

# **Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost** Sunday, November 12, 2023 Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

## WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whether you are joining us in-person or on-line we are blessed to have you worshipping with us today. We pray that our time of worship together further encourages and strengthens our call to discipleship.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

As disciples 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.

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE** — "He Leadeth Me", William Bradbury, Lani Smith, arr., © 1988, Lorenz Publishing Co. Organist — Brenda Peck

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity + one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.** 

Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ∔ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.** 



Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797–1866; tr. composite Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561 Text © 1958, 1978 Augsburg Fortress

#### GREETING

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



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

### + WORD +

#### FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

<sup>18</sup>Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

<sup>19</sup>as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup>I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

<sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God. Word of life. Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM: Psalm 70 READ RESPONSIVELY

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;

O LORD, make haste to help me.

<sup>2</sup>Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

<sup>3</sup>Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

<sup>4</sup>Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"

<sup>5</sup>But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

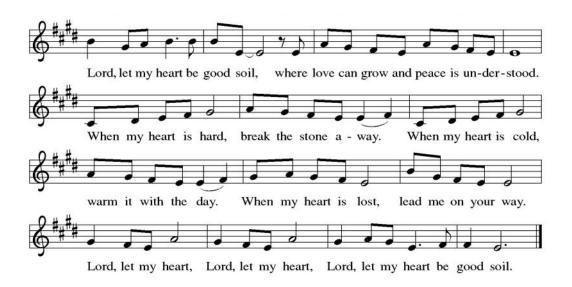
Word of God. Word of life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW #512





Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950 Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

# Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

#### **PASTOR MARY E. ZUPANSIC**

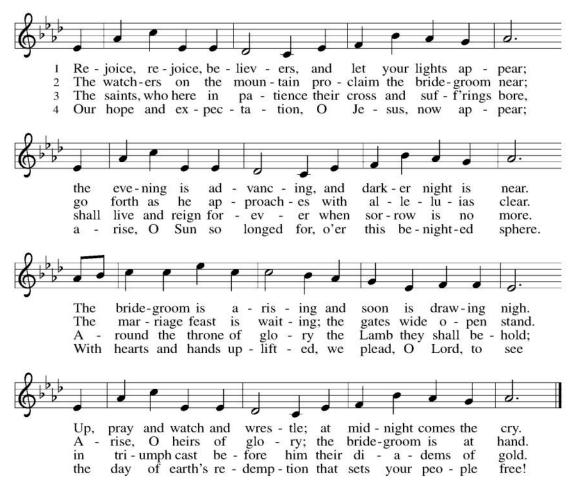
#### MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

SERMON

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

#### **APOSTLE'S 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

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

#### THE SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. 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 your bank.

**OFFERING HYMN** As Saints of Old (vv. 1 and 3) ELW #695 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field 1 A world in need now la - bor, sum-mons love, and give; 2 us to In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust bring our best to day 3 we good, the source of boun-teous yield, to God. the giv - er of all of - fer - ing to that all may to make our life an God, live. share your love with all serve your cause and a - long life's way. to first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land, to - dav SO we The church of Christ is call - ing to make the dream come true: us God, who gave your - self to Je - sus Christ your Son. 0 us in shop and home, of mind and heart and hand. of farm and mar - ket, Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new. world re-deemed by а to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is teach us done.

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt. Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **Amen.** 

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

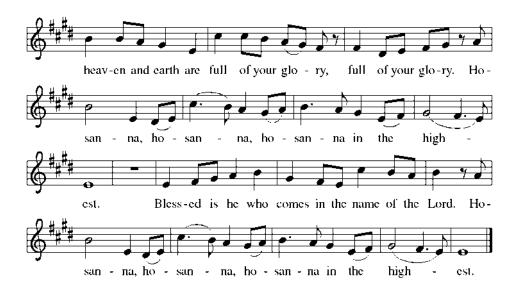
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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







#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **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.

