FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 2, 2023

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

1600 South Main Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin stpetersfdl.net ~ 920-922-1160
Summer Service Schedule: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 9:00 am Member Congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

We welcome Mr. Malachi Mortensen as our guest preacher! He has completed his second year of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Starting later this summer, he will be spending one year as a vicar, a pastor-in-training learning under a veteran pastor in the parish, in Omaha, Nebraska.

Pastor Luke Boehringer 920-579-8150 (cell) *or* 922-1160 ext. 304 St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Courtney Meyer, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302 Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE May Christ's Holy Spirit lead us to take our stand on the Truth of the Bible.

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 the pastor.

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 or FM 100.7 Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
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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 please speak with the pastor before communing with us. Thank you.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word; curb those who by deceit or sword would seek to overthrow your Son and to destroy what he has

done. Lord Jesus Christ, your power make known, for you are Lord of lords alone; defend your Christendom that we may sing your praise eternally. Amen.

SERVICE THEME

The Christian Loves God Above All

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Setting Two | 172-187

OPENING HYMN

Before You, Lord, We Bow | 775

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. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 42:14-21

God promises to lead the blind to safety and turn their darkness to light.

I have been silent for a long time. I have kept still. I have restrained myself. But now, like a woman giving birth, I will scream. I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will dry up mountains and hills. I will make all their grass wither. I will turn rivers into islands. I will dry up pools. ¹⁶I will lead the blind on a way they do not know. Along paths they do not know I will direct them. Ahead of them I will turn darkness into light and rough places into level ground. These are the things I will accomplish for them. I will not abandon them. ¹⁷They will be turned back and completely disgraced—those who trust in an idol, those who say to molten images, "You are our gods." ¹⁸You deaf ones, listen! You blind ones, watch carefully so that you can see! ¹⁹Who is as blind as my servant? Who is as deaf as my messenger whom I sent? Who is as blind as my associate, as blind as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰You, Israel, see many things, but you do not observe. Israel opens his ears, but he does not hear. ²¹Because of his own righteousness, the LORD was pleased to make his law great and glorious.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON (Sermon Text)

Ephesians 5:8-14

Those who have seen the light of Christ strive to leave deeds of darkness behind.

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. ¹⁰Try

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to learn what is pleasing to the Lord, ¹¹and do not participate in fruitless deeds of darkness. Instead, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention the things that are done by people in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes things visible. ¹⁴Therefore it is said, "Awake, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Your words are my joy and my heart's delight. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

Jesus miraculously enables a man born blind to see the Christ both physically and spiritually.

As Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that God's works might be revealed in connection with him. ⁴I must do the works of him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the World." ⁶After saying this, Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and spread the mud on the man's eyes. ⁷"Go," Jesus told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. ...

¹³They brought this man who had been blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees also asked him how he received his sight. The man told them, "He put mud on my eyes. I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Then some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath." Others were saying, "How can a sinful man work such miraculous signs?" There was division among them, ¹⁷so they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about him, because he opened your eyes?" The man replied, "He is a prophet." ...

³⁴They answered him, "You were entirely born in sinfulness! Yet you presume to teach us?" And they threw him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out. When he found him, he asked, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"

³⁶The man replied, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"

³⁷Jesus answered, "You have seen him, and he is the very one who is speaking with you." ³⁸Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" and he knelt down and worshipped him.

³⁹Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, in order that those who do not see will see, and those who do see will become blind."

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness | 517

"Shine as Children of the Light"

Seminarian Malachi Mortensen

NICENE CREED & PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

pages 180-182

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT

pages 183-187

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Come unto Me, Ye Weary | **706** I Come. O Savior. to Your Table | **670**

THANKSGIVING & BLESSING

page **187**

CLOSING HYMN

God Bless Our Native Land | 774



ORGANIST Erin Achey

GREETERS

9:00 ~ Joe & Nancy Birkholz