let an usher know and the servers will be happy to bring communion to you in your pew.

Communion Hymns

	<i>Lamb of God</i>	Page 174
	<i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i>	ELW 471
	<i>By Your Hand You Feed Your People</i>	ELW 469

Communion Blessing

Communion Prayer

SENDING

Benediction

Sending Hymn

Lord Of All Hopefulness

ELW 765

Sending

See back inside cover of red hymnal

Postlude

Duke Street

setting by Balint Karosi

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Serving in Worship this Morning

Greeters: Jean Evers **Ushers:** Steve Austin & Cameron Jamison

Acolyte: Isla Willis **Reader:** Dwight Lundby

Communion Bread & Wine: Lisa Rovick

Counters: Bob Stanich & Eva Tangen

Livestream Technician: JeriLynn Young

LSS Safe House Dinner for Oct 2: Denise Logeland & Tom Dennstedt

Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group 1

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study, Tuesdays at 6 pm, Next Date: October 3rd

Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:7-15 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46

CPR AED Training

St. Peder's will be a CPR training course on **Thursday, October 19th at 9 am**. The course will last between 2-4 hours, depending on the number of attendees. This is a free course, open to everyone. If you are interested, please put your information on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the office, or contact Lyn at office@stpeders.org.

Save the Date

St. Peder's Fundraising Dinner and Raffle will be held this year on **Saturday, October 14th**. A gourmet dinner will be included. More information will be included in the October Messenger, and there is a leaflet on the bulletin board outside the office. Please contact office@stpeders.org to make reservations.

Weekly Choir Meetings

Just a reminder to choir members that meetings will take place on Thursday evenings at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Please contact Mia at mia@stpeders.org with any questions.

Life Haven's 20th Anniversary

LifeHaven is celebrating 20 years of supporting the 16-17 year old mothers and their children in our area that are experiencing homelessness. Together with our community of supporters, donors, congregations, community partners, LiveHaven employees, and the youth they serve are all being commemorated for their accomplishments, and sharing their visions of future opportunities. Complimentary food and beverages will be provided, and free parking is available at the venue. Social hour begins at 4:30, and the program will begin at 5:30. **Event will be held on Thursday, October 5 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at The Masonic Institute for the Developing Brain, 2025 E. River Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55414. The event is free, but please register by 9/25/2023 if you are interested in attending.** <https://events.lssmn.org/page/55069/data/>

Pastor Visits

If you or someone you know would like a visit from Pastor Bryan, or would like to be prayed for by the prayer chain, please let the church office or Pastor Bryan know. You can email him directly at pastorbryan@stpeders.org with prayer or visit requests.

This Week at St. Peder's

Today: Sunday, October 1

Marathon Outreach Event

9 am Worship
9 am Youth Faith Formation
10 am Coffee and Fellowship

Monday, October 2

Kith & Kin Kick-off*

Tuesday, October 3

10 am Exercise Class*
2 pm Chronic Disease Support Group
6 pm Sisters in Crime Meeting
6 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, October 4

9 am Quilters

Thursday, October 5

10 am Exercise Class*

Saturday, October 7

2 pm Fiber Arts/Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 8

9 am Worship
9 am Youth Faith Formation
10 am Coffee and Fellowship

**Denotes community group*



Make a donation from your smartphone by scanning the QR code or head to this website: <https://bit.ly/stpedersgiving> Thank you for sharing your gifts. Your donations make it possible to fulfill our mission to joyfully live the gospel with open hearts, open hands and open doors



St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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we joyfully live the gospel with open hearts,
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St. Peder's is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, affirming the welcome of God to all persons regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Church Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Bryan Odeen

Organist/Music Ministry Coordinator: Mia Kruse

Office Coordinator: Lyn Town

Accounts Manager: Susan Shellberg

Faith Formation: Sarah Laulunen-Raj

Caretaker: Jim Austin

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