EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 4, 2020

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 & 10:30 am School/Church Office: 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

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

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE Rejoice in Christ's full and free forgiveness!

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.

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. Thank you.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Strengthen me, O gracious Lord, by your Spirit and your word. When my wayward heart would stray, keep me in the narrow way; grace in time of need supply while I live and when I die. Amen.

SERVICE THEME It is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Common Service

OPENING HYMN

As We Begin Another Week | CW 223

As we begin another week, In Jesus' name your grace we seek. God, grant that through these seven days No evil may befall our ways.

Your gentle blessings, Lord, outpour On all our labors evermore. Our hearts with your good Spirit fill That we may gladly do your will.

In ev'ry season, ev'ry 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.

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

C: J 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: \(\int \) Amen.

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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.

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: \(\int \) Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

LESSON Romans 9:6b-16

Eternal salvation flows from God's mercy, not mankind's pedigree or power.

⁶This does not mean that God's word has failed, because not all who are descended from Israel are really Israel, ⁷and not all who are descended from Abraham are really his children. On the contrary, "Your line of descent will be traced through Isaac." ⁸This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are counted as his descendants. ⁹For this is what the promise said: "I will arrive at this set time, and Sarah will have a son."

¹⁰Not only that, but Rebekah also had children by one man, our forefather, Isaac. ¹¹Even before the twins were born or did anything good or bad, in order that God's purpose in election might continue — ¹²not by works but because of him who calls us— it was said to her, "The older will serve the younger." ¹³Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

¹⁴What will we say then? Does this mean that God is unjust? Absolutely not! ¹⁵For God says to Moses:

I will show mercy to whom I show mercy,

and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.

¹⁶So then, it does not depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! Alleluia! My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia!

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: The Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 20.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

Our eternal reward is a free gift completely unearned by us – earned for us by Christ – the result of God's loving generosity.

"Indeed the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing to pay the workers a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³He also went out about the third hour and saw others standing unemployed in the marketplace. ⁴To these he said, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour and did the same thing. ⁶When he went out about the eleventh hour, he found others standing unemployed. He said to them, 'Why have you stood here all day unemployed?'

7"They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.'

"He told them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When it was evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last group and ending with the first.'

HYMN OF THE DAY

Just As I Am, without One Plea | CW 397

⁹"When those who were hired around the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. ¹⁰When those who were hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But they each received a denarius too. ¹¹After they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner: ¹²'Those who were last worked one hour, and you made them equal to us who have endured the burden of the day and the scorching heat!'

¹³"But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. ¹⁵Can't I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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.

Just as I am, without one plea But that thy blood was shed for me And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot, To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt, Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down. Now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

SERMON TEXT Jonah 4:5-11

The LORD taught Jonah, and he teaches us, the value of every blood-bought soul.

⁵Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city. He made a shelter for himself there and sat under it in the shade, until he would see what would happen in the city. ⁶Then the LORD God provided a plant and made it grow up over Jonah to be a shade over his head to deliver him from his discomfort. So Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, and it attacked the plant so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" He said, "I am right to be angry—enough to die!"

¹⁰So the LORD said, "You have been concerned about this plant. You did not work for it or make it grow. It grew up in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹Should I not be concerned for Nineveh, the great city, in which there are more than one hundred twenty thousand people who do not know the difference between their right hand and their left—and also many animals?"

The LORD's Mercy is All-Encompassing

Pastor Zuherhier

- 1. Not just for some...
- 2. But for all.

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.

PRESENTING OF OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: \(\int \) 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.

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 HYMN

To God Be the Glory | CW 399

To God be the glory; great things he has done! He so loved the world that he gave us his Son, Who yielded his life an atonement for sin And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give him the glory-great things he has done!

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Refrain*

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our joy and our wonder when Jesus we see. *Refrain*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

By Grace I'm Saved | CW 384

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not. Why waver at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught? So then this word must true remain: By grace you, too, shall heav'n obtain.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought him from his heav'nly throne.

