

St. Peder's Lutheran Church 09-13-2026

Welcome to St. Peder's! All people are welcome to fully participate in worship, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, physical and mental abilities, and socio-economic status. If you are a visitor, please fill out a visitor card available in the pews or fill out the guestbook in the entryway. We would love to know who you are and what brings you in today! We offer large print and braille copies of our bulletin for those with vision impairment. For your convenience, we also offer opportunities to worship online!

Introduction to the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

GATHERING

Prelude: Dove of Peace **arr. by David M. Cherwien**

Welcome, Peace, and Announcements

Opening Prayer

O Lord, we have come into this Your house to hear what You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, will speak unto us. We pray You so to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that, through Your word, we may learn to repent of our sins, to believe in

Jesus in life and in death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Gathering Hymn: Before the Waters Nourished Earth ACS 1049

- 1 Before the waters nourished earth
or night imagined morning,
a Love conceived the universe
and reveled in its forming.**
- 2 This Love remained as time revealed
the loss of Eden's glory
and, grieving, holds in memory
each tragic human story.**
- 3 Despair, so deep it bears no name,
or sorrows paralyzing
cannot revoke Love's faithful claim
to dwell within our dying.**
- 4 The Love that called creation good
all goodness still is bringing.
This Love turns death again to life
and silence into singing.**

Confession and Forgiveness

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, Creator, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

Kyrie (Hymn of Prayer)

In peace, let us pray to the **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Canticle (Hymn of Praise)

***Refrain:* Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain.*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. *Refrain.*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Refrain.*

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, merciful judge, **you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.**

WORD

First Lesson

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

- ⁸ Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;
⁹ you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.**

Refrain:

****If we live, we live to the Lord.
If we die, we die to the Lord.
So then, whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's.****

- ¹⁰ You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.
¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

Refrain:

****If we live, we live to the Lord.
If we die, we die to the Lord.
So then, whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's.****

- ¹² As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.
¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you,
O Lord.**

Refrain:

****If we live, we live to the Lord.
If we die, we die to the Lord.
So then, whether we live or whether we die,**

we are the Lord's.**

Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

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

Gathering of Children

Gospel Acclamation

****Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.****

Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-25

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and

reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: I Come with Joy

ELW 482

**1 I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.**

**2 I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.**

**3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.**

**4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.**

**5 Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.**

Apostles' Creed

****I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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 the People

Response: Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Lord's Prayer

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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Offering

In this moment, we reflect upon the many gifts in our lives – our time, our talents, and our treasures. In sharing these gifts, you bless others in the name of God’s glory. If you would like to donate digitally, please click on or use your smartphone to take a picture of this QR code.



Gift of Music: Variation on Picardy

by Michael Helman

Offering Prayer:

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.**

Benediction

Sending Hymn: Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer

ELW 618

**1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow’rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**

**2 Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.**

**3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.**

Sending

**Knowing God is behind us, **we are rooted in our
heritage.****

Knowing God goes before us, **we embrace the future.**

Knowing Christ forgives us, **we joyfully live the gospel**

**We engage the world around us **with open hearts, open
hands, and open doors. Thanks be to God! Amen.****

Postlude: CWM Rhondda

arr. by J. Bert Carlson

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**Serving in Worship this Morning**

**Greeters: Susan Gantriis & Lisa Jensen**

**Ushers: Andrea & Aemilia Wollak**

**Acolyte: Augie Wollak   Reader: Dan Vetsch**

**Counters: JeriLynn Young & Lisa Jensen**

**Livestream Tech: Melanie Carlson**

**LSS Safehouse Sept 14: Curt & Meg Petersen**

**Social Hour hosted by Shepherding Group: 6**

**Announcements**

**Fall Volunteer Conflict Survey**

**It's time to fill out the 2026 Fall Volunteer Conflict Survey! This survey will ask you which roles you volunteer for and any dates where you are unavailable to volunteer. This will be used to assign volunteer roles and dates for October through December. All volunteers will receive the Fall volunteer Schedule before October 1.**



**SNAP Sunday**

**St. Peder's and six other local congregations are joining together on Sunday, October 11 for "SNAP Sunday" to raise money for Minnehaha Food Shelf with a goal of \$4,000. 100,238 people in Hennepin County rely on SNAP to help feed their families. As benefits shrink, many will turn to food shelves like Minnehaha Food Shelf to fill the gap.**



**SNAP is changing, new eligibility rules mean the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth and Families expects roughly a**

**third of the state's SNAP recipients to lose their benefits altogether, while those who remain enrolled will receive less help each month.**

**You can help by giving through a special offering that day, or anytime, at our secure online donation page via the QR code or by going to <https://bit.ly/3JCzVDT>.**

### **Calling All Singers!**

**Do you have a love for singing and service? Holy Cross Lutheran Church (1720 E Minnehaha Pkwy) is launching a funeral choir that will rehearse weekly and be available to sing for funerals and memorial services across the South Minneapolis area and beyond. Rehearsals are Tuesdays, 1:00-2:15 PM beginning September 8 at Holy Cross. For more information contact Mark Fideldy – [admin@holycrossmpls.org](mailto:admin@holycrossmpls.org).**

### **Help Wanted: Faith Formation**

**We are looking for volunteers to lead and assist our youth in Faith Formation this coming school year. Everyone is welcome whether you're attached to a kiddo or not. Our themes this year are Integrity and Faith Traits. Our class will be around 20 minutes after the service each Sunday. The class will focus on a faith trait related to the story. A summary of integrity/faith traits and suggested activities will be provided. This is a great chance for you to get to know our youth better and guide them in learning about Integrity and faith traits. The sign-up sheet to volunteer is outside the church office. For any questions, reach out to Pastor Bryan, Kristi Erickson, Karen Vetsch, or Gina Sekelsky.**

***\*This week's coffee hour proceeds are being donated to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.\****

**This Week at St. Peder's:**

**Sunday, September 13: 9 am Worship, 10 am Coffee & Fellowship**

**Tuesday, September 15: 6 pm Bible Study, 7 pm Prayer Service**

**Wednesday, September 16: 9 am Quilters, 7 pm Council Meeting**

**Saturday, September 19: 2 pm Fiber Arts**

**Sunday, September 20: 9 am Worship, 10 am Coffee & Fellowship**

**St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
**4600 East 42<sup>nd</sup> St. Minneapolis, MN 55406**  
**Phone: (612) 722-8000 [www.stpeders.org](http://www.stpeders.org)**

*Rooted in our heritage and embracing the future, we joyfully  
live the gospel with open hearts, open hands and open doors.*

**Church Staff:**

**Pastor:**

**Rev. Bryan Odeen**  
**[pastorbryan@stpeders.org](mailto:pastorbryan@stpeders.org)**

**Organist/Music Ministry:**

**Mia Kruse**  
**[mia@stpeders.org](mailto:mia@stpeders.org)**

**Office Coordinator:**

**Frances Stevenson**  
**[office@stpeders.org](mailto:office@stpeders.org)**

**Caretaker:**

**Jim Austin**