

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, May 14, 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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

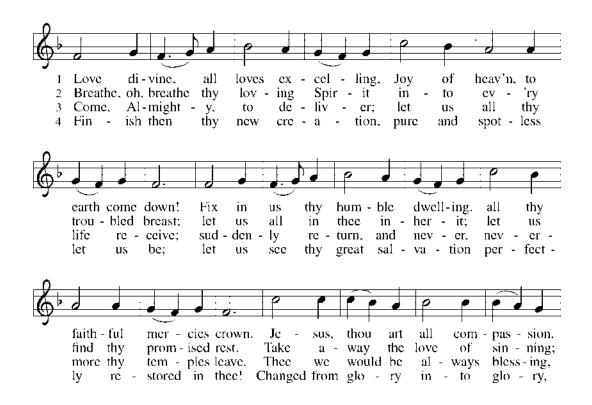
We ask this through Christ,

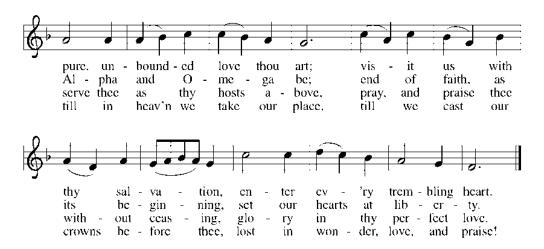
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Love Divine, All Love Excelling (vv. 1, 2 & 4) ELW #631





Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland II, Prichard, 1811-1887

GREETING

Alleluia. Christ is Risen

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.**



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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the

Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING Acts 17:22-31

A reading from Acts.

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in right-eousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20

- ⁸Bless our God, you peoples;
 - let the sound of praise be heard.
 - ⁹Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.
 - ¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.
 - ¹¹You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
 - ¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
 - ¹³I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—
 - ¹⁴those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
 - ¹⁵I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.
 - ¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.
 - ¹⁷I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.
 - ¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;
 - ¹⁹but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.
 - ²⁰Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from 1 Peter.

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimi-

dated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

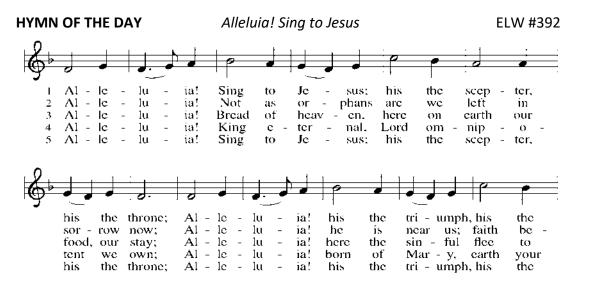
¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

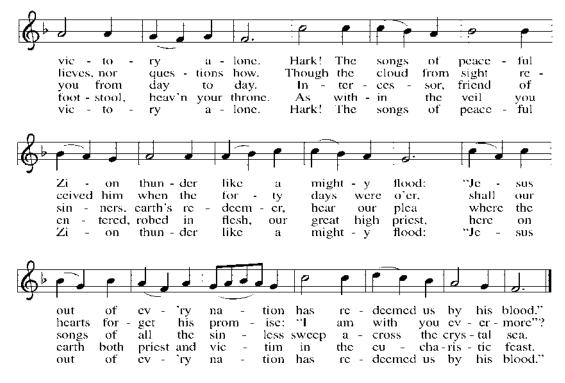
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION





Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Music: HYFRYDOL: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

THE 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

Prayers are offered for the church, the world, and all creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

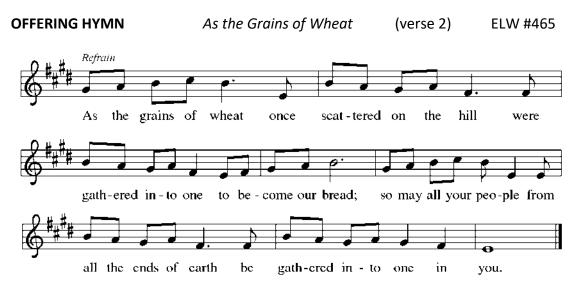
The peace of Christ be with you always.

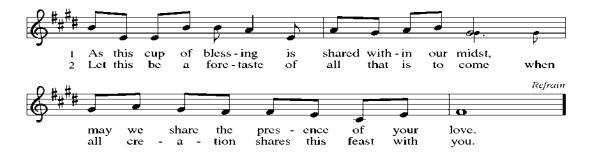
And also with you.

+ 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 you bank.





Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, II. 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved, Used by permission.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self.

We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One.

