

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation**

*Building on the Rock of Jesus and His Word*

1600 South Main Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

stpetersfdl.net ~ 920-922-1160

Maundy Thursday: 3:30 & 6:30 pm; Good Friday: 3:30 & 6:30 pm;

Easter Sunday: 6:00, 8:30, 10:00 am

Regular Services: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 am

Member Congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Pastor Luke Boehringer

920-579-8150 (cell) or 922-1160 ext. 304

St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Benjamin J. Raddatz, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302

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

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*Christ bless us all as we gather with our fellow guests in His house!*

- Tune into KFIZ FM 100.7 each Sunday at 8 am to hear the current sermon.
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- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. Please fill out a Visitor Card and hand it to an usher. Feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastor, 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 pastor 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 under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this Sacrament the Holy Spirit gives us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Holy Scripture also teaches us that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on 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 pastor before communing with us. Thank you.

**SERVICE THEME**

Our Greatest Need: Blessed Communion

+ We often think of the word communion as a synonym for the Lord's Supper. "I took communion" means "I received the Lord's Supper." Yet, the Latin word *communio* means "community" or "association" or "sharing." (In the creed, we speak of "the communion of saints.") When people come together and share their lives with one another, the result is blessing—a blessed communion. And when God comes to us and shares himself with us, the result is eternal life.

*But is that really possible? How can a holy God associate with people who sin every day? In a miraculous meal, God lets us share in his own flesh and blood, the very blood that was shed to atone for our sin. We celebrate this feast for the forgiveness of sins and restored unity with our Father—a blessed communion with God. But there's more! As we share this meal together, the Lord who loved us unites us in love for one another—a blessed communion with our fellow saints in Christ.*

*Community is often celebrated with food. When people love one another, they enjoy gathering around the dinner table. On this Holy Thursday, Jesus invites us to his table. He serves us Supper. He serves us himself. And in doing so, Jesus creates a blessed communion.*

+ There is no blessing at the end of the service, since these three holy days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are part of one long service of prayer and meditation at church and in our homes.

+ Join us tomorrow for our Good Friday services, 3:30 and 6:30 pm.

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OPENING HYMN     *When You Woke That Thursday Morning* | **416 stanzas 1-4**

SERMON     *"He Serves Us Himself"*

### ENCOURAGEMENT IN THE MEANS OF GRACE

Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness from our pastor as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

### OUR SIN IS WASHED AWAY

As we celebrate our Lord's passion with solemn joy, let us confess our sins to him, receive his absolution, and be reconciled to God and each other in Christian love.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.  
I have not loved you with my whole heart;  
I have not loved others as I should.  
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.  
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.  
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called and ordained 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.  
**Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

**Brothers and sisters,  
may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,  
in our words,  
and in our actions.**

**HYMN** *When You Woke That Thursday Morning* | **416 stanza 5**

**SCRIPTURE** Exodus 24:1-11

*The fathers of Israel ate and drank in the presence of the Lord himself. They were not harmed because they trusted in the blood of God's promised sacrifice.*

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, along with Nadab and Abihu and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship me from a distance. Only Moses is allowed to come near the Lord, but the others are not to come near, and the people are not to go up with him." Moses came and reported to the people all the words of the Lord and all the ordinances. Then all the people answered with one voice and said,

**"All the words which the Lord has spoken we will do."**

Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He got up early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain. He set up twelve memorial stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. He sent young Israelite men, who offered whole burnt offerings and sacrificed fellowship offerings of cattle to the Lord. Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and he splashed half of the blood on the altar. He took the Book of the Covenant and read it out loud to the people and they said,

**"All that the Lord has spoken we will do. We will obey."**

Moses took the blood and splashed it on the people. He said, "Look, here is the blood of the covenant, which the Lord made with you by means of all these words." Then Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up. They saw the God of Israel. Under his feet they saw what looked like a pavement of sapphire as clear as the sky. The Lord did not lay his hand on the dignitaries of the people of Israel. They gazed at God, and they ate and drank.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

**SCRIPTURE** 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

*St. Paul proclaims that this Supper of our Lord himself is only for his repentant people.*

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the meal, he also took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the Lord's body and blood. Instead, let a person examine himself and after doing so, let him eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

**HYMN** *Lamb of God* | **403**

**SCRIPTURE** John 13:1-15

*St. Paul proclaims that this Supper of our Lord himself is only for his repentant people.*

Before the Passover Festival, Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved those who were his own in the world, he loved them to the end. By the time the supper took place, the Devil had already put the idea into the heart of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God. He got up from the supper and laid aside his outer garment. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who asked him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "You do not understand what I am doing now, but later you will understand." Peter told him, "You will never, ever, wash my feet!" Jesus replied, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with me."

