



Pentecost 19 C

Sunday, October 16, 2022

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

We extend in the name of Christ, a welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. May you find here an experience of true Christian worship and fellowship. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to consider joining Peace.

MISSION STATEMENT

As servants of Jesus Christ, we share God's grace and mercy. We welcome and encourage all to grow with us in God's kingdom through praise, worship, and service.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high.
 2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
 3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.


Music: MUNICH, *Neuermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

GREETING

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

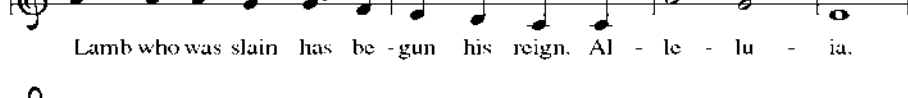
Refrain



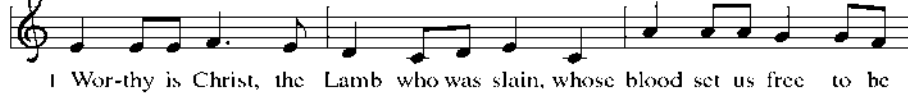
This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the




Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



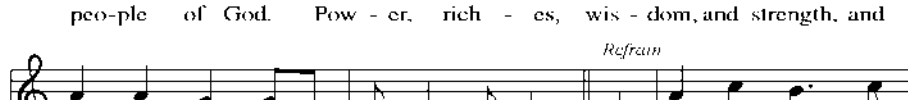
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



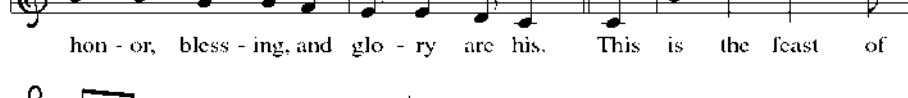
peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



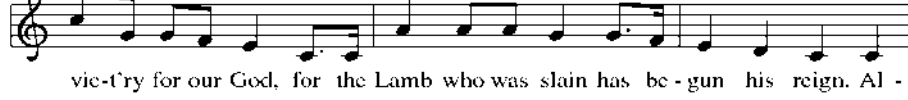
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain* This is the feast of




vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

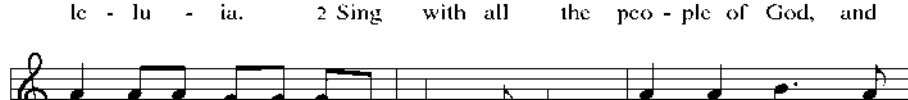


join in the hymn of all ere - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING

Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birth-right and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

²²The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

P. Word of God. Word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121 *Read responsively*

- ¹I lift up my eyes ¹ to the hills;
from where is my ¹ help to come?
- ²**My help comes ¹ from the LORD,
the maker of heav- ¹ en and earth.**
- ³The LORD will not let your ¹ foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you ¹ fall asleep.
- ⁴**Behold, the keep- ¹ er of Israel
will neither slum- ¹ ber nor sleep;**
- ⁵the LORD watches ¹ over you;
the LORD is your shade at ¹ your right hand;
- ⁶**the sun will not strike ¹ you by day,
nor the ¹ moon by night.**
- ⁷The LORD will preserve you ¹ from all evil
and will ¹ keep your life.
- ⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your ¹ coming in,
from this time forth for- ¹ evermore.**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

P. Word of God. Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW P. 188



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 18:1-8

P. The holy gospel according to Luke the 18th chapter.

C. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.

²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself,

‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone,⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’”⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says.⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mary E. Zupansic

REFLECTION: FOR THOSE AT HOME

The unjust judge in Jesus’ parable admits that he eventually decides to grant the persistent widow justice because she has worn him out by continually “bothering” him (Luke 18:5). And this is the character to whom Jesus compares God? Is Jesus trying to tell us that God feels worn out and bothered by our prayers? That’s not a very comforting notion.

Of course, that interpretation misses the very first line of this passage, in which Jesus specifically says the parable is meant to underscore the importance of prayer. The widow’s diligence is set as a spiritual example. She is confident in her case. She knows she deserves justice, and she will not stop until she is heard. What would it look like if we prayed with the kind of conviction this woman displays? We would know that our prayers matter, that they can make a real difference in our lives. Like the widow, we too would believe that justice can and will become reality.

Actually, we do pray this way every time we say the Lord’s Prayer. When we call out to God, “Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven,” we are praying like the persistent widow in Jesus’ parable. We can be certain God hears that prayer and shares that dream for humanity. It is not prayer that wearies God, but human sinfulness and injustice.

God is nothing like the unjust judge because God’s vision for our world is one that centers on generosity, compassion, and care for the vulnerable. The unjust judge may need to be hassled repeatedly before he will relent, but God is already overflowing with abundant mercy, even before our prayers are spoken. So, let us take heart and pray always, with our words and with our actions, as we join God’s mission for a more just world.



