

**ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH and ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
***Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways***  
**Third Sunday after Pentecost, June 14, 2026**

Virtual Prayer and Preaching

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**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

We bless the holy Trinity, † one God,  
living with us in love, peace, and joy,  
whose compassion and faithfulness  
are with us forever. **Amen**



We confess our sin to God, our guide and guardian.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.* Compassionate God,  
**we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

We gather as the people of God to hear words of grace,  
to be fed with love, and to go into the world  
to work for Christ's justice and peace. **Amen**

The Christ of God is with you. **And also with you.**  
Holy One, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

**GOD'S WORD**

**READING: Exodus 19:2-8a**

*Because the people have trusted in military powers instead of God and have At Sinai God assured Israel, "You shall be my treasured possession," and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God's will.*

This is a reading from Exodus, the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
The Israelites journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain,

"Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly realm and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. The people all answered as one, "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

This is holy Wisdom, God's holy Word.

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35—10:15**

*The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Matthew, the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> chapters.

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of heaven's realm and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The realm of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.

Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.”

This is the Good News of Christ’s Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 663 “Spread, O Spread, Almighty Word”**

- 1 Spread, oh, spread, almighty Word,  
spread the reign of God the Lord.  
Send forth our Creator's call,  
heaven's gifts extend to all.
- 2 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,  
who, to save our human race  
and to pay rebellion's price,  
gave himself as sacrifice.
- 3 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n  
now to guide us on to heav'n,  
strong and holy, just and true,  
working both to will and do.
- 4 Lord of harvest, great and kind,  
rouse to action heart and mind;  
let the gath'ring nations all  
see your light and heed your call.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774-1841; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, alt.  
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**MESSAGE:**            **PEACE**                    *silence for reflection follows*

**the CHURCH PRAYS**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world. *A brief silence.*

God of freedom, you ransomed Israel from slavery to be a holy people. As we observe Juneteenth this coming week, free us also to be a people who proclaim your liberating love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you call all the earth to make a joyful noise to you. Let us join the chorus of the natural world in proclaiming your glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction: Ukraine, and throughout Southwest Asia and North Africa, and sustain those who advocate for peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you pour hope and love into our hearts in times of shame and doubt. Protect those experiencing housing insecurity. Uplift anyone struggling with hopelessness, illness, or other worries. We pray for ELCA Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop Bill Gohl, Ebenezer Grace Worship Center, those hospitalized or recuperating at home, Greg, John, Lori, Mary Lue, Will, Bea, Kathy, Linda, Jimmy, Fred, our at-home worshippers, ... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of faith, we give thanks for Macrina, Basil the Great, Gregory of Nyssa, Gregory of Nazianzus, and all the saints who earnestly seek you. Guide us as we seek to follow those who have led your church. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Seeking God's will, we pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

### **SPIRIT'S SENDING**

#### **PRAYER for MISSION**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, we return to you. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen**

#### **BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God,  
bless, heal, and hold us, today and always. **Amen**

#### **PEACE**

We are sent to share Good News,  
forgiven and reconciled with all God's people.  
The peace of Christ is with you always.

**Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, died 379; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389; Macrina, teacher, died around 379**

The three men in this group are known as the Cappadocian fathers; all three explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Basil was influenced by his sister Macrina to live a monastic life, and he settled near the family estate in Caesarea. Basil's Longer Rule and Shorter Rule for monastic life are the basis for Eastern monasticism to this day, and express a preference for communal monastic life over that of hermits. Gregory of Nazianzus was sent to preach on behalf of the Orthodox faith against the Arians in Constantinople, though the Orthodox did not have a church there at the time. He defended Orthodox trinitarian and Christological doctrine, and his preaching won over the city. Gregory of Nyssa was the younger brother of Basil the Great. He is remembered as a writer on spiritual life and the contemplation of God in worship and sacraments.

Macrina was the older sister of Basil and Gregory of Nyssa. She received an excellent education centered on the Bible, and when her fiancé died she devoted herself to the pursuit of Christian perfection. She was a leader of a community, based at the family estate, dedicated to asceticism, meditation, and prayer. Macrina's teaching was influential within the early church.

**Today's Sponsorships**

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*Today's Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God*

In Honor of Anthony Smith's June 17<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by the Heinbaugh family.

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*Today's Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God*

In Loving Memory of Uncle John Bast  
for what would have been his 106<sup>th</sup> birthday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.  
Given by the Volz family.

In Loving Memory of Uncle John Bast  
for his June 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by the Mills family.

