



## November 19, 2023, 9:00 am 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### worship notes:

Welcome to our church family as we rejoice in the presence of the risen Jesus Christ.

Today, the music is found in the **ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship)** hymnal. Children's activity bags are available in the back of the sanctuary. Hearing devices can be found as you enter 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 and conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall!

### about the readings today:

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

### 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

## 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.

### *“We Gather Together”*

arr. Jason W. Krug  
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### WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MISSION MINUTE

PHIL OLSON + TEDDY

### LITANY FOR A STEWARDSHIP OF MUTUAL CARE

P: We stand now to confess all we lack in the presence of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Spirit, whose bounty abolishes need: Oh God, in fear we grumble in our time of need,

**C: But your abundance and provision are sure.**

P: Holy Spirit, in arrogance we place our hope in status and wealth,

**C: But your abundance is limitless and without end.**

P: Christ Jesus, we are prone to excluding and restraining others from your table,

**C: But your abundance is boundless and freely offered to all.**

P: Holy Spirit, in arrogance we place our hope in status and wealth,

**C: But your abundance is infinite and lavished upon the least of these.**

P: Divine Creator, we are torn by this world and its demands,

**C: But your abundance is eternal and invites us to new ways.**

P: Infinite Love, we are careless toward ourselves and one another,

**C: But your abundance fills us to overflowing.**

P: Reconciling Brother, we are too often selfish and proud,

**C: But your abundance calls us to humility in mutual care.**

P: Eternally Present One, we are wasteful daydreamers with our resources and gifts,

**C: But your abundance instructs us to stand accountable and prepared.**

P: Lavishing Giver, so often we are afraid that we will not have enough,

**C: But your abundance is extravagant and excessive toward us.**

P: Oh Christ, our King, we are stingy and reticent in our care for others,

**C: But your abundance compels us toward unrestrained generosity.**

### OPENING HYMN

*“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”* **ELW #632**

### 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

*“In peace, let us pray to the Lord..”* **ELW Pg. 138**

HYMN OF PRAISE

*“We Praise You, O God”* **ELW #870**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, **our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SPECIAL CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: THE GIFT OF GIVING

Dale Ness

WORD

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FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*“Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?”* **ELW Pg. 142**

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

*Before:* Glory to you, O Lord

*After:* Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Pastor David Weeks

HYMN OF THE DAY

*“For the Fruit of All Creation”* **ELW #679**

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*after each petition:* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

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

MEAL

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PROCESSIONAL OFFERING /BELL ANTHEM

*“Morning Has Broken”*  
arr. Sandra Eithun  
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OFFERING PRAYER

God of all goodness, **generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*please follow along, ELW pgs. 144-145*

LORD’S PRAYER

*right column, ELW pg. 145*  
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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

- All are invited and welcome to participate in Communion.
- Communicants should approach the altar down the center aisle and return by the side aisles. Ushers will guide you.
- Non-alcoholic juice is available. Gluten-free communion wafers are available.
- Please notify the ushers if you would like Communion from your seat.

COMMUNION SONGS

*“Lamb of God”* **ELW Pg. 146**  
*“Christ, Be Our Light”* **ELW#715**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, **in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN**

***“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” ELW#815***

**DISMISSAL**

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

***“Now Thank We All Our God”***  
(from *Seven Hymn Reflections for Organ*) arr. Mark Sedio  
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**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:

Bob A. (brother of Joyce), Paula B. (daughter of Judy), Bernice C., Nick D. (son of Mary Kay), Tom D. (brother of Julia), Carl E. (friend of Pete & Susan), Lyle G., Angela H. (friend of Doris W.), Donna H. (friend of Karen), Ron H., Daryl K., Tami L., Christopher L. (son of Sonja), Inez N., Scott Q. (relative of Carmen), Jaynie R. (daughter of Jeff & Stephanie), Kathy S. (sister of Sheryl), 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: Laura Gilligan

Organist: Richard Collman

Jubilee Bells: Bill & Mary Bleckwehl, Megan DeMaris, Claire Hill, Sonja Link, Skip Wagner

Communion Servers: Dale Ness + Linda Ness +Phil Olson

Ushers: Mary Boyum + Diane Boyum

Hospitality: Evonne Clay + Joanne Olson

Live Stream: Megan Culhane

**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

Stewardship Celebration

Today, we invite you to return your 2024 Estimate of Giving during our 9:00 a.m. worship service. Please prayerfully consider how Jesus is calling you to serve and support our ministry of sharing his love. Following the worship service, we will be serving Aebleskivers (round Danish pancakes) during the fellowship/coffee hour.

Northfield Church Walk | Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

The churches of Northfield are invited to a prayer walk in the Viking Terrace neighborhood. This will be an opportunity to pray for and with our neighbors (and church family members!) who live here - as many of you know, the park changed ownership, and residents have had new challenges since then. On Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, we will gather at the entrance off Dresden. No preparation needed; all instructions will be given at that time. The walk will not last more than an hour and will likely be closer to 30 minutes.

Questions? Email Pastor Rachel Morey at Northfield United Methodist Church: [rmorey@northfieldumc.org](mailto:rmorey@northfieldumc.org)

Thanksgiving Eve Worship + Pie Fest | Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>

Thanksgiving Eve worship is this coming Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm. Our friends from Bethel and St. John's will be joining us for worship, followed by our annual Pie Fest. If you would like to sign-up to bring a pie there is a sign-up sheet at the welcome desk or you can sign-up through QR code below.



Harp Recital + Christmas Tea | Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

Come and enjoy Christmas music on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Harpist Madeleine Douah and pianist/clarinetist Alaia Douah will play a selection of Christmas music. Tea, coffee, and seasonal treats to follow the recital.

Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias will be used to adorn our altar on Christmas Eve to honor/remember loved ones this Christmastime. Order slips can be found at the welcome desk. If you'd like to order/pay electronically you can submit through the Google form and pay via Vanco, please write 'poinsettia' in the memo line.

Vanco



Order Form



Community Action Center | Operation Give Joy

Operation Joy, a community-wide gift sharing program of the Community Action Center (CAC), is set to take place on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Each year the CAC's goal remains the same: to provide a joyful holiday experience for all children in the community. At this time, the most impact way our community can help support this goal is through monetary donations (for more details please see St. Peter's weekly emails).

Additionally, St. Peter's member and children's author, Mary Bleckwehl, is donating a case of her newest picture book, Arrrgh! Me HATE To Wait! A story about an impatient piggy pirate who discovers that good things come to those who wait. If you wish to join in this effort, Mary will donate an additional book on your behalf. Your cost: \$15/book. If interested call or text Mary 507-581-0970 or email

her: [mary@marybleckwehl.com](mailto:mary@marybleckwehl.com).



Kids' Corner

Pentecost 25

- Today is the **25<sup>th</sup>** Sunday after Pentecost.
- The Pentecost season is **almost completed** for this year.

Everyday Talents

Matthew 25:14-30

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells another parable. This one is about using the talents God has given you to share God's love. Check out the following story. Who used their talents well?

Follow Jesus

Following Jesus means sharing talents. Follow Jesus' footprints to uncover a poem that can help you remember to share your talents! Write the words you find, *in order*, in the space below.

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