

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, 8:00 & 10:00 am

Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808

Pastor Luke Boehringer: 579-8150

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**WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE** May the time we spend together in God's Word be a blessing for us all.

*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.*

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
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**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** From eternity, O God, in your Son you did elect me. Therefore, Father, on life's road graciously to heaven direct me; send to me your Holy Spirit that his gifts I may inherit. Amen.

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**SERVICE THEME** Focused Love Finds a Neighbor Rather Than Avoiding One

**ORDER OF WORSHIP** *Setting One* | 154

**OPENING HYMN** *Open, Lovely Doors* | 912

**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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON (Sermon Text)**

Ruth 1:1-19a

*The LORD moves a Moabite woman named Ruth to care for her widowed mother-in-law, even though it meant leaving her people, her country, and her way of life behind.*

During the days of the judges, a famine occurred in the land. So a man left Bethlehem in Judah to stay awhile in the territory of Moab—he, his wife, and his two sons. <sup>2</sup>The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were from the clan of Ephrath from Bethlehem in Judah. They entered the territory of Moab and remained there.

<sup>3</sup>But Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, so she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>They then married Moabite wives. The name of the first was Orpah, and the name of the second was Ruth. They lived there for about ten years. <sup>5</sup>But Naomi's sons, Mahlon and Kilion, also died. So the woman was left without her two children and without her husband.

<sup>6</sup>Then Naomi set out with her daughters-in-law to return from the territory of Moab, because while she was in the territory of Moab, she had heard that the LORD had graciously visited his people by providing them with food. <sup>7</sup>So she left the place where she had been, and her two daughters-in-law left with her. They set out on the road to return to the land of Judah.

<sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back. Both of you return to your mother's house. May the LORD show you kindness as you have shown kindness to the dead and to me. <sup>9</sup>May the LORD grant that each of you finds security in the house of a husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept loudly. <sup>10</sup>But they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup>Then Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters. Why should you go with me? Am I going to give birth to any more sons who could become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters. Go! For I am too old to be married to another husband. Suppose I say, 'I have hope, and I will be married to another husband tonight, and I will even give birth to sons.' <sup>13</sup>Would you wait for them until they grow up? On the basis of that hope would you give up the chance to marry another husband? No, my daughters. It is much more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has reached out against me." <sup>14</sup>They once again wept loudly. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth would not let her go.

<sup>15</sup>Naomi said, "Look, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and to her gods. Go back! Follow your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to abandon you or to turn back from following you. Because wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you make your home, I will make my home. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. <sup>17</sup>Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely and double it if anything but death separates

me from you.”<sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.<sup>19</sup>Then the two of them traveled until they arrived at Bethlehem.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

*To You, O LORD, I Lift My Soul | 25*

*Pastor will sing the verses & the congregation joins in refrains & Gloria Patri.*

**SECOND LESSON**

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

*Christ has freed us for a life of humble service and love.*

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not allow anyone to put the yoke of slavery on you again.<sup>13</sup>After all, brothers, you were called to freedom. Only do not use your freedom as a starting point for your sinful flesh. Rather, serve one another through love.<sup>14</sup>In fact, the whole law is summed up in this one statement: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”<sup>15</sup>But if you keep on biting and devouring one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup>What I am saying is this: Walk by the spirit, and you will not carry out what the sinful flesh desires.<sup>17</sup>For the sinful flesh desires what is contrary to the spirit, and the spirit what is contrary to the sinful flesh. In fact, these two continually oppose one another, so that you do not continue to do these things you want to do.<sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the control of the law.<sup>19</sup>Now the works of the sinful flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, complete lack of restraint,<sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, hatred, discord, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, heresies,<sup>21</sup>envy, murders, drunkenness, orgies, and things similar to these. I warn you, just as I also warned you before, that those who continue to do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.<sup>24</sup>Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful flesh with its passions and desires.<sup>25</sup>If we live by the spirit, let us also walk in step with it.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL**

Luke 10:25-37

*In a well-known parable, Jesus teaches us how one loves their neighbor.*

Just then, an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”<sup>26</sup>“What is written in the law?” he asked him. “What do

you read there?”<sup>27</sup>He replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and, love your neighbor as yourself.”

<sup>28</sup>He said to him, “You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live.”<sup>29</sup>But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”<sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He fell among robbers who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.<sup>31</sup>It just so happened that a priest was going down that way. But when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.<sup>32</sup>In the same way, a Levite also happened to go there, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.<sup>33</sup>A Samaritan, as he traveled, came to where the man was. When he saw him, he felt sorry for the man.<sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He put him on his own animal, took him to an inn, and took care of him.<sup>35</sup>The next day, when he left, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him. Whatever extra you spend, I will repay you when I return.’<sup>36</sup>Which of these three do you think acted like a neighbor to the man who fell among robbers?”<sup>37</sup>“The one who showed mercy to him,” he replied. Then Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Son of God, Eternal Savior | 729*

**“God’s Love Allows You to Display Love”**

*Pastor Zuberbier*

1. He has bound you together with others.
2. You are bound by love to serve others.

**PRESENTING OF OUR OFFERING**

**HYMN**

*Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service | 766*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Beautiful Savior | 522*

**ORGANIST:** David Koepsell

**GREETERS:** 8:00 ~ Chris, Courtney, Brayden, Sophia, & Aubrey Stolper  
10:00 ~ Bruce, Else, & David Cuppan