Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 7, 2025

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

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PRELUDE & BELLS We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.

WELCOME

Blessed be the Kingdom...now and forever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

We stand OPENING HYMN #858

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

vv1-4

★Brief Rite for Confession & Forgiveness of Sins★

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the

■ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

1John 1:8-9

Most merciful God... we confess that we are born captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive all your sins and you- who believe and repent- in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

¥HOLY COMMUNION**¥**

APOSTOLIC 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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

"Glory to God in the Highest"

9 AM p167 Luke 2:14 5 PM see p148

Refrain Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

1 Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. *Refrain*

3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Last refrain Glory to God in the highest. Amen, amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: PSALM 119:135 Let your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

FIRST READING: GENESIS 24:34-51

³⁴ So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become great. He has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male servants and female servants, camels and donkeys. ³⁶ And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old, and to him he has given all that he has. ³⁷ My master made me swear, saying, You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell, ³⁸ but you shall go to my father's house and to my clan and take a wife for my son.' ³⁹ I said to my master, 'Perhaps the woman will not follow me.' 40 But he said to me, 'The Lord, before whom I have walked, will send his angel with you and prosper your way. You shall take a wife for my son from my clan and from my father's house. 41 Then you will be free from my oath, when you come to my clan. And if they will not give her to you, you will be free from my oath.' 42 "I came today to the spring and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you are prospering the way that I go, 43 behold, I am standing by the spring of water. Let the virgin who comes out to draw water, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," 44 and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also," let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.' ⁴⁵ "Before I had finished speaking in my heart, behold, Rebekah came out with her water jar on her shoulder, and she went down to the spring and drew water. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' 46 She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I will give your camels drink also.' So I drank, and she gave the camels drink also. 47 Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose and the bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to take the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. ⁴⁹ Now then, if you are going to show steadfast love and faithfulness to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, that I may turn to the right hand or to the left." ⁵⁰ Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, "The thing has come from the Lord; we cannot speak to you bad or good. ⁵¹Behold, Rebekah is before you; take her and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, as the Lord has spoken."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 1

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

² but his delight is in the law^[b] of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

³He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.nIn all that he does, he prospers.

⁴The wicked are not so,

but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶ for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SECOND READING: REVELATION 19:6-9

⁶Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; ⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

⁹ And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!



GOSPEL READING: LUKE 14:25-35

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, "This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. ³⁴ "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵ It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY #772

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

vv1-4

We sit. SERMON

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Gospel on Every Page
A Bride for My Son

We stand. PROFESSION OF FAITH 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 CHURCH

Let us pray in the name of Jesus to our heavenly Father for the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

Gracious Father, teach us what true discipleship is. By your Spirit, give us the faith and steadfastness to bear its cost. Thank you for so clearly setting before us the "way of blessing and curse, of life and death." Thank you for the grace to choose the life you offer through the death and resurrection of your Son.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church around the world. Make it holy and blameless, wise and loving, fearless and compassionate in equal measure. Make it delight in your Law and proclaim your Gospel. Establish its roots in the living waters flowing from Christ its head and its life.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people and ministries of this congregation. Help us to meditate on your Word day and night. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus; to support Solid Rock our mission in action; and that you send us adults for baptism. Give us grace to forgive, faithfulness to serve, and joyfulness to worship. Use us to lead many people to those streams of living water in which is found true life in Christ.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for persecuted Christians, for missionaries, for seminary professors and students, and for all pastors and evangelists. Give them wise and humble hearts. Use them to bring the healing and saving Gospel to those whom the world has despised and rejected.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our nation and its leaders; and for the people and leaders of every nation on earth. Help all of us to "walk not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of sinners; nor sit in the seat of scoffers;" but instead to delight in your Law; to meditate on your will; and to practice doing it so that we may live before you in peace and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Your Son dignified our labor by sharing our toil. Be with your people wherever they work. Make leaders of industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will. Give us pride in what we do. Be the strong refuge of those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of employment. Help all who are able to work to find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for everyone who needs your mercy and loving-kindness – including: {List}. Refresh their hearts; heal whatever is wounded; and restore them to fellowship with all who love them. As we recall Paul's words to Philemon, we lift before you the plight of all who, even this day, are slaves. Deliver them from bondage, and let us always claim them as kindred for whom Christ has died.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy and loving Father, with gratitude and affection we entrust into your care our beloved dead. We pray for the families of {List}. Through your Holy Spirit, strengthen us in our vocation as disciples of the Lord Jesus, so that, not counting the cost, we always bear faithful witness to him. For his sake, bring us into your presence, to be numbered with all those who serve, worship, and adore you in glory everlasting.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we entrust our prayers and petitions into your hands, gracious Father, for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

