

Pentecost 14 C

Sunday, September 11, 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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

We have failed to do justice,

love kindness,

and walk humbly with you.

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

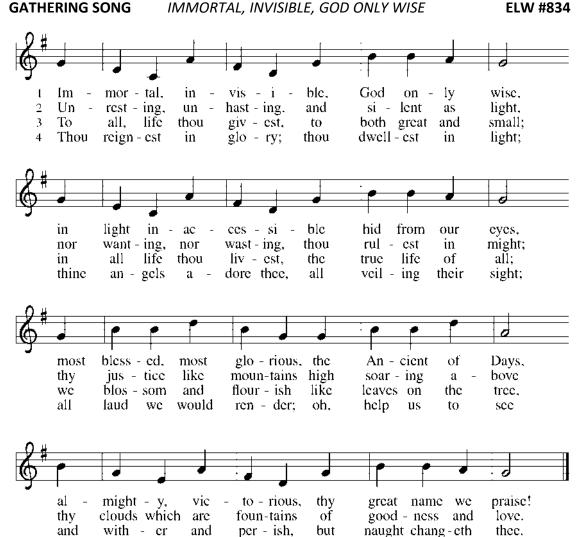
Amen.

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven + and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

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the

GREETING

'tis

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

of

light

splen-dor

hid - cth

thee!

C. And also with you.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.

⁷The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" ⁹The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great

power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

- P. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-10 Read responsively

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<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>I</sup> steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out <sup>I</sup> my offenses.
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²Wash me through and through | from my wickedness, and cleanse me | from my sin.

³For I know ^I my offenses, and my sin is ev- ^I er before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil ¹ in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right ¹ in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born ^I steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my ^I mother's womb.

⁶Indeed, you delight in truth ¹ deep within me, and would have me know wisdom ¹ deep within.

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I ^I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be pur- ^I er than snow.

⁸Let me hear ¹ joy and gladness; that the body you have broken ¹ may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face ^I from my sins, and blot out ^I all my wickedness.

¹⁰Create in me a clean ¹ heart, O God, and renew a right spir- ¹ it within me.

SECOND READING

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain

1 Timothy 1:12-17

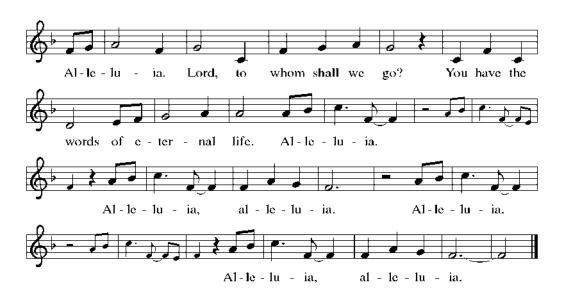
advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- P. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW P. 188



GOSPEL LESSON Luke 15:1-10

P. The holy gospel according to Luke the 15th chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

- P. The gospel of the Lord.
- C. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mary E. Zupansic

REFLECTION: FOR THOSE AT HOME

"Look straight forward and raise your hand on the side where you see the blinking light in the corner of your eye." Maybe you have taken a peripheral-vision test at an optometrist's office or at a DMV while renewing your driver's license. Peripheral vision, like peripheral hearing and other sensory parallels, is the ability to perceive things that occur outside the center of one's focus.

In today's gospel, Jesus tells a story about a shepherd who seems to have good peripheral senses. He loses one sheep out of a hundred and immediately notices and sets off to look for it. This story may be so familiar that it is easy to take his actions for granted. But should we? It seems that many people looking at such a large group of nearly identical animals would have a difficult time noticing the disappearance of just one.

Yet this is precisely what Jesus does throughout his ministry. He is always noticing people on the margins of society whom others don't see—whether because of disease, profession, gender, economic status, or past wrongs. Again and again he is criticized by

other religious leaders for moving beyond the people they are focused on and toward others they see as peripheral. As Jesus' followers, we are called to let him shift our attention to people who need the love and attention of God-even when it takes us beyond the comfort of our normal focus.

Today, as you gather to worship, ask yourself: Who is missing from the picture? Who is at the periphery of your assembly? Who is Jesus inviting to this table? In your church, in your community, in your neighborhood, or in your work, who does Jesus see that you have missed, and what would it look like to seek after them?

HYMN OF THE DAY

THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS

ELW #502



- The King of love
- my shep - herd
- ís, whose good - ness somed

- Where streams of liv.
- ing wa ter
- flow. ran my strayed, but yet
- Per verse and fool ish oft 1 in death's dark vale In fear ill. with thee. dear ı no





- with food pas - tures grow, laid. and home. gent - ly com - fort still: thy cross
- ce les tial feed eth. re - joie brought ing, me. be - fore guide mc. to
- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877 Music: \$1. Columba, Irish tune

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

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

Your people receive mercy and your grace overflows in our lives. Fill your church with faith and love, and give understanding hearts to those who work to strengthen our ecumenical and interreligious commitments. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation groans as it suffers the impacts of pollution and lack of care. As the seasons change, renew in us the will to protect plants, animals, and habitats. Bless us with bountiful harvests that all may share. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your world is shattered and the nations rage. Remember us in your mercy. Teach wisdom to our elected leaders so that we know peace in our world, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your children wander homeless and the hungry cry for bread. Seek out those who are

lost or lonely, anxious or depressed, or struggling with addiction or illness. Provide for those in any need. We pray especially for those on our prayer list. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your work is done in this congregation with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and hearts. Build up the ministries of this community, that we serve our neighbors and welcome the stranger in your name. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your blessed saints who have died now rest in your presence. Give us thankful hearts for those who have been examples of faith in our lives, and receive us with joy when we come to share eternal life with you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