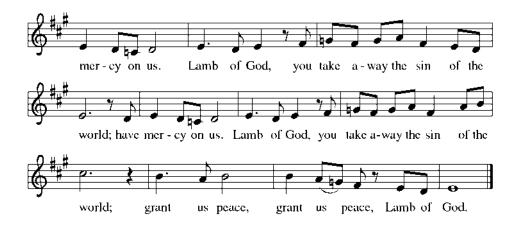
#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

# LAMB OF GOD

ELW P. 191





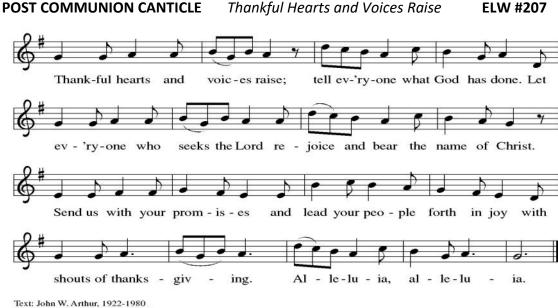
**COMMUNION SONG/HYMNS** Even So Come Blessed Assurance Contemporary ELW #638

ELW #207

#### TABLE BLESSING

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

#### Amen.



Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

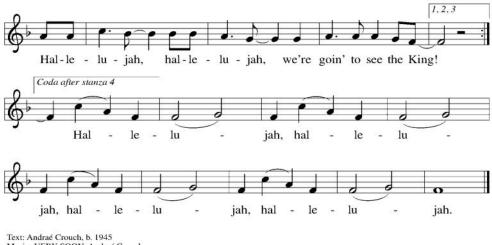
#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.** 

#### BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. Amen.





Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

#### DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

**POSTLUDE** — Grand Chorus" (from Oratorio 'Joshua'), G. F. Handel, Frank Honey, arr.,©1985, Lorenz Publishing Co.Organist — Brenda Peck

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## ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

TODAY THE PROPHET AMOS CALLS FOR JUSTICE TO ROLL DOWN LIKE WATERS. PAUL URGES US TO ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PROMISED COMING OF THE LORD. JESUS TELLS THE PARABLE OF THE WISE AND FOOLISH BRIDESMAIDS. SUR-ROUNDED BY THE FAITHFUL OF EVERY TIME AND PLACE, WE CELEBRATE CHRIST'S COMING IN OUR MIDST IN THE WORD OF LIFE AND THE FEAST OF VICTORY—THE MARRIAGE FEAST OF THE LAMB.

# THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

#### PETE ELLERTSEN, DEBI ELLERTSEN, PAULA TONELLATO, NORM KOEFOED, IVY KOEFOED, HERB KIEL, PASTOR MARY, RON WEBER, GENE WALKER

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. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name.

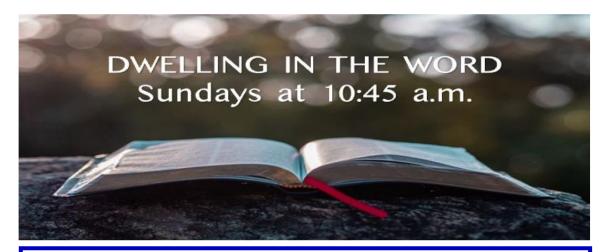
## **ASSISTING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12:**

PRESIDING AND PREACHING: PASTOR MARY E. ZUPANSIC ASSISTING: MICHAEL HORN USHERS: ELAINE UREKAR, LIBBY LETTERLY CAMERA: JANET KOCIS POWERPOINT: LINDA RICE MUSICIAN: BRENDA PECK FELLOWSHIP: LINDA SHUDROWITZ FLOWERS: LINDA SHUDROWITZ — IN APPRECIATION TO ALL VETERANS



## ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12	IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM — 9:30AM
	SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP
	DWELLING IN THE WORD — 10:45AM
	FAITH FORMATION — 10:45AM
	GRACE FOOD PANTRY BENEFIT CONCERT — 2:00PM
	GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
	SUNDAYS@6 — 6:00PM (ZOOM)
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13	QUILTERS — 6:00PM
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15	FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING - 5:30PM (ZOOM)
	CHOIR PRACTICE — 7:00PM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19	THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
	BREADLINE SUNDAY
	IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM — 9:30AM
	DWELLING IN THE WORD — 10:45AM
	FAITH FORMATION — 10:45AM
	WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING - 11:15AM



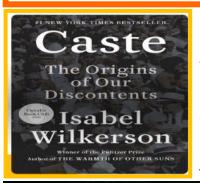
**HELP STOCK OUR MICRO PANTRY:** Items can be dropped off in the micro pantry or in the church office. We could use more personal hygiene products and laundry supplies, as well as food. Thank you to all who donate to this ministry!

# BENEFIT CONCERT

Sunday, November 12, 2023 2:00pm Grace Lutheran Church

This Concert will be comprised of several church choirs, including Peace Lutheran, along with small ensembles from the Land of Lincoln Chorus, the Springfield Choral Society and others to benefit Grace Food Pantry. A free will offering will be taken.





