



**St. Peder's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
September 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.

Artwork by Mari.

GATHERING

Prelude

Dove of Peace

arr. by David M. Cherwien

Welcome, Peace, and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Gathering Hymn

Before the Waters Nourished Earth

ACS 1049



1 Be - fore the wa - ters nour - ished earth or night im -
2 This Love re - mained as time re - vealed the loss of
3 De - spair, so deep it bears no name, or sor - rows
4 The Love that called cre - a - tion good all good - ness



ag - ³ined morn - ing, a Love con - ceived the
E - den's glo - ry and, griev - ing, holds in
par - a - lyz - ing can - not re - voke Love's
still is bring - ing. This Love turns death a -



u - ni - verse and rev - eled in its form - ing.
mem - o - ry each trag - ic hu - man sto - ry.
faith - ful claim to dwell with - in our dy - ing.
gain to life and si - lence in - to sing - ing.

Confession and Forgiveness

Kyrie (Hymn of Prayer)

ELW pg. 165

Canticle (Hymn of Praise)

ELW pg. 167

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.**

Psalm 103:8-13

If We Live, We Live to the Lord

ACS 1025

If we live, we live to the Lord. If we

die, we die to the Lord. So then, wheth-er we live or

wheth-er we die, we are the Lord's.

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

- 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

- 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

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

ELW pg. 171

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

Apostles’ Creed

Back cover of hymnal.

Prayers of the People: Response: Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Lord’s Prayer

Back cover of hymnal.

Offering: *In this moment, we reflect upon the many gifts in our lives – our time, our talent, 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 use your smartphone to take a picture of this QR code or click on it if you are reading this online.*



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

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 Shepherd 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

**Choir Director:** John Bendt