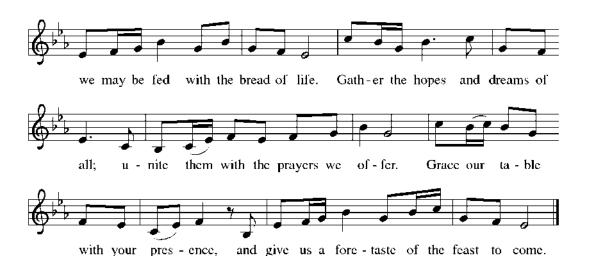
- P. The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C. And also with you.

+ 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.

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful 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

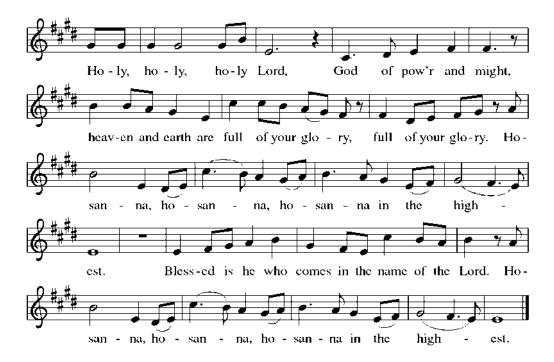


OFFERING PRAYER

- A. Let us pray. Gracious God:
- C. in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

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:



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.

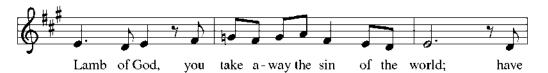
LORD'S PRAYER

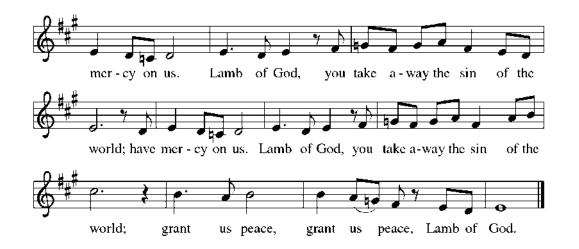
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the 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. 191





COMMUNION HYMN(S)

CONTEMPORARY SONG AMAZING GRACE

ELW #779

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. God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, + one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.
- C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

ELW #807



- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb-en-e-zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise, and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home. let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love. Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God; Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove. he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II. 1813

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

C. Thanks be to God.

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ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TEXT

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407 Tuesday, September 13, 2022

John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.

Holy Cross Day

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.

Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, died around 258 Friday, September 16, 2022

Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.

Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, died 1179

Saturday, September 17, 2022

A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Walter Hoyt, Judy Barhoover, Art Longworth

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

SEPTEMBER 11 In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

GWOH Service Project & Potluck—Following Worship

SEPTEMBER 12 Quilters—7-9pm SEPTEMBER 13-14 Quilters—8am-4pm

SEPTEMBER 13 Evangelism/Faithful Innovation—5:30pm / In-person

SEPTEMBER 14 Faith Formation Committee—5:30pm / Zoom

Choir—7:00pm

SEPTEMBER 15 Church Council—6:00pm / In-person

SEPTEMBER 17 Synod Council Meeting—7:00am—2:00pm In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

Faith Formation: Birth to 5 Yrs—10:30am

Elem. Faith Formation: Pick up "Faith to Go" Packets

Confirmation Students: Check-in with Pastor Adult Faith Formation: Sundays @ 6 / Zoom

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11

Assisting Minister: Holly Hansen

Ushers: Joe Henkle & Elizabeth Mitchell Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Mary Zupansic

Video: Linda Rice Camera: Janet Kocis Musician: Brenda Peck

Fellowship: Join us for a potluck meal!

Counters: Doug McFarlan & Cheryl Schnirring

ALTAR FLOWERS PLACED

To the Glory of God

BIRTHDADYS

September 14—Sally Robey



Sign up for Altar Flowers

\$35.00

Call the church office

217.546.7646 Or sign up in the

"Members" section of the Website



We are collecting items for Lutheran World Relief PERSONAL CARE KITS throughout the month of September and the first week of October. Our goal is to put together at least 80 kits. We invite you to consider bringing the following items each week: September 11—Soap, September 18—Toothbrushes & Combs, September 25—Nail Clippers. It would be amazing if we could put together even more than 80 kits!!!



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.



Peace Lutheran Church 2800 West Jefferson Springfield, IL 62702

Phone: 217-546-7646

E-mail: peace.lutheran@comcast.net

God's work. Our hands.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

FOLLOWED BY

SERVICE PROJECT POTLUCK MEAL

See News You Can Use for details



PEACE LUTHERAN has an immediate

opening for an

Office manager/ Financial secretary

Hours: 9a.m. - 2:30p.m. Monday thru Friday

Competitive Wages

Contact Pastor Mary @ 920-671-4338