By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise When you are by your sins oppressed, When Satan plagues your troubled conscience, And when your heart is seeking rest. What reason cannot comprehend God by his grace to you did send.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried-By grace, despite all fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide. Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice. For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice. My heart is glad; all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

BLESSING

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

Beautiful Savior | CW 369

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, Truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer; He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be thine!

ORGANIST

Pam Zuberbier

GREETERS

7:45 ~ Norene Gonring 10:30 ~ Jim & Marcia Pflum

Weekly Announcements

SPECIAL GIFT Vern and Marlene Elsinger have given a special gift to the Radio Ministry in honor of their 65th Wedding Anniversary (October 1).

FLOWERS The fresh flowers this weekend are given by the children of Vernon and Marlene Elsinger for their 65th Wedding Anniversary (October 1).

THANK YOU Dear members of St. Peter's, Samantha and I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome we have received. We would especially like to share our gratitude for the generous outpouring of support that we received through the card shower. We are very thankful and blessed to be a part of the ministry of this congregation. We pray that God will continue to bless this school year and the ministry of the church. In Christ, Carl and Samantha Manske

SPREAD SOME SON-SHINE Our members in care facilities are unable to have visitors due to the pandemic. We would like to send some cards to two each week to let them know we are thinking of them. Please help us brighten their days!



~Jeanne Colla at Sage Meadow (597 Kingswood Ave. Apt 17) in Fond du Lac

~Regis Westphal at St. Peter's Place (50 E. 1st St. Apt. 208) in Fond du Lac

FORWARD IN **CHRIST & MEDITATIONS** The October *Forward in Christ* and the current *Meditations* are available in the narthex.

2021 CREATION CALENDARS The 2021 Creation Calendars, and pocket books are in, and they are beautiful! The calendars are great for family planning or to give as gifts. Each month contains a beautiful picture of God's creation and a Bible passage to go with it. They are available in the church entryway for \$7.00.

A NEW SCHOOL YEAR! We have been blessed to start a new school year at St. Peter's with 175 students in grades 3K-8, with nine called teachers, one part-time hired teacher, and two teacher's aides on our campus for the 2020-21 school year. We also have 34 graduates attending our high school, Winnebago Lutheran Academy, and 9 students attending Jesus' Little Lambs daycare making for 218 children being blessed through formal Christian education programs that our congregation supports. This year's theme for all WLA Schools is "God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever" Psalm 73:26. Looking at how our Lord has blessed us with those families involved in our programs of Christian education, as well as seeing how our congregations have supported Christian education through their time, talents, and treasures, we can truly rejoice always!

MISSION FEST will be held on Thursday, October 22 and Sunday, October 25 with guest pastor Timothy Dolan. In addition to preaching at the three services, he will also be giving a presentation between the services on Sunday in the Commons.

AREA REFORMATION FESTIVAL Our area WELS congregations joint Reformation service has been cancelled for this year.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.stpetersfdl.net to read the bulletin & announcements, check the calendar, listen to sermons, watch church services, find out what's happening in our school and look up our called workers' contact information.

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Last Week's Stewardship

Worship: 130 + 66 + 118 = 314

| First Fruits to the Lord 2020: | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Thank offerings in support of the unified budget Other receipts in support of the unified budget Total receipts in support of the unified budget Requirement to support proposed unified budget Overage (Shortfall) | \$23,372.48 2,375.00 25,747.48 31,127.02 (5,379.54) | \$1,075,661.37 1,213,953.78 (138,292.41) |
| Improvement Fund WLA Forward in Trust Honoring the Lord! Ministerial Education TA WLA Tuition Assistance | 118.00 15.00 290.00 57.00 394.00 | |

Daily Bible Readings

| 10/04 | 1 Kings 12:33-13:34 | 10/08 1 | Kings 17, 18 |
|-------|---------------------|---------|--------------|
| 10/05 | 1 Kings 14 | 10/09 1 | Kings 19 |
| 10/06 | 1 Kings 15:1-16:7 | 10/10 1 | Kings 20 |
| 10/07 | 1 Kings 16:8-34 | | |