



Pentecost 9C

Sunday, August 7, 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 & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.**

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
 3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
 chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
 great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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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.**



Tu - ya es la glo - ria, la hon - ra tam - bién;
 1 Yours, Lord, is the glo - ry, and hon - or as well;
 2 Yours, Lord, the do - min - ions, and pow - er as well;
 3 To you I sur - ren - der, my be - ing, my life;
 4 Glo - ry in the high - est, and on earth as well.



tu - ya pa - ra siem - pre. A - mén, a - mén.
 yours, Lord, now and al - ways.
 yours, Lord, now and al - ways.
 all, Lord, I sur - ren - der. A - men, a - men.
 Glo - ry, al - le - lu - ia.

2 *Tuyos los dominios,
 los tronos también;
 tuyos para siempre.
 Amén, amén.*

3 *A ti yo me rindo,
 te adoro también,
 amo absoluto.
 Amén, amén.*

4 *Gloria en las alturas
 y en la tierra también;
 gloria alehuya.
 Amén, amén.*

Text: Traditional, tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
 Music: TUYA IS LA GLORIA, traditional
 English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that

his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

P. Word of God. Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 33:12-22 *Read responsively*

¹²Happy is the nation whose God ¹ is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to ¹ be God's heritage!

¹³**The LORD looks ¹ down from heaven,
and sees all ¹ humankind.**

¹⁴God sits firmly en- ¹ throned and watches
all who dwell ¹ on the earth.

¹⁵**God fashions ¹ all their hearts
and observes ¹ all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size ¹ of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by ¹ their great strength.

¹⁷**The horse gives vain ¹ hope for victory;
despite its great strength it ¹ cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear ¹ you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your ¹ steadfast love,

¹⁹**to deliver their ¹ lives from death,
and to keep them alive in ¹ time of famine.**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for ¹ you, O LORD,
our helper ¹ and our shield.

²¹**Surely, our heart rejoic- ¹ es in you,**



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 12:32-40

P. The holy gospel according to Luke the 12th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mary E. Zupansic

REFLECTION: FOR THOSE AT HOME

Jesus knows that we worry about a lot of things. Many people who own a lot of possessions live in fear of losing them. Some find that a security system installed with cameras and sensors and smart doorbells can lower their anxiety. But even with internet-of-things technology, these security systems do not stop the risk of theft. We may get a video of someone stealing our stuff, but we still lose the stuff. Anxiety over losing what we have persists and may in fact be ever-present as our cell phones alert us to each passerby at the front door.

Jesus proposes several other security systems that transform our anxiety over losing what we have into a different kind of calm. The first one he offers is probably the least popular: *Sell your possessions and give the money to the poor.* You don't have to worry about your belongings being stolen if you get rid of them. It's a radical option, but an option nonetheless.

Jesus also proposes another kind of security: *Place value in the things that can't be stolen.* When we treasure the mercy and love of God as our most prized possession, we have what no one else can take. We have a security system that does not fail. We have deep and abiding peace. Our fears are calmed.

There is one additional security system to which Jesus invites us: *Have confidence that it is God's good pleasure to give us life with God,* life in a world where everyone has enough and no one worries about losing it, life where we all know we are equally beloved. When this is our treasure, when it is where we place our hearts, we find the peace that is a secure gift.

HYMN OF THE DAY

HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE FLOCK

ELW #764

- 1 Have no fear, little flock;
 have no fear, little flock,
 for the Father has chosen
 to give you the kingdom;
 have no fear, little flock!

- 2 Have good cheer, little flock;
 have good cheer, little flock,
 for the Father will keep you

in his love forever;
have good cheer, little flock!

3 Praise the Lord high above;
praise the Lord high above,
for he stoops down to heal you,
uplift and restore you;
praise the Lord high above!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God;
thankful hearts raise to God,
for he stays close beside you,
in all things works with you;
thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
Text © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

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

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence. Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (*especially*). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

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

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW #184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

A. Let us pray. God of abundance:

C. you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. 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. 207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. 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.