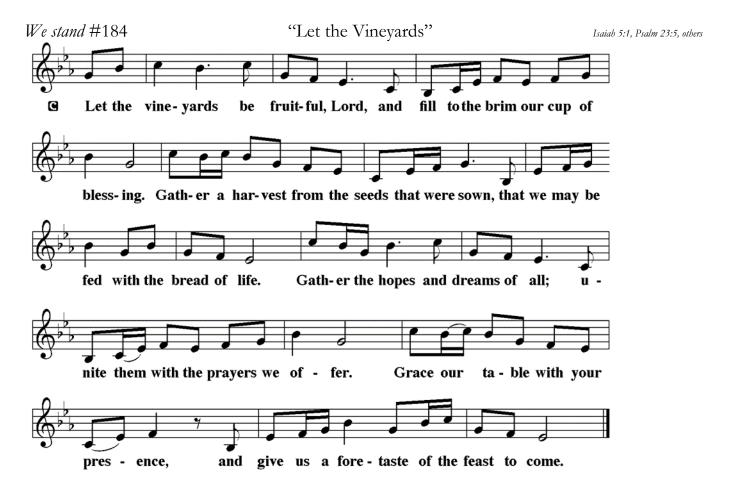
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also, with you.** We briefly greet those in our row with the words "Peace be with you."

We sit. Offering, Offertory Song & Prayer- Giving back to God



First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering; your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts.

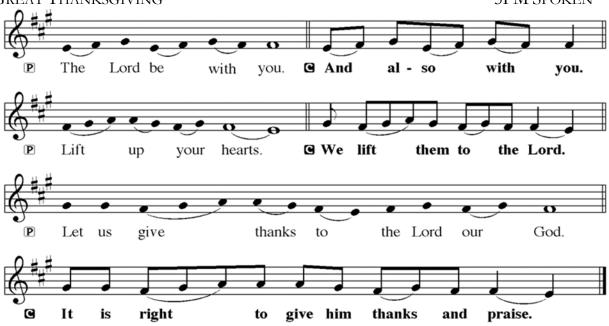
Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available on our website stpeterhallettsville.org/giving or by scanning this code.



OFFERING PRAYER

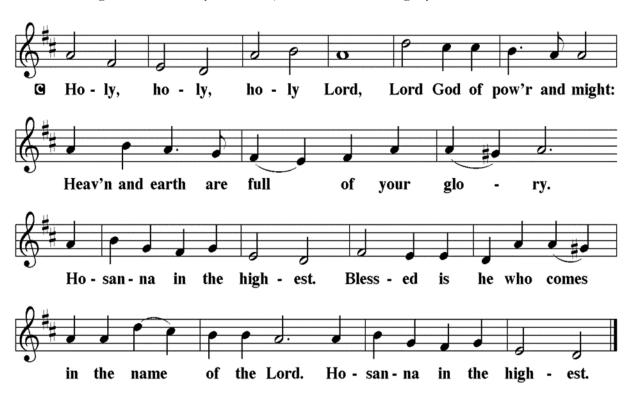
Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, king of the universe. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**





It is indeed right and salutary . . . and join their unending hymn:

5PM SPOKEN



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy...

In the night in which he was betrayed, ... Do this for the remembrance of me. All honor and glory are yours...now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

We sit. Invitation To Communion

As often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and who believe the Lord's words "This is my body given for you" and "This is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins" may receive Communion. Young children, not yet receiving Communion, may receive a blessing.