“Lord, not just my feet,” Simon Peter replied, “but also my hands and my head!” Jesus told him, “A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet, but his body is completely clean. And you are clean, but not all of you.” Indeed, he knew who was going to betray him. That is why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

After Jesus had washed their feet and put on his outer garment, he reclined at the table again. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me Teacher and Lord. You are right, because I am. Now if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. Yes, I have given you an example so that you also would do just as I have done for you

... A new commandment I give you: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior* | **659 stanzas 1-3 & 5-6**

### **THE OFFERING**

### **THE LITANY**

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,  
**have mercy on us.**

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
**have mercy on us.**

O God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,  
**have mercy on us.**

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God,  
**have mercy on us.**

Spare us, good Lord; spare your people, whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.

**Amen.**

Spare us, good Lord, from all spiritual blindness; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all lack of charity.

**Amen.**

Spare us, good Lord, from all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart and contempt for your Word and your will.

**Amen.**

Spare us, good Lord, from earthquake; from drought, fire, and flood; from civil strife and violence; from war and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared.

**Amen.**

Lord, have mercy on us.

**Christ, have mercy on us.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you, and you have promised through your beloved Son that when we are gathered together in his name, you will be with them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth and in the ages to come, life everlasting.

**Amen.**

### **THE SACRAMENT**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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 brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

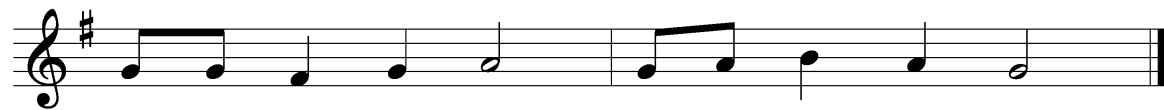
### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



1 Round God's throne on high      blaz-ing an-gels cry,      sing-ing,  
 2 Blest be Da-vid's Son!      In God's name he comes,      grace and



"Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, Lord, we praise you for your glo-ry,  
 par-don to pro-vide us. Sing, "Ho-san-na in the high-est!"



shin-ing bright-ly forth,      fill-ing heav'n and earth."  
 Je-sus, hear our plea:      come and set us free!

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**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, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### LAMB OF GOD



1 Lamb of God, our Sav-ior,      Christ, who takes a-way  
 2 Je-sus, in your mer-cy,      make us pure with-in;  
 3 Let your end-less mer-cy      ev-er-more in-crease;



all the world's trans-gres-sions,      lis-ten as we pray:  
 cleanse us by your per-fect      sac-ri-fice for sin.  
 com-fort us with par-don,      calm us with your peace.

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### THE DISTRIBUTION

#### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord | 677*  
*Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face | 660*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. 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.  
**Amen.**

**HYMN**

*O Lord, We Praise You | 673 stanza 2*

**PSALM 88**

O Lord, the God who saves me, by day I cry out. At night I cry before you.  
May my prayer come before you. Turn your ear to my cry.  
Indeed, my soul has had its fill of troubles, and my life has arrived at the grave.  
I am treated like those who go down to the pit.  
I am like someone without strength. I am turned loose with the dead.  
I am like the slain who lie in the grave, like the ones you do not remember anymore,  
like those who are cut off from your hand.  
You have put me in the lowest pit, in dark places, in the depths.  
Your wrath presses against me.

You have battered me with all your breakers. You have distanced my acquaintances  
from me. You have made me repulsive to them. I am shut in and I cannot get out.  
My eyesight grows dim from affliction.  
I call to you, O Lord, every day. I spread out my hands to you.  
Is it for the dead that you do a miracle?

Do the spirits of the dead rise up and praise you? Is your mercy declared in the tomb,  
your faithfulness in decay? Is your wonderful work known in the darkness?  
Is your righteousness known in the land of forgetfulness?  
But I cry to you, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before you.

Why, O Lord, do you reject my soul? Why do you hide your face from me?  
I have been afflicted and I have been close to death since my youth.  
I have endured your terrors. I am in despair. Your rage has swept over me.  
Your terrors have destroyed me. All day long they surround me like water.  
They have battered me completely.  
You have distanced my loved one and friend from me.  
My only friend is darkness.

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- + *After reading Psalm 88, Pastor exits the chancel in silence.*
  - + *The congregation may remain for prayer before dispersing quietly.*

**Presiding** Rev. Luke Boehringer  
**Organist** Mr. David Koepsell



*The special Maundy Thursday bulletin covers are given to the glory of God by  
Ken & Jo Wendorff in memory of their daughter Laurie, with Praise to Jesus.*