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For all the baptized, that they become skilled in compassion and grace and equipped to share the good news with all. Grant your followers persistence in proclamation and prayer. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For air and sky, clouds and sun, that they provide rain to parched land and relief to flooded ground. Renew and restore our polluted atmosphere and empower us to be worthy stewards of creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For judges, juries, and all who work in the judicial system, that they desire wisdom, seek truth, rule with fairness, and have the courage to do what is right. Eliminate oppression and injustice in our criminal justice system. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For all who are lonely, especially those who have newly arrived in an unfamiliar city or country, political prisoners without recourse to justice, hospital patients without visitors, and any who are ill or grief-stricken. We pray especially for those on our prayer list. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those in our congregation and community engaged in advocacy work, that with the persistence of the widow, they lift their voices in seeking justice on behalf of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For those who have taught us faith and now rest in your heavenly peace, that we remember and give thanks for these saints who shared the gospel through word and deed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF PEACE

P. The peace of Christ be with you always.

C. **And also with you.**

+ THE MEAL +

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Peace Lutheran Church. We gladly accept your offerings via US Postal Service, Tithe.ly, or direct deposit from you bank.

OFFERING HYMN

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

ELW #686 vv. 1,2,4



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing,
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: HEATH L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

C. **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW P. 190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
C. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

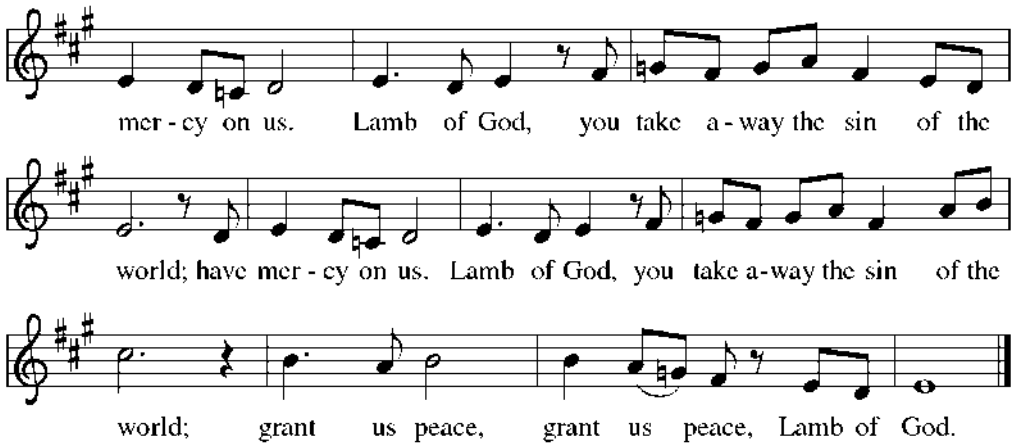
**P. Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.
C. Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD

ELW P. 191



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN(S) **CONTEMPORARY**
DAY BY DAY

ELW #790

TABLE BLESSING

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Let us pray. God of the abundant table,

C. you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C. Amen.





1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

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ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, martyr, died around 115

Monday, October 17, 2022

Ignatius was the second bishop of Antioch in Syria, the city where the name "Christians" originated. Ignatius is known to us from his letters, which encouraged Christians to live in love, yet stand firm in true doctrine.

Luke, Evangelist

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Judy Bar Hoover, Harriett Barttell, Pete Ellertsen, Larry Weyhrich

If you would like to be added to the prayer list, or know someone who would like to be added to our list, please fill out a Prayer Request Card, send an email to peace.lutheran@comcast.net OR call the Office at (217)546-7646. Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise notified. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.

ZOOM MEETINGS / IN-PERSON EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

Little Lambs—10:30am

Cross/Generational Event—10:40am

Sundays @ 6 Adult Faith Formation—on Zoom

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

Little Lambs & Young Disciples—Take Home Pack

Sundays @ 6 Adult Faith Formation—on Zoom

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 16

Assisting Minister: Doug McFarlan

Presiding & Preaching: Pastor Mary

Ushers: Elaine Urekar & Henry Harms

Musician: Brenda Peck

PowerPoint: Linda Rice

Fellowship: Linda Shudrowitz

Camera: Janet Kocis

Altar Flowers: *To the Glory of God*



October 18—Doug McFarlan
October 19—Bill Spindel



If you would like a visit from Pastor Mary OR have a pastoral emergency, PLEASE contact Pastor on her cell phone @ 920-671-4338. You may also call the church office @217-546-7646 and leave a message.



Dinner Church is an opportunity to gather around both a meal to sustain our bodies and a meal to nourish our souls! There is an opportunity for conversation, Dwelling in God's Word, and sharing in Holy Communion. On November 5th you are invited to bring a picture or some other memorabilia of a loved one who has passed away as we celebrate All Saints and give thanks for those who have gone before us.



**Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."**

1Peter 4:10

October is Stewardship month at Peace Lutheran. In the next week you will receive a letter from the Stewardship Committee / Executive Council inviting you to prayerfully consider how you will respond to God's blessings in 2023. An Estimate of Giving Card is included with the letter. The EGC may be dropped in the collection basket on Sunday mornings or mailed into the church office. We ask that you respond by Sunday, October 30th. Your stewardship response will allow us to build a budget to accomplish our ministry goals for the coming year!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY November 6

**We will
remember
loved ones who
have entered the
Church
Triumphant
in the past year.**



If you would like to have the name of a loved one remembered on All Saints Sunday, please contact the church office 217-546-7646.



Peace Lutheran Church
2800 West Jefferson
Springfield, IL 62702
Phone: 217-546-7646
E-mail: peace.lutheran@comcast.net

SUPPORTING GRACE FOOD PANTRY



**CEREAL, CANS OF SOUP
GREEN BEANS, SPAGHETTI
PEANUT BUTTER, CANNED FRUIT**