

19th Sunday After Pentecost Sunday, October 3, 2021

Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA

WELCOME TO PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

We extend in the name of Christ, a hearty 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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

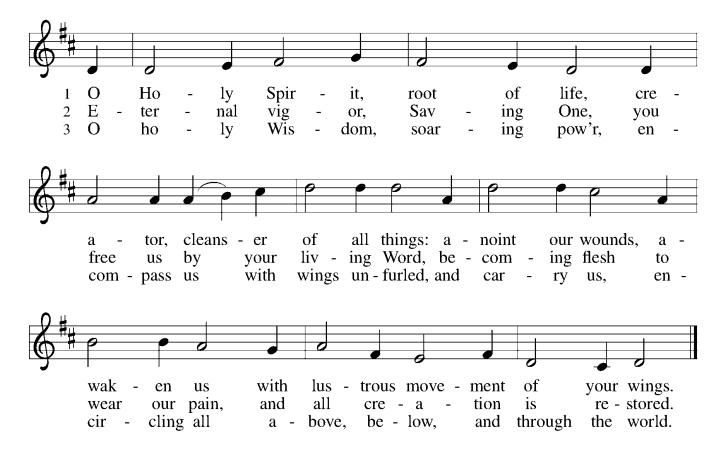
Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.



Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1098–1179 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621 Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray. Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C. Amen.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

A reading from Genesis.

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." ²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. P. Word of God. Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

⁷all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

⁹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

A reading from Hebrews.

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to

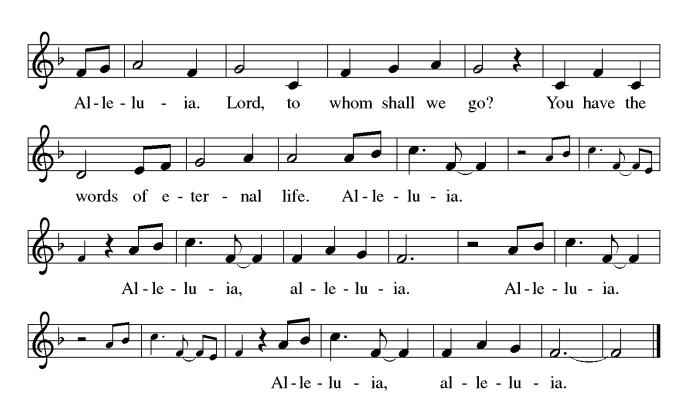
angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? ⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, ⁸subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

P. Word of God. Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 188



GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10:2-16

- P. The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 10th Chapter.
- C. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 7'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." 13 People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." 16 And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

REFLECTION: FOR THOSE AT HOME

There are times where it would be easy to skip over a Bible passage and pretend it doesn't exist. This is one of those times. Yet, if we were to skip over it, what would keep us from skipping over other parts of the Bible when we struggle with the message? Jesus often gives hard words to the disciples (and us). This week is no exception.

The Gospel begins with a difficult conversation on divorce. For many people, divorce is still hard to talk about because it radically changes the lives of, not just those ending the marriage, but also family members, friends, and communities. We need to keep in mind that divorce in Jesus' time and divorce in our time are very different. In Jesus' time. If a woman were divorced from her husband, she would be incredibly vulnerable. The world wasn't (and still isn't) built to protect vulnerable women and femmes. He answers the question from the religious authorities forcefully because vulnerable people are being hurt and it makes him mad.

In asking them how a man may divorce his wife according to the Law, Jesus is talking about what people currently know and understand. There are structures in place to protect vulnerable populations. Yet structures created by people with good intentions often don't go far enough. Divorce, says Jesus, is an unfortunate concession to the fact that we do not always live with love and respect in marriage. Instead of having people trapped in situations where they were powerless and unhappy, divorce may happen, but it not God's intention for marriage.

Jesus tells us to protect the most vulnerable among us. It seems that the disciples didn't get the memo, because immediately after the conversation on divorce, they try to keep children from Jesus's presence. Jesus speaks in support of both divorced women and the little children, people who don't have power, both then and now. Jesus is all about being with and empowering the weakest and most vulnerable in society. The Beloved Community is for all people, especially those who are made vulnerable by the sometimes well-intentioned but always faulty power structures of this world.

