



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 2, 2018

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, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:00 am  
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

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**WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE** May God bless us as together we grow in our knowledge of and love for Jesus and his Word.

Thank you for joining us for worship. If you have any questions about our service or practice, please feel free to ask one of the ushers or a pastor.

- 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 parent's room with audio feed and a window into the sanctuary is available.
- Listening devices and six large print hymnals are available, please ask an usher.
- 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.
- Hymns and songs are reprinted under OneLicense #A-713891. Artwork obtained from churchart.com. Scripture texts are taken from the New International Version 1984 translation.
- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. 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.

**HOLY COMMUNION** Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. For this reason we respectfully request that all of those who are not members of the WELS or our sister ELS please speak with one of the pastors before communing with us. We remind you to be sure to fill out a communion registration card and place it in the offering plate. For your personal preparation before communing, turn to pages 156 and 11 in the front of the hymnal. Thank you.

**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** Preserve your Word, O Savior, to us this latter day. And let your kingdom flourish; enlarge your Church, we pray. Oh, keep our faith from failing; keep hope's bright star aglow. Let nothing turn us from you While wandering here below. Amen.

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**SERVICE THEME** God's pure Word is the sole authority in all matters of Christian faith and life.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*The Common Service* on page 15 in the front of the hymnal

**OPENING HYMN**

**“Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored”**  
*Hymn 617*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ♪Amen.

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: Beloved in the Lord; let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

♪ **Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

M: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## GLORY BE TO GOD

♪ **Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you,  
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'nly King,  
God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of  
the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive  
our prayer. You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.  
For you only are holy; you only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the  
Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### LESSON

James 1:17-27

*God plants his Word in our hearts that we might put it into practice in our lives.*

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

### VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia.

C: ♪ **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

M: The Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 7.

C: ♪ **Glory be to you, O Lord!**

### GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*God's pure Word takes precedence over human teachings and traditions.*

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders.

When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with ‘unclean’ hands?” He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.’ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men.” Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a man can make him ‘unclean’ by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him ‘unclean.’ For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪Praise be to you, O Christ!

#### NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

**“Take My Life and Let It Be”**

*Hymn 469*

#### SERMON

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

*God desires that his people keep, live, and teach his Word in absolute purity.*

Hear now, O Israel, the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

#### “Because God Said So!”

*Pastor Guse*

1. He is the absolute authority.
2. He is the absolute love.

#### CREATE IN ME

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not  
away from your presence, and take not your  
Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy  
of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.

#### GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## 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; 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.**

## THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **♪And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **♪We lift them up unto the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **♪It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna,  
hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, blessed is he,  
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **♪Amen.**

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

**♪ O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin  
of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away  
the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION

*Please remember that all WELS Communicant Members who receive the Lord's Supper are asked to fill out a Communion Card each time they attend. Visitors are asked to write their home church on the back of the card. Thank you.*

## HYMNS

**"I'm But a Stranger Here"**  
*Hymn 417*

**"Just As I Am, without One Plea"**  
*Hymn 397*

**"Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face"**  
*Hymn 315*

**SONG OF SIMEON**

**♪ Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace  
according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.**

**M:** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C:** **♪And his mercy endures forever.**

**M:** We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **♪Amen.**

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C:** **♪Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“God Bless Our Native Land”**  
*Hymn 619*



**ORGANIST**  
Ruth Koepsell

**GREETERS**  
7:45 ~ Gordon & Justine Port  
10:00 ~ Diana Kent