In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

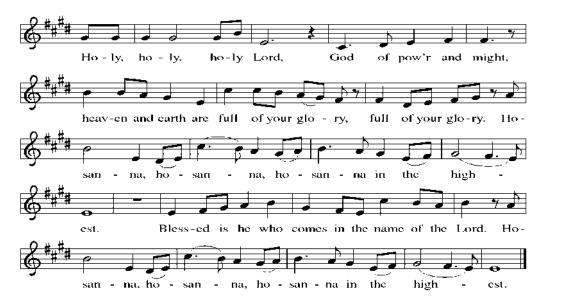
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW P. 190



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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 his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. 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.

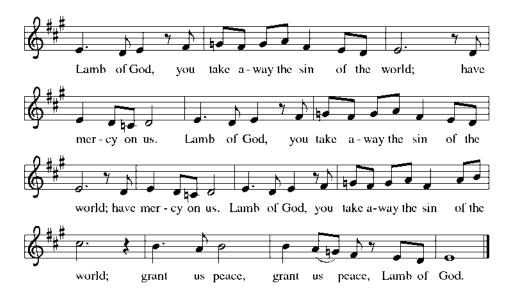
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you. **Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD ELW P. 191



COMMUNION All baptized Christians are welcome at the Table of the Lord.

CONTEMPORARY/
COMMUNION HYMNS

This Is Amazing Grace
Thy Holy Wings

ELW #613

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ Strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.



Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth. 1827–1878 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in Love.

Thanks be to God.

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ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

JESUS DOES NOT ABANDON HIS FOLLOWERS. THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT, JESUS COMES TO ABIDE WITH HIS DISCIPLES OF EVERY GENERATION. AS PENTECOST DRAWS NEAR, WE ARE REMINDED THAT THE RISEN CHRIST DWELLS IN US AS THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH. WE RECEIVE THIS SPIRIT IN BAPTISM AND PRAY THAT I OUR GATHERING AROUND THE LORD'S TABLE THE SPIRIT WILL TRANSFORM US TO BE THE BODY OF THE RISEN CHRIST IN THE WORLD.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

PETE ELLERTSEN, DEBI ELLERTSEN, MICK BUCHLER, PAULA TONELLATO, NORM KOEFOED, MARY LOKEN, JAY EDGECOMB, PETE KOCIS, RITA HOSTO, ANGELA GRIFFIN

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 MAY 14:

PRESIDING: REV. MARY E. ZUPANSIC

ASSISTING MINISTER: BECKY HENDRICKS

CAMERA: JANET KOCIS

POWERPOINT: LINDA RICE

MUSICIAN: BRENDA PECK

FELLOWSHIP: ANNIE ALLEN-JONES

USHERS: RON KRAUSE AND SUSAN KRAUSE

FLOWERS: JANET KOCIS — IN LOVING MEMORY OF HER MOM AND GRANDMOTHERS

ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, MAY 14 IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM

FAITH FORMATION—10:30AM

DWELLING IN THE WORD—10:45AM

MONDAY, MAY 15 STAMP CLUB—6:00PM

TUESDAY, MAY 16 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING—5:00PM

COUNCIL MEETING—6:00PM

SATURDAY, MAY 20 HIGHWAY CLEAN UP—9:00AM-11:00AM

SUNDAY, MAY 21 IN PERSON WORSHIP/LIVESTREAM—9:30AM

FAITH FORMATION—10:30AM

DWELLING IN THE WORD—10:45AM





ST. PAUL WRITES IN 1 CORINTHIANS: NOW THERE ARE VARIETIES OF GIFTS, BUT THE SAME SPIRIT; AND THERE ARE VARIETIES OF SERVICE, BUT THE SAME LORD; AND THERE ARE VARIETIES OF ACTIVITIES, BUT IT IS THE SAME GOD WHO EMPOWERS THEM ALL IN EVERYONE. TO EACH IS GIVE THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT FOR THE COMMON GOOD. (1COR 12:4-7)