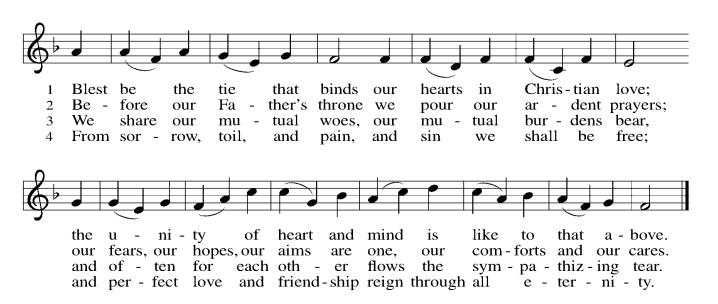
The disciples, as close as they are to Jesus, don't understand him. In preventing people from bringing children to Jesus so that he may bless them, the disciples assume authority over who is in and who is out. Jesus turns them around to a new way of being.

Jesus welcomes those on the outside, those who are vulnerable. That welcome challenges our notions of who belongs in the realm of God and who is the greatest. Those whom world calls outsiders, Jesus calls insiders and welcomes them in the entirety of who they are. Jesus continually challenges our

HYMN OF THE DAY

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

ELW #656



Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints.

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

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 PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry and all seminarians, that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless those who join us for worship online and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE SHARING OF PEACE

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

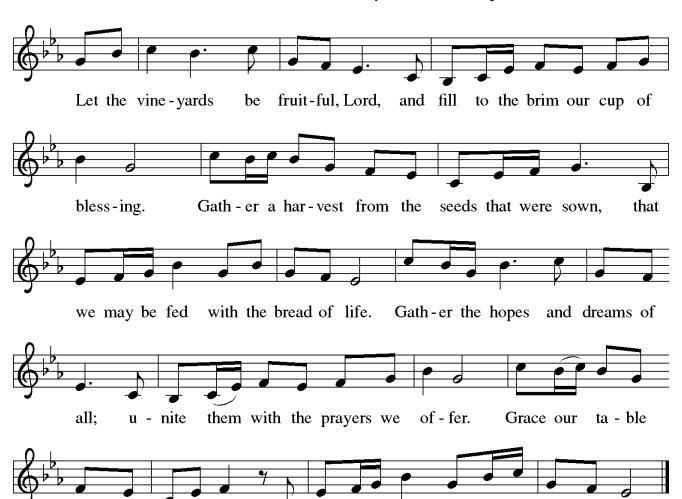
Please share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.

+ 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

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

with your pres - ence,

OFFERING PRAYER

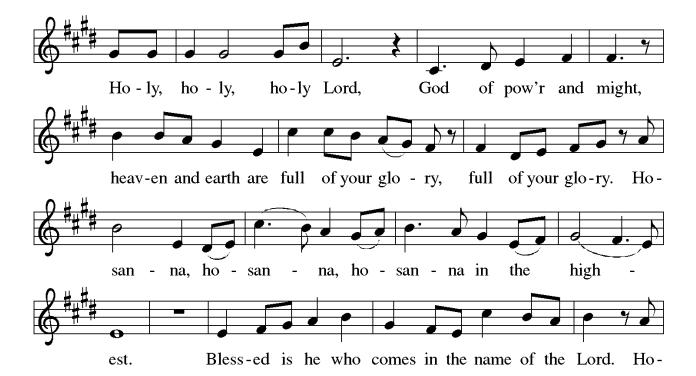
- P. Let us pray. God of abundance,
- C. you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

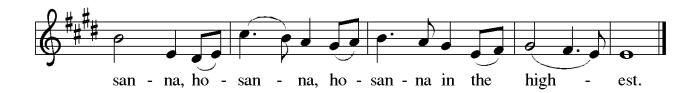
GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,

you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,

and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners

and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us

and his rising from the grave,

we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,

and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both 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.

