

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

1600 South Main Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin
 stpetersfdl.net ~ 920-922-1160

Services: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 9:00 am

Member Congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

We welcome Rev. Jeff Berg as our guest preacher!

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 the Spirit-filled Word of God comfort and strengthen you today and always.

Thank you for joining us as we gather to be fed by Jesus! 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 100.7 FM Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
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A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Speak, O Savior; I am listening, as a servant to his lord. Let me show respect and honor to your holy, precious Word, that each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you. Let your Word ever be my pleasure and my heart's most precious treasure. Amen.

SERVICE THEME *The Christian Lives as Wheat Among Weeds*

OPENING HYMN *Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray* | 873

ORDER OF WORSHIP *Service of Word & Prayer* | 266-267

SONG OF PRAISE *Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise* | 948

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 44:6-11

Like wheat among weeds, Christians live surrounded by evil in this world. But God promises that the presence of evil in this world does not mean that God doesn't care for us.

This is what the LORD, the King of Israel, Israel's Redeemer, the LORD of Armies, says.

I am the first, and I am the last. Except for me, there is no god.

⁷For who is like me? Let him declare it.

Let him recite in order for me the things that took place since the time I established an ancient people.

Or let them declare what is yet to come, and what is going to take place.

⁸Do not tremble, and do not be frightened.

Did I not announce this to you, and declare it already long ago?

You are my witnesses. Is there any god except me?

There is no other Rock. I am not aware of any other.

⁹All those who form an idol are good for nothing.

All the things which delight them provide no benefit.

As for their witnesses—they do not see.

They know nothing, so they will be ashamed.

¹⁰Who is this who forms a god or casts a metal image that can provide no profit?

¹¹Look at him! All his associates will be ashamed. The craftsmen are merely men. Let them all gather themselves and take a stand. They will be terrified and ashamed together.

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

PSALM OF THE DAY*The Heavens Declare the Glory of God* | 19**SECOND LESSON (Sermon Text)**

Romans 1:18-25

Jesus' parable about the wheat and weeds could give the impression that God is ambivalent about evil. But God's wrath is real and will be fully revealed at the harvest.

Indeed, God's wrath is being revealed from heaven against all the ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who try to suppress the truth by unrighteousness. ¹⁹This happens because what can be known about God is evident among them, because God made it evident among them. ²⁰In fact, his invisible characteristics—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, because they are understood from the things he made. As a result, people are without excuse,

²¹because, even though they knew God, they did not honor him or give him thanks as God. Instead, their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless heart was darkened.

²²Although they claim to be wise, they have become fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human, or like birds, four-footed animals, and crawling things. ²⁴So, as they followed the sinful desires of their hearts, God handed them over to the impurity of degrading their own bodies among themselves. ²⁵Such people have traded the truth about God for the lie, worshipping and serving the creation rather than the Creator, who is worthy of praise forever. Amen.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Lord has a plan to separate wheat and weeds. Christians will be perfectly separated from every evil at the final harvest.

²⁴He presented another parable to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. ²⁷The servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy did this.’ The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?’ ²⁹‘No,’ he answered, ‘because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

³⁶Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷He answered them, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. ³⁹The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the world. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law. ⁴²The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, You Thankful People, Come | 491

“Rejection of God Is Unwise and Deadly”

Pastor Jeff Berg

1. If one forsakes the revealed righteous wisdom of God
2. When one chooses to worship created things rather than the Creator

APOSTLES’ CREED

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GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

PRAYERS & BLESSING

pages 268-269

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with you in perfect joy hereafter; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

From All That Dwell below the Skies | 605



ORGANIST

Pam Zuberbier

GREETERS

9:00 ~ Judine Schicker