



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Building on the Rock of Jesus and His Word

1600 S. Main St. Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

stpetersfdl.net ~ 920-922-1160

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

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Pastor Peter Lindemann 920-342-6924 (cell) or 922-1160 ext. 305

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 Lord bless us as we continue to enjoy the security of resting safely in our Good Shepherd's fold.

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.

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 one of our pastors before communing** with us.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Christ, ever be our guide, our shepherd and our pride, our staff and song. Jesus, O Christ of God, by your enduring Word lead us where you have trod; make our faith strong. So now and till we die sound we your praises high and joyful sing; infants and all the throng who to your Church belong unite to swell the song to Christ, our King. Amen.

SERVICE THEME

Followers of Christ: Are Armed for the Battle

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Setting Two | 172-187

PRAYER OF THE DAY Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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

1 Kings 18:21-39

In a showdown between Elijah and the prophets of the idol Baal, the LORD makes it clear that all the combined forces of hell are nothing compared to the almighty power of God.

Then Elijah said to all the people, “How long will you stagger around on two crutches? If the LORD is God, follow him. If Baal is God, follow him.” But the people did not answer him a single word.

²²Then Elijah said to the people, “I am the only one left of the LORD’s prophets, but the prophets of Baal total four hundred fifty men. ²³Provide two bulls for us. Let them choose one bull for themselves and cut it up and place it on the firewood, but they are not to light the fire. I will prepare the other bull and place it on the firewood, but I will not light the fire. ²⁴Then you will call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers with fire, he is God.”

All the people said, “This proposal is good.”

²⁵Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose for yourselves one bull, and you go first because there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god. But do not light the fire.”

²⁶So they took the bull which had been given to them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, “Baal! Answer us!” But there was not a sound. No one answered. So they staggered around the altar which they had made. ²⁷When noon came, Elijah mocked them: “Shout louder! He is a god, isn’t he? He may be deep in thought or busy or on a journey. Perhaps he is asleep and will wake up!” ²⁸So they cried out with a loud voice, and according to their practice they cut themselves with daggers and spears until their blood flowed. ²⁹After noon, they kept

up a prophetic frenzy until the time of the evening sacrifice, but there was no sound. No one answered. There was no response.

³⁰Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here to me.” So they came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. ³¹Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come and had proclaimed, “Your name shall be Israel.” ³²He built the stones into an altar in the name of the LORD. Around it he made a trench big enough to hold about twenty-five pounds of seed. ³³He arranged the wood, cut up the bull, and placed it on the wood.

Then he said, “Fill four jars with water and pour it on the sacrifice and on the wood.” ³⁴Then he said, “Do it again.” So they did it again. Then he said, “Do it a third time.” So they did it a third time. ³⁵The water flowed all around the altar. It even filled the trench.

³⁶When the time of the evening sacrifice had arrived, Elijah the prophet stood up and said, “O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and that I have done all these things by your word. ³⁷Answer me, LORD! Answer me so that this people will know that you, O LORD, are God and that you are turning their hearts back to you.”

³⁸Fire from the LORD fell on the sacrifice and on the wood, the stones, and the dirt. It even licked up the water in the trench. ³⁹When all the people saw this, they fell on their knees and said, “The LORD, he is God! The LORD, he is God!”

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

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 6:10-18

So that they might be ready for the battle, followers of Christ put on the full armor of God.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can stand against the schemes of the Devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³For this reason, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to take a stand on the evil day and, after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand, then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness fastened in place, ¹⁵and with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace tied to your feet like sandals. ¹⁶At all times hold up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to

extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One. ¹⁷Also take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸At every opportunity, pray in the Spirit with every kind of prayer and petition. Stay alert for the same reason, always persevering in your intercession for all the saints.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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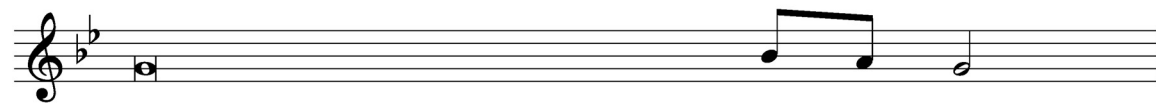


Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;

Refrain



deliver me in your right - eous - ness.

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GOSPEL

Mark 9:14-27

As we fight spiritual battles, Jesus assures us that “Everything is possible for the one who believes,” that is, the one who relies of Christ, who has already won the war.

¹⁴When they returned to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some experts in the law were arguing with them. ¹⁵As soon as all the people in the crowd saw Jesus, they were very excited and ran to greet him. ¹⁶He asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” ¹⁷One man from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who has a spirit that makes him unable to

speak. ¹⁸Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.”

¹⁹“O unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied. “How long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me.”

²⁰They brought the boy to Jesus. As soon as the spirit saw him, it threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

²¹Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has this been happening to him?”

“From childhood,” he said. ²²“It has often thrown him into the fire and into the water to kill him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

²³“If you can?” Jesus said to him. “All things are possible for the one who believes.”

²⁴The child’s father immediately cried out and said with tears, “I do believe. Help me with my unbelief!”

²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was quickly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit. “You mute and deaf spirit,” he said, “I command you to come out of him and never enter him again!”

²⁶The spirit screamed, shook the boy violently, and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many of them said, “He’s dead!” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand, raised him up, and he stood up.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Church, Arise | 870

Sermon Text: 1 Kings 18:21-39

“The Showdown”

Pastor Lindemann

NICENE CREED & PRAYER

pages 180-182

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT

pages 183-187

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness | 517

Onward, Christian Soldier | 869

THANKSGIVING & BLESSING

page 187

CLOSING HYMN

Fight the Good Fight | 876



ORGANIST

Erin Achey

GREETER

8:00 ~ Mike Dowland

10:30 ~ Joan & Tom Mrazek