(Matt 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:19ff, 1 Cor. 11:24ff)

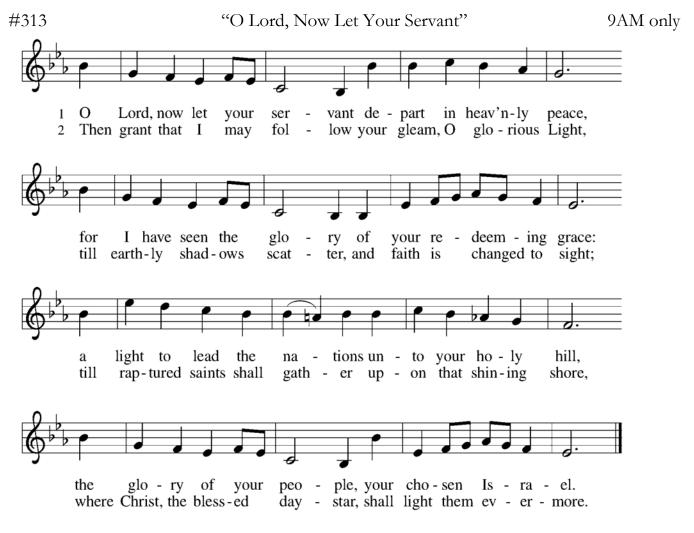
Communion administration occurs in a continuous fashion at the Communion rail. The ushers will guide you to the rail. To receive the elements, extend your hand, palm up, to the ministers. White grape juice is available in the center of the trays. For those unable to consume either bread or wine, the Church affirms the Lord's full presence in each element alone. Once you have received the elements, return to your seat by the side aisles. If you do not desire to receive Holy Communion, you may remain seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN



9

We stand POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER May the true body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**



Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Silence is kept for reflection.*

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and \$\mathbb{H}\$ give you peace. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN:

#625 "Come, We That Love the Lord"

vv1-2

Go in peace; serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

100 North Promenade, Hallettsville, Texas 77964 (361) 798-2808 www.stpeterhallettsville.org

Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church" by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Wednesday, Sept 10 Faith Family Formation Night Returns 6:00 pm -7:30 pm: This year's theme is Heroes vs Villains! **Spoiler alert: Good always wins!**

The Bible is full of epic stories of good vs. evil. In this series, we will study some of the Bible's most beloved heroes and the villains they defeated.

Wednesday, Sept 17 Forgiveness & Healing Service 6:00 pm

Friday, Sept 26 & 27 Men in Mission Sausage & Sauerkraut Plates at Kolache Fest:

Men in Mission are looking for Volunteers for Friday beginning at 5:00 pm to help prep for the meal on Saturday. If you would like to help, please mark your connection card or see L.A. Muehr, Donald Muehr, or Dickie Garmon. On Saturday, the men will need help with serving & clean-up. If you would like to help, be there by 10:00 am. This is a wonderful mission to enjoy each other's fellowship!

Sunday, Sept 28th St. Peter Polka Worship at 9:00 am: The liturgy today will be sung with Polka Music!

The Social Ministry Committee is requesting your prayerful consideration of willingness to help serve on this committee. Your time, talent, and ideas are needed as we continue serving those vulnerable persons in need of assistance, as well as providing local community outreach programs- such as the food pantry, quarterly blood drives, educational assistance, and member care. If interested, please contact Barb Koehn.

MANNA FOOD PANTRY DRIVE: This Project of the Social Ministry Committee has wonderfully been responded to by St. Peter members! Thank you to all who have donated so far, and we will keep this drive going **through October** as they are in desperate need of cereals & juices. Let's keep filling up the tubs as we share our gifts to minister to those in need.

OFFERING YTD (Jan-July '25) \$181,416.74; EXPENSES \$187,452.12

<u>DIFFERENCE +/- -</u>\$6,035.38 (due to yearly insurance payment)

This Weekend Sept 7th

Sunday AM: Assisting: Darlene Stacy

Communion Set Up: Darlene Stacy

Communion Clean Up: Judy Drozd

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Michael Sandelovic, Rusty Wallace, Reagan McAda, Gary Teltschik

Acolytes: McKenna Patterson & Liam Sralla

Power Point Sunday: Barb Koehn

Altar Flowers given by: Jed & Natalie Henke Family in celebration of Juliana's 10th Birthday

