



September 24th, 2023, 9:00 am 17th Sunday after Pentecost

worship notes:

Welcome to our church family today as we celebrate the presence of the risen Jesus Christ, in our lives and in our world. Today, the music is found in the **ELW** (red hymnal). Children's activity bags are available in the back of the sanctuary. An usher will be happy to help! We pray that you will experience God's redeeming love and grace as you worship with us. Please stay and enjoy coffee & conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall!

about the readings:

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

418 Sumner Street E, Northfield, MN 55057
Pastor David Weeks

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday 9 am – 2 pm | 507.645.8252
northfieldstp.org | facebook.com/northfieldstp



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

The Prelude, as the first act of worship, is a time for people to become quiet and focus their hearts and minds for what is to follow, inviting worshipers to transition their busy lives into a sacred space of communion with God and neighbor.

"Be Thou My Vision"

(Slane) H. H. Hopson,
Harold Flammer, Inc. *Five Preludes on Familiar Hymns for Organ*

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✝ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin. *(silence for reflection)*
Steadfast and faithful God,

C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Lord of All Hopefulness" ELW#765

GREETING

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.**

KYRIE

"Service of the Word" (ELW p. 213)

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Service of the Word" (ELW p. 213)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, **you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:10-4:11

PSALM 145:1-8 (please read responsively the bold verses)

I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.

I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:21-30

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Service of the Word” (ELW p. 216)

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

Before: **Glory to you, O Lord**

After: **Praise to you, O Christ**

MESSAGE

Pastor David Weeks

HYMN OF THE DAY

“We All Are One in Mission” ELW #576

APOSTLE’S 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 THE PEOPLE

after each petition: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING/SPECIAL.

“Be Thou My Vision / My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

arr. Brant Adams / from Clarinet Solos For Worship, ©2007 Lorenz Co.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty, **all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

“Rise up, O Saints of God!” ELW#669

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Toccata-Chorale on “Slane”

*Alice Jordan
Hymn Tunes for Organ, Vol. II., Belwin Mills, 1986*

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #28318.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989,
Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to stream the music in this service

Prayer Ministry

Contact the church office to submit names of people to be included in our Sunday prayers. Please provide an update if situations improve or renew request bi-monthly.

Today we pray especially for:

Paula B. (daughter of Judy), Bernice C., Tom D. (brother of Julia), Carl E. (friend of Pete & Susan), Marilyn F., Lyle G., Donna H. (friend of Karen), Ron H., Daryl K., Tami L., Christopher L. (son of Sonja), Inez N., Jo O., Ginny P., Scott Q. (relative of Carmen), Jaynie R. (daughter of Jeff & Stephanie), Roya S. (great niece of Pete and Diane), Karen W. (cousin of Carmen, Char)

(last names are withheld for on-line privacy.)

If you would like a visit or phone call from Pastor David, please contact the Church Office at 645-8252.

Today’s Worship and Fellowship Leaders

Reader: Julia Daly

Ushers: Steve Hill + Sheryl Kleppe

Hospitality: Marilyn Finneseth + Diane Boyum

Organist: Richard Collman

Special Music: Clarinet Solo, Claire Hill

Live Stream: Dennis Kenison

Would you like to follow along with today’s readings?

For today’s lesson and gospel texts, scan with your smart phone’s camera:



Thank you!

Thank you for all you do to serve Jesus here at St. Peter’s. In addition to giving in worship, you may mail or drop off. your offering, set up auto payment through Vanco or bill pay, or use the included QR code for Vanco.



_Announcements

Sunday School Classroom Teacher Volunteers Needed

We need Sunday School classroom teacher volunteers for the upcoming school year. All lesson materials will be provided. Miss Ann will lead the Large Group Opening at the beginning of the hour followed by music w/Miss Zoe and then classroom time. Sign up to be a Sunday School Teacher through the QR code.



Sunday School Helpers Wanted!

Do you like working with young children and is looking for ways to volunteer at church? We're looking for helpers for our Sunday School teacher volunteers in the classrooms this school year. The teachers will be leading age-specific lesson plans including discussions and activities in our Pre K-Grade 2 and Grades 3-5 classrooms following the Large Group Opening and music class. Helpers will be there to assist the teachers and to help the young children, as needed. Sign up to be a Sunday School Helper through the QR code.



Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

Sign up through the below QR code to be a Meals on Wheels volunteer.



Celebrating September Birthdays

Today we celebrate our September birthdays in the congregation. Please join us for coffee and birthday cake in the fellowship hall after the service

Blessing of the Animals

Join us and bring your beloved pet on Wednesday, October 4th for the Blessing of the Animals.

Welcome Zoe Vorbach

Welcome, Zoe Vorbach, Sunday School Music Intern from St. Olaf College.

BSA TROOP 313

Come support the troop at Culver's! Eat at Culver's Tuesday, September 26 from 4-7 pm. 10% of sales goes back to BSA Troop 313.

A Note From Pastor David

As I have shared before, the Church Council read and discussed the book “*Growing Young: 6 Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church.*” The book ends with the recommendation that we implement listening sessions with the congregation. I will be listening upstairs at 10:10 with the Sunday School parents on Sunday, October 1 and on October 8 in the Fireside Room with all interested parties.

For anyone interested in reading the book, we have about 10 copies available. At the listening sessions, I will give a quick synopsis of the book, and then offer some questions about mission and ministry to discuss. Hope to see you!



Kids' Corner

Pentecost 17

- Today is the 17th Sunday after Pentecost.
- We are in the **middle** of the season after Pentecost.
- During Pentecost we reach out to the world with **Jesus' model of generosity**.

The Longest Season

Pentecost happens during three seasons: spring, summer, and fall. Draw what a Pentecost tree would look like in these seasons.