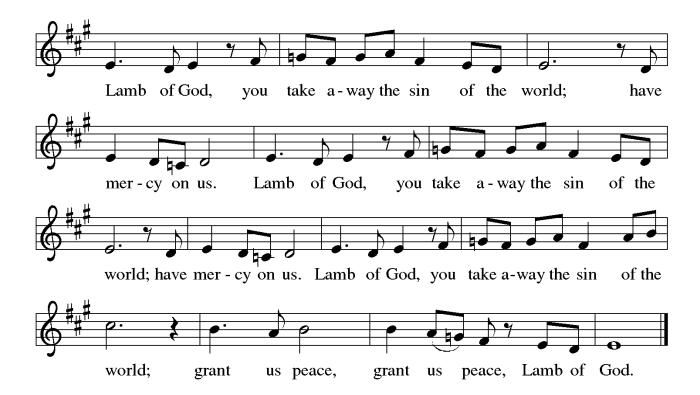
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

LAMB OF GOD ELW p. 191



Day by Day

ELW # 790



- 1 Day by day,
- your mer cies, Lord, at tend me,
- 2 Day by day, I know you will pro vide me 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me

bring - ing com - fort strength to serve and

when my bur - dens



to my anx-ious soul. wis - dom to o - bey; grow too great to bear;

Day by day, the bless-ings,Lord, you send me I will seek your lov-ing will to guide me oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be-yond all o'er the paths I strug-gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, of the mor - row, what be - tide me, brings to naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior, I will trust in your en-dur-ing grace. Sav-ior, you will hold me ev-er in your hand. Sav-ior,



lead me to the home I trea-sure, where at last I'll find e - ter-nal rest. help me bear life's pain and sor-row till in glo - ry I be-hold your face. with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005

Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

Text © 1992 Augsburg Fortress



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

TABLE BLESSING

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

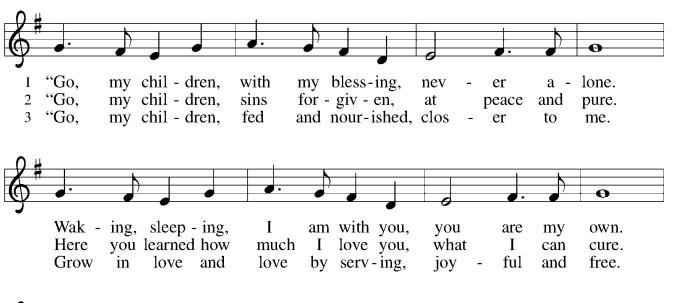
C. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- P. Let us Pray, Lord of life,
- C. in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

- P. People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever.
- C. Amen.





In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er. Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry. Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C. Thanks be to God.

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News You Can Use

ABOUT THIS WEEKS TEXT

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of *messiah*) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Monday, October 4—Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died 1226

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching "using words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.

Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died 1864

Fliedner helped to bring about a revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. He was influenced in this by Moravian deaconesses he had met. The motherhouse he founded in Kaiserswerth, Germany, inspired many around the world to take up this ministry.

Wednesday, October 6—William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536

Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

<u>Thursday, October 7—Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, died 1787</u>

Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in or-

ganizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.

THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS OF PEACE FOR THE HELPING HANDS MEALS IN JULY AND AUGUST. BOTH WERE VERY SUCCESSFUL AND APPRECIATED.

THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Doris Fischer, Walter Hoyt, Jim (brother of Patti Christell) Verlene Urekar, Alda Beemer, Jim Neal, Cheryl Danner, Jane (sister of Kim Efrid), Pete Ellertsen

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. Other than those in the Military 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. If interested in assisting on Saturdays or Sundays, please call the church office at 217.546-7646, or text Pastor Mary at 920-671-4338.