Radio Ministry given by: Women in Mission in memory of Jerry Bonewald

Sunday PM: Assisting: Daniel Drozd

Communion Clean Up: Judy Winfield

Attendance for Sunday, Aug 31: 9AM 87/4PM 5

This Week @ St. Peter

Sun Sept 7, 9:00 am Worship Service (*LAMB Sunday*), 10:00 am Coffee Time, 10:30 am Adult/Youth Christian Learning, 4:00 pm Worship Service

Mon Sept 8, 1:00 pm Quilting, 5:00 pm Stewardship, 6:00 pm Church Council

Tue Sept 9, 7:00 pm Prayer Group

Wed Sept 10, 6:00 pm Family Faith Formation Night

Thu Sept 11, FH Rental (all day), 6:00 pm Solid Rock, 7:30 pm AA/Al-Anon

Sun Sept 14, 9:00 am Worship Service, 10:00 am Coffee Time, 10:30 am Adult/Youth Christian Learning, 4:00 pm Worship Service

Our Prayer List:— Requests listed 4 weeks under Concerns For unless otherwise requested.

Bentley Jansen, Sandy Doty, Jennifer Conaway, Mark Lester, Julie Tanner, Anthony Hotz, Mike Brown, Ted Goranson, Maria Alvarado, Noreen Kurth, Will Pence, Edita Rybak, Ruby Young, Keith Ethridge, Mary & Leroy Schroeder

Extended concerns: Requests listed 9 months unless otherwise requested.

Ky Lange, Pauline Karl, Gracie Isbell, Jim Brandt, Edmund Koerth, Barbara Tackett, Charlotte Hartmann, Melissa Grice, Michael Drozd, Jeffrey Morgenroth, Charlie Garmon, Carrie Besetsny, DeWayne Dixon, James Evans,

Pr. John Schmidt & family (Missionary in Ghana, Belize, & Pakistan)

Other Concerns: first responders (military, law enforcement, firefighter, medical),

Safe House Church (Hallettsville); San Miguel (Ft. Worth) and Houston Oromo Lutheran Churches, President Trump, & our country

<u>Grieving Families of</u>: Juno Werner, Helen Gertner, Billy Wimberly, Mary Poppert, Bo Haas, Brayden Robertson, Jerry Bonewald, Oleen Covey

Serving Weekend: Sept 14th

Sunday AM: Assisting: Barbara Grindeland

Communion Set Up: Rida Chovanetz

Communion Clean Up: Barbara Grindeland

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Michael Sandelovic, Rusty Wallace, Reagan McAda, Gary Teltschik

Acolytes: John Stillions

Power Point Sunday: Sophie Teltchik

Altar Flowers given by: Henke Family in celebration of Juliana'

Radio Ministry given by: Dorothy Bonewald & Family in remembrance of Henry Bonewald's

Birthday

<u>Sunday PM:</u> Assisting: Daniel Drozd Communion Clean Up: Judy Winfield

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

EZEKIEL 34:11-24; PSALM 119:169-176; 1 TIMOTHY 1:5-17; LUKE 15:1-10

SAVE THE DATES IN OCTOBER:

Monday, Oct 1: 6:00 pm Confirmation Class

Wednesday, Oct 8: 6:00 pm Faith Family Formation Night

Sunday, Oct 19: LYO Fun Event

Tuesday, Oct 21: 10:00 am-2:00 pm Women in Mission Country Store

Friday, Oct 31: St. Peter Trunk or Treat

Openings for Radio: Nov 16, 23, 30; Dec 14, 28

Openings for Flowers: Oct 19, 26; Nov 9, 16; Dec 14

Entrance Hymn (ELW) Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (ELW 858)

Text by Catherine Winkworth; Music by Ernewerten Gesangbuch

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.

4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

Hymn of the Day (ELW) Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (ELW 772)

Text by Isaac Watts; Music by William H. Havergal

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!

2 Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere; let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep; and should I e'er forget your way, restore your wand'ring sheep.

4 Make me to walk in your commands, 'tis a delightful road; nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God.

Closing Hymn (ELW) Come, We That Love the Lord (ELW 625)

Text by Isaac Watts; Music by Robert Lowry

1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion: we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

2 Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God; but children of the heav'nly king, but children of the heav'nly king may tell their joys abroad, may tell their joys abroad. Refrain