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Attendance for Sunday, June 7, 2026: 32

### ***Learning, Serving, and Fellowship Opportunities***

**Hymn Sing Sunday:** On Sunday, July 5th, we will join together with one service at 9 am. To make this an extra special worship, we'd like to incorporate some of your favorite hymns! Please submit your top three selections by Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> to the church office.

**Save the Dates!** St. Peter's will be hosting Rainforest Falls VBS July 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> in the evening (time TBD). More information forthcoming.

**Charcoal Grill** free to good home. Located outside by the kitchen/cemetery. Must be removed by 6/21.

**Community Yard Sale:** Saturday, June 13 from 8a-1p at Jerusalem Lutheran (4605 Belair Rd., 21206).

**Afternoon Tea Bus Trip:** Thursday, June 18th, hosted by St. John, Brooklyn (226 Washburn Ave., 21225). Tea Trolley Tearoom in Delta, PA with first stop at The Markets of Shrewsbury. Cost \$110 (food, transportation, tax, gratuity and driver tip included). The bus will leave St. John parking lot at 10 am. and return at 5 pm. Information and reservations, contact Leslie at 410-969-0129. Deadline for Reservations and payment in full due June 14th. This is an annual fundraiser to support the programs and ministries of St. John.

**The Chalice Circle** is a place where you can share life experiences, make deep and lasting connections and deepen your spirituality through shared practices. This is a small group experience and we would love to have you with us. If you would be interested in learning more about joining us, please contact Jennifer Simms at 443-386-8469 or jennifersimms1@gmail.com. We will be gathering in the Parlor of Epiphany Lutheran (4301 Raspe Ave., 21206) on Thursday, July 2nd at 6 pm., refreshments will be served.

**Christmas In July:** Saturday, July 25 from 3-7 pm. at St. John's, Essex (518 Franklin Ave., 21221). Traditional spaghetti dinner and dancing to the music of the Monaldi Brothers family band. Admission is \$20/person and a new unwrapped toy. Please call 410-687-4621 for tickets, and note that there are steps to the parish hall.

**Food Truck Nights:** Wednesdays at 5pm at Ascension Lutheran (7601 York Road, 21204). Continues weekly through August.

**Brats & Beer:** Fridays from 4-8 pm. in the Garden at Zion Lutheran (400 East Lexington Street, 21202) Continues monthly through August.

**Clothing Shed:** St. John's, Parkville (8808 Harford Rd., 21234) has a clothing shed. Please consider donating gently used clothes, linens, shoes, belts, blankets, purses, and stuffed toys (no housewares).

**Secretary Position Available:** Part time, 20 hr./week, 4 days/week. Applicants must demonstrate proficiency with Microsoft Office applications, have good organizational skills, be able to work independently and with others, and have good communication skills. Interested parties should call St. Matthew Lutheran Church office (410-335-4210).

**St. Peter's Family Goods Center:** If you are interested in volunteering for the Family Goods Center, please contact Bill Lauer. This is a great opportunity for service hours for your middle or high school student, and volunteer hours for SPES families. Please place donations in the shopping cart in the Narthex.

**Give to St. Peter's On-line!** Did you know that you can make offering donations and sponsorship payments on-line through PayPal?? Login to your PayPal account and search for our tag: @Spl367 or St. Peter's Lutheran Church and Christian Day School. When submitting your donation or payment, you can note what it's for. It's THAT easy!

### ***News from St. Peter's Elementary School and PACE***

Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions or want to schedule a tour. Open enrollment for 2026-27 continues. Referrals are always welcome!

### ***Summer Children's Programs & Vacation Bible Schools***

To Mars & Beyond VBS: June 22-26, 5:30 pm. dinner, 6-8:15 pm. program. Epiphany (4301 Raspe Ave., 21206, 410-485-7654).

David VBS: July 10th from 5:30-7:30 pm. – Kick-off party with a movie about David. July 11th from 10 am.-3 pm. – Crafts, games, and learn more about the David story. Second Presbyterian Church (4200 St. Paul Street)  
Children from 4 years old to those who've just completed 5th grade are welcome to attend. A \$10 donation per child is requested. For more information and to register go to: <https://secondpresby.org/vbs-2026-registration/>.

Travel to Rome – Paul & the Underground Church VBS: July 27th-31st from 11 am. – 2 pm. Christus Victor (9833 Harford Rd., 21234, 410-668-8080). For ages 4 and up. Lunch will be served.

Kids Summer Arts Camp: July 27th-August 7th (Monday-Friday) from 9 am.-3 pm. St. Luke (7001 Harford Rd., 21234, 410-444-5171). For kids who've completed 1st-5th grades. Includes lunch & snacks, fun & creative activities, music making, dance & movement, making art, dinner & closing performance. Professional staff. Registration is \$250/student and is open now!