

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
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WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE May the message of the Risen Savior give you comfort and confidence throughout this life until we enjoy that life which is really life in heaven.

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 Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or our sister Evangelical Lutheran Synod, please speak with one of the pastors before communing with us. Thank you.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP For the joy your advent gave me, for your gospel's great reward, for your baptism which has saved me, for your supper and your Word; for your death, the bitter scorn, for your resurrection morn: Lord, I thank you and extol you, and in heaven I shall behold you. Alleluia! Amen.

SERVICE THEME Sight Marches Victorious Over Blindness

ORDER OF WORSHIP *Setting One* | 154, 156-160, 161-170

HYMNS OF THE DAY 448, 512, 667, 446, 470

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 9:1-22

To get his attention, Jesus struck Saul blind. Then he not only restored Saul's physical sight but also gave Saul spiritual sight. Saul was given faith in the One who had risen from the dead.

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he might bring them to Jerusalem as prisoners. ³As he went on his way and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" He replied, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you need to do." ⁷The men traveling with him stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone. ⁸They raised Saul up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he could not see anything. They took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he could not see, and he did not eat or drink.

¹⁰There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias!" He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord told him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. In fact, at this very moment he is praying. ¹²In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he can regain his sight." ¹³Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many people about this man and how much harm he did to your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

¹⁵The Lord said to him, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. ¹⁶Indeed, I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." ¹⁷Ananias left and entered the house. Laying his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, whom you saw on your way here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. ¹⁹And after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. ²⁰Immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” ²¹All who heard him were amazed and said, “Isn’t this the one who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? Didn’t he come here for this very purpose: to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²²But Saul continued to get stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 5:11-14

While in exile on the island of Patmos, St. John was given special sight, the ability to see the sacrificial Lamb who is worthy of our worship and praise.

And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders. Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. ¹²With a loud voice they were saying:

All: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

¹³I also heard every creature that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

All: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever.

¹⁴The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders bowed down and worshipped.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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GOSPEL

John 21:1-14

Many of the disciples first met Jesus while fishing near the Sea of Galilee. At the time they were spiritually blind, not fully realizing who Jesus was. The resurrected Jesus now appears again to these disciples while they are fishing, and this 3rd time they see him clearly through eyes of faith.

After this, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how he showed himself: ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I’m going fishing.” They replied, “We’ll go with you.”

They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Early in the morning, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus called to them, “Boys, don’t you have any fish?” “No!” they answered.

⁶He told them, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” So they cast the net out. Then they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish. ⁷The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard, “It is the Lord!” he tied his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about one hundred yards. ⁹When they stepped out on land, they saw some bread and a charcoal fire with fish on it. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you just caught.”

¹¹So Simon Peter climbed aboard and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, 153 of them. Yet even with so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come, eat breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them, and also the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you, O Christ!

“Go Back to Fire, Fish, and Forgiveness”

Pastor Boehringer



ORGANIST

David Koepsell

GREETERS

8:00 ~ Marv & Vicki Mortensen

10:30 ~ Jim Pflum