ZOOM MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, OCT 3 In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

Drive Thru Communion—11:00—11:30am

MONDAY, OCT 4 Property Committee—6:00pm

TUESDAY, OCT 5 Community Service Committee via Zoom—5:30pm

SUNDAY, OCT 10 In Person Worship/Livestream—9:30am

ASSISTING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 3:

Drive thru communion Parking Lot: Kim Family

SUNDAY IN-PERSON SERVICE:

Assisting Minister: Becky Hendricks Ushers: Mike & Sandy Barker

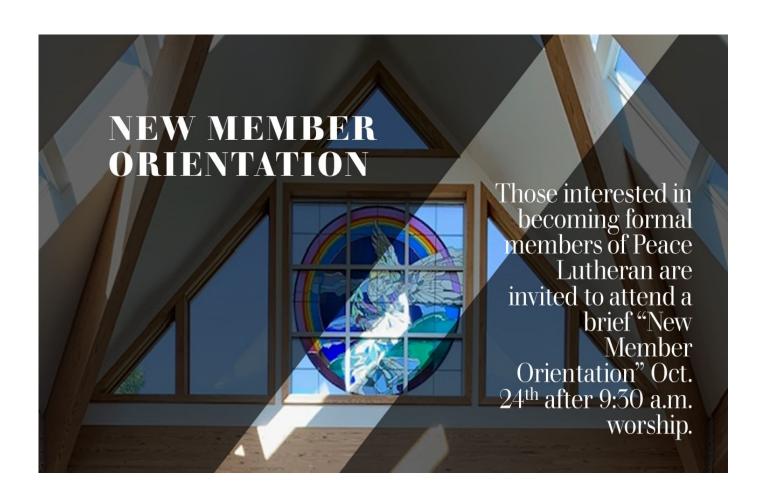
Video: Linda Rice Camera: Janet Kocis

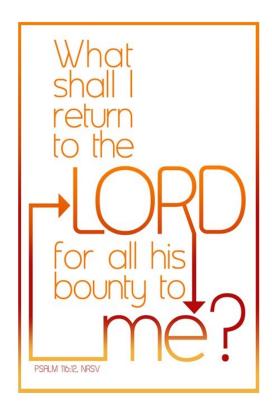
Blackhawk School will be receiving around 110 books from Peace. Thank you all!



This weeks Altar Flowers
Provided by
Janet Kocis







October is Stewardship Month.

Letters and Estimate of Giving cards have been mailed. Please pray fully consider how you will give back to God.

be returned to the church office or dropped in the collection plate on or before October 17th.



Collecting items for LWR Health Care Kits

- Sept 19 Toothbrushes
- Sept 26 Nail clippers with file
- Oct 3 2 bars of soap for each kit
- Oct 10 Wide tooth comb

Items may be dropped off on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week.

Volunteers are needed to put the Kits together after church on Oct. 17th



Highway Clean Up

Saturday, October 16 9 – 11am

Bring a Friend



October 7 LSSI True Friend Celebration: Featuring Rick Steves

Join Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) on Thursday, October 7 at 6:30 p.m. for "Traveling Route LSSI," the 40th annual True Friend Celebration—a statewide virtual event honoring Beverly Moody and the life of Richard Moody and featuring keynote speaker Rick Steves, traveler writer and TV personality, who will explore the idea of travel as a spiritual act that promotes empathy, solidarity, and connection. That conversation will be moderated by the Rev. Peter Marty, publisher of *The Christian Century* magazine and a Lutheran pastor in Davenport, Iowa.

The pre-event, virtual trivia hosted by Pastor Brian Wise, Associate Pastor at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Naperville, begins at 6 p.m. Join us for a game of trivia before attending the main event where virtual event attendees will be entered to win prizes and will hear inspiring stories about how their support of LSSI is changing lives. Registrants will receive the links to both the pre-event and the main event, as well as the link to access a travel-themed silent auction, which will run October 1–8. Proceeds will support LSSI's Children's Community Services, including Foster Care. Register today at LSSI.org/TrueFriend.

LSSI FOSTER CARE

This is the link to last year's video about foster care. We will be sharing a new story this year about a foster family and funds will again be going to CCS.

https://youtu.be/N4cUj05UTi0