LAST FALL, YOU WERE INVITED TO CONSIDER OFFERING AN "ESTIMATE OF FINANCIAL GIVING" TO SUPPORT THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH. AS A FOLLOW UP TO THE OFFERING OF OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS, THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE INVITES ALL DISCIPLE/MEMBERS AT PEACE LUTHERAN TO SHARE YOUR GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENTS WITH THIS CONGREGATION, SO THAT WE MIGHT BUILD UP THE KINGDOM OF GOD. A COPY OF THE TIME & TALENT SURVEY IS LOCATED ON PAGE 20. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY AND RETURN IT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Name:		
Phone/email address:		
General		
	Committee.	3
(see Committees below) Provide "tech" services		5
☐ Provide childcare services during special events		LUTHERANCH
Worship & Music ☐ Choir	Stewardship ☐ Give Temple Talk	
☐ Provide "Special Music"	Assist with annual stewar	rdship campaign.
☐ Assisting Minister	Finance	
□ Acolyte	□ Counter	
☐ Altar Guild ☐ Usher	Property ☐ Yard work – raking, planting, cleanup	
□ Play an instrument	☐ Mowing	
Assist w/ Dinner Church	□Rose Garden Maintenance	
Assist W Diffiel Church	☐ Workdays	
Evangelism / Faithful Innovations Visit homebound & hospitalized	☐ Maintenance	
☐ Write notes to visitors	☐ Painting	
□ Provide rides to church	☐ Special Skills: Carpentry	
	Plumbing Painting Other	
Community Service U Volunteer at Blackhawk library	☐ Availability: Day Evening Weekend	
☐ Help with holiday food baskets	Other:	
☐ Volunteer at Grace food pantry	☐ Pray for Peace Lutheran	
☐ Assist w/ Hwy Clean-up	☐ Worship in-person regula	irly
Fellowship ☐ Help w/ Advent or Lenten Suppers	☐ Do you have a talent or in	nterest to share?
☐ Help w/ funeral dinners or provide food		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
☐ Sunday Fellowship host/hostess		
Faith Formation ☐ Teach an Adult Faith Formation class	V <u>C.112-112-112-112-112-112-112-112-112-112</u>	8
☐ Teach a Teen Faith Formation class		
☐ Teach a Young Disciples class		
☐ Teach a Little Lambs class	Current Ministry Committees:	
☐ Lead a Bible Study	Worship & Music	Faith Formation
☐ Lead a Book Study	Stewardship	Technology
☐ Be a Kids in Mission Helper or Teacher	Community Service Fellowship	Property Finance
☐ Volunteer for youth gatherings (adult)	Evangelism / Faithful Innova	ation
☐ Lead youth fellowship (adult)		5/2023



Sunday June 11th 10:45 a.m.



SEE PASTOR MARY IF INTERESTED



PASTORAL CARE

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. YOU MAY ALSO LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE OFFICE PHONE AT 217.546.7646.



If you would like to provide cookies for fellowship after worship, there are two ways you can help:

Contact Linda Rice at 217-494-2658 or lrice10650@gmail.com and sign up to bring cookies on a certain date (baked or bought)

Make a donation and cookies will be bought in your name.

THANK YOU!



- OATMEAL, CEREAL AND PANCAKE MIX
- PASTA SAUCE IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS
- PASTA
- PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS
- INSTANT POTATOES
- CRACKERS
- TUNA IN A POUCH INSTEAD OF A CAN
- NOODLE SIDES
- STUFFING MIX
- CEREAL BARS, GRANOLA BARS, TRAIL MIX AND NUTS
- COFFEE

THANK YOU FOR BEING A NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBORS!



ALTAR FLOWERS

WE ARE TAKING ORDERS FOR 2023 ALTAR FLOWERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF OR IN HONOR OF A PERSON OR EVENT IN THE COMING YEAR PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP FOR FLOWERS ON OUR WEBSITE IN THE MEMBERS' SECTION. FLOWERS ARE \$35.00. MANY DATES STILL AVAILABLE!

FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE

AS A FOLLOW UP TO OUR PRESENTATION AND SERVICE PROJECT CONNECTED TO LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES, WE INVITE DISCIPLE/MEMBERS OF PEACE LUTHERAN TO "HELP KEEP SPRINGFIELD'S LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES STOCKED! PLACE YOUR GENTLY USED BOOKS IN THE BASKET IN THE NARTHEX FOR DELIVERY TO LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES AROUND TOWN. SEE AMANDA KIM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH DELIVERIES!"



AN EVENING OF MUSIC

JOIN THE SPRINGFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT, FRIDAY, MAY 19TH AT 7:30 P.M. FOR AN EVENING FULL OF DIFFERENT PSALM SETTINGS. A NUMBER OF PEACE DISCIPLE/MEMBERS WILL BE SINGING WITH THE CHORAL SOCIETY.





Peace Lutheran Church 2800 West Jefferson Springfield, IL 62702

Phone: 217-546-7646

E-mail: peace.lutheran@comcast.net



PEACE WILL BE DOING A HIGHWAY CLEAN UP DAY ON SATURDAY, MAY 20TH FROM 9AM-11AM. GRABBERS AND TRASH BAGS WILL BE PROVIDED. BRING GLOVES IF YOU WOULD LIKE. IT IS A GREAT WAY TO ENJOY THE FRESH AIR AND KEEP OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT CLEAN. SEE ELIZABETH MITCHELL FOR MORE INFORMATION.