#### SUNDAYS@6

Join us for Sundays@6 as we go through a book study on <u>Caste The Origins of our Discontents</u> by Isabel Wilkerson. Sunday evenings at 6:00pm via Zoom. A link to the meeting is in News You Can Use. Contact Pete or Debi Ellertsen 217-793-2587 for more information. <u>THIS</u> WILL BE THE LAST SUNDAY WE MEET FOR THIS YEAR.

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Order your Poinsettias for Christmas ORDERS DUE BY 11/17 Call the Church Office

### LAST CHANCE!! 10" - \$30.00 8.5" - \$20.00 6" - \$10.00



#### **ALTAR FLOWERS:**

**THANK YOU** to all who have sponsored flowers for our altar in 2023. All 2023 dates are now sponsored. We are now taking sponsors for the **2024** year. Please call the **church office** at 217-546-7646 and sponsor your Sunday now! Cost \$35.00.

We continue to gather food and monetary gifts for our Thanksgiving Food Baskets for 20 Families at Blackhawk Elementary School in partnership with Grace Food Pantry.

November 12 20 boxes of pancake mix (32oz.) 20 cans of beef ravioli





If you would like a visit from **Pastor Mary** or you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor on her **cell phone** at **920.671.4338.** 



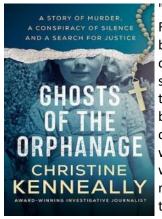
If you would like to provide a gift for a student at Blackhawk Elementary School, the lists of names and sizes/gift ideas for students at Blackhawk will be available at church beginning on Sunday, 11/12. Wrapped gifts with the student's name on the gift will need to be returned to Peace by Sunday, 12/10/23. Please see Elizabeth Mitchell with questions.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS NEW IN THE LIBRARY:

There is a book missing from the library. It is "The Little Ghost Who Was a Quilt" by Riel Nason. It is from the kids section of our library. It is a hardcover picture book that was dedicated to our church quilters. If you have it, can you please return it. Thank you!

### ALSO:

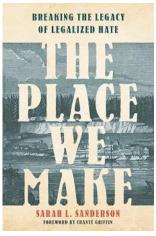
There are two NEW books coming to the Library:



"Ghosts of the Orphanage" by Christine Kenneally. For much of the 20th century a series of terrible events - abuse, both physical and psychological, and even deaths - took place inside orphanages. The survivors have been trying to tell their astonishing stories for a long time, but disbelief, secrecy, and trauma have kept them from breaking through. For 10 years, Christine Kenneally has been on a quest to uncover the harrowing truth. Centering her story on St. Joseph's, a Catholic orphanage in Vermont, Kenneally has written a stunning account of a series of crimes and abuses. But her work is not confined to one place. She finds a trail of terrifying stories and a courageous group of survivors who are seeking justice. (Adult non-fiction 362.73)

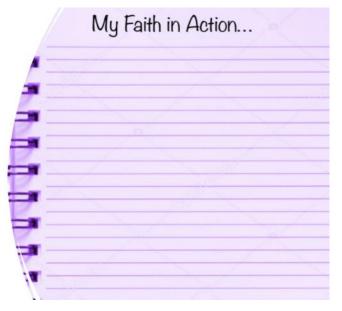
"The Place We Make: Breaking the Legacy of Legalized Hate" by Sarah L. Sanderson.

Summer 1851. Jacob Vanderpool was exiled from the Oregon Territory under an exclusion law that banned people of African descent from living within its borders. To this day he remains the only person in the United States to ever have been tried, convicted, and punished solely for the "crime" of being Black. More than a century and a half later, Sarah L. Sanderson made the shocking discovery that she was related to not just one, but two of the White men who played a role in Jacob's exile. This discovery started an investigative journey to consider four men involved in Jacob's case - Oregon City's founder, the case judge, Jacob's accuser, and a local pastor - and the cultural and theological fallout of the decisions they made. Along the way, Sarah took a hard look at her own tendencies, both unconscious and deliberate, to ignore the possibility of bias in her heart. (Adult non-fiction 305.8)



Join our Young Disciples as they put Their Faith Into Action this year!

Pick up a set of Faith In Action cards in the narthex and share how you put your faith into action in the world. Cards can be returned to the marked box in the narthex and will be added to our display throughout the year!"



#### **Upcoming Commemorations**

#### Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231

#### Friday, November 17, 2023

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.





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REMEMBER TO TAKE A NAME FROM THE BOWL AND BE PRAYING FOR THAT PERSON THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.