



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 23, 2017

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
1600 S. Main St.

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235
www.stpetersfdl.net

Worship: Thursday, 6:30pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:00am
Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808 Pastor Matthew M. Guse: 517-9000

For hospital visits or emergencies, please call Pastor Zuberbier at 517-8808.

St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Andrew Mildebrandt, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302

Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE May you find rest for your soul in Christ!

VISITORS We are pleased that you have joined us this morning to lift your voice with ours in praising the only true God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If you are from this area and are looking for a church home, please feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastors, one of the ushers, or one of the members. If you are a visitor from out of town, please be sure to introduce yourself to one of the pastors after the service. We welcome all of you to come and worship with us again.

RADIO MINISTRY Our congregation has a radio ministry to serve our sick and homebound and to reach the souls of our community. Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE and all other electrical devices to help minimize distractions during Divine Worship. Thank you.

TO ASSIST YOU Just ask an usher! We have six **large print hymnals** available. **Personal public address systems** are available for the hearing impaired. **Children's bulletins** suitable for preschool-age through grade 4 are available. A **cry room with audio feed** and a **window into the sanctuary** is available for parents who find it necessary to carry their children out of the sanctuary during the service. It is located to the left as you enter the narthex. **Family restrooms** are available in the multi-purpose room off the narthex or on the right side of the large hallway leading to the school wing.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP In every season, every place, may we recall your Word of grace until, when life's brief day is past, we reach eternal joy at last and keep with angels in your rest the endless Sabbath of the blest. Grant this to us through Christ, your Son, who reigns with you upon your throne. Amen. (See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of *Christian Worship*.)

SERVICE THEME Jesus is the Rest-Giver.

ORDER OF WORSHIP *Service of the Word* on page 38 in the front of the hymnal

HYMNS OF THE DAY 221; 452; 467 vs 1-4; 467 vs 5, 6

PRAYER OF THE DAY God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LESSON Hebrews 4:1-11
The eternal Sabbath Rest of heaven awaits all who believe in Jesus.

Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith. Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, "So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'" And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world. For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "And on the seventh day God rested from all his work." And again in the passage above he says, "They shall never enter my rest." It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience. Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.

PSALM 103 *page 105 in the front of the hymnal*

GOSPEL Matthew 11:25-30
Jesus alone gives us true rest for our souls.

At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

SERMON TEXT Joshua 23:1-11
The rest that Joshua gave the Children of Israel in the Land of Canaan pointed ahead to the rest that Jesus has secured for our souls.

After a long time had passed and the LORD had given Israel rest from all their enemies around them, Joshua, by then old and well advanced in years, summoned all Israel--their elders, leaders, judges and officials -- and said to them: "I am old and well advanced in years. You yourselves have seen everything the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake; it was the LORD your God who fought for you. Remember how I have allotted as an inheritance for your tribes all the land of the nations that remain -- the nations I conquered -- between the Jordan and the Great Sea in the west. The LORD your God himself will drive them out of your way. He will push them out before you, and you will take possession of their land, as the LORD your God promised you. Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. But you are to hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have until now. The LORD has driven out before you great and powerful nations; to this day no one has been able to withstand you. One of you routs a thousand, because the LORD your God fights for you, just as he promised. So be very careful to love the LORD your God."

"Complete Your Mission" *Pastor Guse*