



## July 30th, 2023, 9:00 am 9th 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's music is found in the **ELW** (red 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 & conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall!

### about the readings:

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to know the treasures of faith more deeply. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

## 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

"Petite Etude" by Van Veachton Rogers

"Siciliana" by Mary Kay Waddington

Both pieces are from *Suzuki Harp School*, Vol. 2. ©1995 Alfred Publishing

### WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Pastor:* Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Congregation: Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*(silence for reflection)*

Righteous God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*(silence for reflection)*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN

'Morning Has Broken' **ELW#556**

Introduction, *Morning Has Broken* (from "Hymns and Wedding") arr. Sylvia Woods.  
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### 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 Setting 6, pg.165**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

"Glory to God" **ELW Setting 6, pg. 167**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Beloved and sovereign God, **through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**  
**FIRST READING** 1 Kings 3:5-12

**PSALM** Psalm 119:129-136  
Your decrees are wonderful; therefore, I obey them with all my heart.  
**When your word is opened it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**  
I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.  
**Turn to me and be gracious to me, as you always do to those who love your name.** Order my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.  
**Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.**  
Let your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.  
**My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your teaching.**

**SECOND READING** Romans 8:26-39

**Gospel acclamation** “Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? **ELW Setting 6, pg. 171**

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**Before:** Glory to you, O Lord      **After:** Praise to you, O Christ

**MESSAGE** Pastor David Weeks

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “Beautiful Savior” **ELW#838**  
Introduction, *Fairest Lord Jesus* (from "Hymns and Wedding") arr. Sylvia Woods.  
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**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 sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**  
God of field and forest, sea and sky, **you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING SONG** “This is My Father’s World” **ELW#824**  
Introduction, *This is My Father’s World* (from "Hymns and Wedding") arr. Sylvia Woods.  
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**DISMISSAL**  
Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** “This is My Father’s World”  
Introduction, *This is My Father’s World* (from "Hymns and Wedding") arr. Sylvia Woods.

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### Announcements

*Be sure to subscribe to receive weekly emails from us!  
You can do so on our website at [www.northfieldstp.org/email](http://www.northfieldstp.org/email)*

### Celebrating July Birthdays

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

### Strikepoint Handbell Choir | Friday, August 4th

Strikepoint, an internationally acclaimed handbell ensemble from Duluth, will be performing at 7:00 pm on Friday, August 4 at Bethel Lutheran Church. Admission is free but an \$18 donation is suggested.

### Blessing of the Campers | Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

Join us for the Blessing of the Campers on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> during our 9am worship service. We'll be blessing our children going to Good Earth Village and our adults heading to the Boundary Waters. Please join us!

### Sonshine Youth Events | Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> + 23<sup>rd</sup>

8.9 | Feed My Starving Children Service Project | Arrive at Bethel at 3:30pm, the bus will depart at 3:45pm. After packing food at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan from 4:30-6:15 the youth will go to a local park/church to eat dinner and play outside. The bus will return to Bethel at 8:15pm.

8.23 | Scavenger Hunt | Downtown Northfield, Pick-up and drop-off at The Blast | 6:30-8pm. Bring \$5 for ice cream.

### Northfield Noontime Organ Recital | Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> + 9<sup>th</sup> | 12:15-12:45

8.2 | Stephen May, First United Church of Christ, music of Caesar Franck (300 Union S)

8.9 | Joanne Rodland (organ) + Donna Paulsen (piano), Northfield United Methodist Church (1401 S Maple St.)

### Sunday Summer School Outing | Sunday, August 13th

Join us for a summer outing to the Apple Valley Aquatic Center on Sunday, August 13th at 11am. Kids and families with swimmers, or beginners, of all levels will enjoy this water park featuring pools, splash pads w/water falls, slides and a lazy river. Cost is \$13 per person. We'll meet there. Concessions available or pack a lunch/snacks.

### St. Paul Saints Game Excursion | Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>

Sign-up sheet located on the welcome desk.

Tickets \$50/person (includes bus fare)

Bus will load at St. Peters at 12:15 and depart for St. Paul at 12:30.

### 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), Ron H., Daryl K., Tami L., Christopher L. (son of Sonja), Inez N., Janice O., Larry O., Scott Q. (relative of Carmen), Jaynie R. (daughter of Jeff & Stephanie), Roy S. (great niece of Pete and Diane), Karen W. (cousin of Carmen, Char), Jon W., Thelma W.

(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: Patrick Bougie

Ushers: David + Polly Hendee

Hospitality: Sonja Link + Ruth McCarty

Worship Accompanist: Alaia Douah

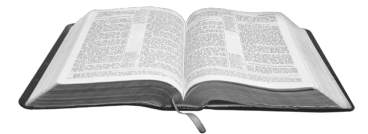
Harpist: Madeleine Douah

Bell ringers: Megan DeMaris, Alaia Douah, Claire Hill, Skip Wagner

Live Streaming: 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.

*"If the only prayer you said was thank you,  
that would be enough."  
— Meister Eckhart*





## Kids' Corner

Pentecost 9

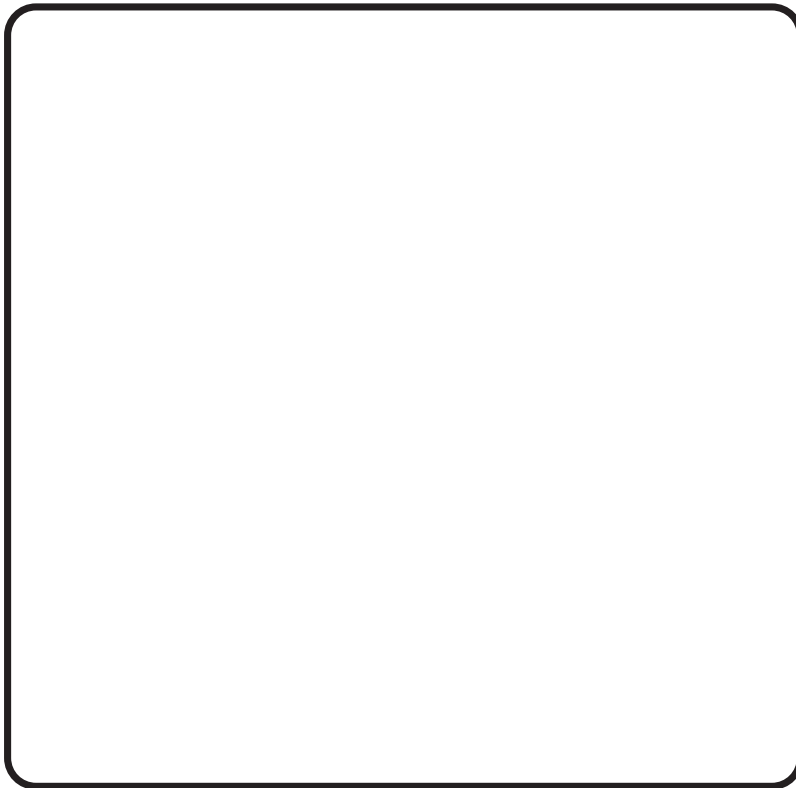
- Today is the **ninth** Sunday after Pentecost.
- During this season we remember how important the **church** is to God.

### Reason to Remember

Do you remember what the image is for Pentecost?

Unscramble these letters for a hint: **etre** = \_\_\_\_\_

Draw the image here!



## Kids' Corner

Continued

Do you remember what the image for Pentecost is? Connect the dashed lines to draw it!