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. In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 208



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN(S)

HOLY IS THE LORD

CONTEMPORARY

LORD JESUS, YOU SHALL BE MY SONG

ELW #808

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. Life-giving God,

C. **through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy.**

Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

BLESSING

P. The God of peace God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

MY LIFE FLOWS ON IN ENDLESS SONG

ELW #763



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife. I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING. Robert Lowry, alt.

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C. Thanks be to God.

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ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), died 1221

Monday, August 8, 2022

Dominic was a Spanish priest who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.

Lawrence, deacon, martyr, died 258

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

As one of the seven deacons of the church at Rome, Lawrence was responsible for the church's financial matters and for the care of the poor. Asked by the emperor to gather the church's treasure, he presented a collection of orphans, lepers, and the like. The enraged emperor had him put to death.

Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, died 1253

Thursday, August 11, 2022

A contemporary of Francis of Assisi, Clare and a growing number of companions established a women's Franciscan community, called the Order of Poor Ladies, or Poor Clares. She inspired other women to pursue spiritual goals.

Florence Nightingale, died 1910; Clara Maass, died 1901; renewers of society

Saturday, August 13, 2022

Nightingale was born in England, and horrified her wealthy family by deciding to become a nurse. She led a group of nurses in ministering in the midst of the Crimean War, and worked for hospital reform. Maass, a native of New Jersey, was also a war nurse, and volunteered as a subject for research on yellow fever. She died of the disease.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Walter Hoyt, Verlene Urekar, Judy Bar Hoover
Elaine Urekar, Jim Harris, Art Longworth, Donna Lane

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, AUGUST 7** In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am
Drive Thru Communion—11:00am—11:30am
Adult Faith Formation “Sundays @ 6”- 6pm Zoom
- MONDAY, AUGUST 8** Quilters in Fellowship Hall—6pm-9pm
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 14** In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 7

Assisting Minister: Amanda Kim
Ushers: Andrea Berryman & Doug McFarlan
Video: Linda Rice
Camera: Janet Kocis
Musician: Brenda Peck
Presiding & Preaching: Pastor Mary Zupansic



PASTORAL CARE

ALTAR FLOWERS

Placed to the Glory of God

*We have plenty of openings for flower sponsorships. Call the church office!

BIRTHDAYS

August 10—Macy Morrison
August 13—Mary Loken , Raymond Stroh

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.

PRAYERS APPRECIATED FOR:

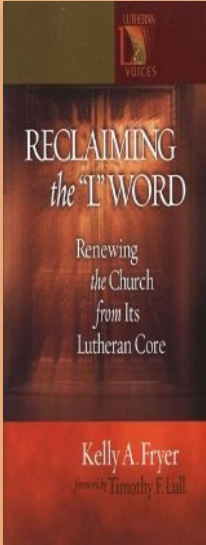
Brenda and Don Peck. Brenda’s mother passed away August 3rd. Eternal rest grant her, O Lord; and may perpetual light shine upon her.



**Funeral Service for
Lois Harris**
Saturday, August 6
 Visitation 10a.m. – 11:15a.m.
 Funeral Service 11:30a.m.

*Eternal rest grant her, O Lord;
and let perpetual light shine upon her.*

**BACK TO
SCHOOL
BLESSING**
 Sunday,
 August 21

Sundays@6
 Adult Faith Formation

*Beginning July 10
6 to 7 p.m. on Zoom*

For details contact
 Debi and Pete Ellersten
Edmund.ellertsen85@gmail.com
 Or 217-793-2587



**GOD'S WORK.
OUR HANDS.**

**We are collecting
non-perishable food
items & personal
hygiene products
throughout August.**

Items for Meal Kits:

- 20 cans canned chicken
- 10 cans canned tuna
- 10 boxes macaroni and cheese
- 20 cans cream of mushroom soup
- 10 cans chili
- 10 1lb boxes spaghetti
- 10 small Containers grated parmesan cheese
- 10 cans cream of chicken soup
- 10 boxes Chicken Helper Tetrazzini mix
- 10 cans chicken a la king
- 10 small pkg Bisquick buttermilk biscuit mix
- 10 cans tamales
- 10 cans refried beans
- 10 packages microwavable Spanish rice

PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS:

- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Bars of Soap
- Toilet Paper
- Boxes of Tampons or Pads
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Medical-grade or N95 face masks

OTHER:

- Small bag or individual cans of pet food



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