ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH and ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Our Mission: Learn God's Truth, Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways. Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME Theme of the day, Prayer concerns, & Praise time:

The CHURCH'S GATHERING

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

We bless the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen**Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection. Faithful God,

you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, \oplus in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen**

GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Holy Spirit, come; **hear our prayer**. A brief silence. O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

GOD'S WORD

READING: Job 19:23-27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives and that one day he himself will see God.

This is a responsive reading from Job, chapter 19. *Job said*: "O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever!

For I know that my vindicator lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another." This is God's Word, our hope.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Luke, the 15th chapter.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus.

And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

This is the Good News of Christ's victory!

HYMN of the DAY: # 807 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

- Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love, teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.
- Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come"; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be; let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

MESSAGE: Lost and Found silence for reflection follows

The CHURCH PRAYS

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. A brief silence.

God our Redeemer, bless your church universal and its leaders. Set all hearts on you from generation to generation in anticipation of Christ's return. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of life, we give thanks for the fruits and grains of harvest, for rivers and streams, for all that is made of rock and iron. Renew the earth's natural resources and the lands from which they come. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of justice, we give thanks for the service of our veterans and pray for those needing support for wounds of any kind. Strengthen those charged with the governance and protection of vulnerable populations. Bring an end to war throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God who gathers us together, we give thanks for our pastors and deacons, teachers and musicians, administrators, and building caretakers. May they find joy in leadership as we grow in faith together. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God who leads us to belief and truth, we give thanks that you are always and already here. Nurture and support those who are unsteady in mind, unsafe in spirit, or unwell in body. Comfort those who suffer from trauma and exposure to traumatic events. We pray for ELCA Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop Bill Gohl, Ebenezer Grace Worship, those hospitalized or recuperating at home, John, Greg, Lori, Mary Lue, Lynn, Will, our at-home worshippers, ... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of the saints, we give thanks for all who have died in faith. Uplift us as we honor their memory and await your coming in glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, or Lord. **Amen**

PRAYER for VETERANS

Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for the men and women who have served and defended our country and the values of freedom and justice we hold so dear. Help us be mindful of the sacrifices they made and the hardship endured by their families and friends, so that we never take for granted the privileges they have secured for us. Hear us, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

OFFERING PRAYER for MISSION

Holy Spirit, come; **hear our prayer**. A brief silence. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

So that all the world may be fed, 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

BLESSING and PEACE

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you \pm and grant you a faithful and courageous heart, now and forever. **Amen**

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Today's Sponsorships

Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

In Loving Memory of Walter Sueck for his November 15th birthday. Given by Terri and Rich Murphy.

In Loving Memory of the wedding anniversary of Francis and Madeline Thrift.

Given by Nancy Barnes.

Attendance for November 2, 2025: 30

Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities

November Annual Meeting to discuss and vote on the 2026 budget, and elect council members and investment committee members will be held between services on Sunday, November 9th. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

Please Note: The church office will be closing at 12 noon on Friday, November 14th.

Poinsettias: Help us decorate the altar for Christmas! Each plant is \$8. Order forms and payment are due 11/23. Contact the church office for an order form.

Saints Designer Bag Bingo: Friday, November 14th at Concordia Prep School (1145 Concordia Dr., Towson 21286). Doors open at 6 pm. and games begin at 7 pm. Enjoy a fun night out while supporting a great cause. Tickets are \$35 or \$320 for a table of 10. Purchase tickets on the school website, http://www.concordiaprepschool.org/ or call the office at 410-825-2323, ext. 275.

Basket Bingo: Friday, November 21st at St. Luke's, Dundalk (1803 Dundalk Ave., 21222). Doors open at 5:30 pm. and games begin at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Lite supper and refreshments available for purchase. Door prizes, raffles, and special games. For more information call Kathe (410-458-8364) or Michelle (443-570-3701).

2nd Annual Thanksgiving Food Give-a-way: Saturday, November 22nd from 9am – 2 pm. at All Saints Lutheran (4215 Loch Raven Blvd., 21218). Come join us for our "Food-Give-A-Way! Receive a box of groceries. Enjoy good hot dogs, hamburgers, music and fellowship. Everyone is Welcome!

Christmas Bazaar: Saturday, November 22nd from 9 am.-1pm. at Epiphany Lutheran (4301 Raspe Ave., 21206). Photos with Santa, creative crafts, cookie walk, homemade desserts, flea market items, jewelry, raffles, and train garden.

Christmas Bazaar: Saturday, November 29th from 9 am-3 pm at St. Luke's, Parkville (7001 Harford Rd., 21234). Handmade gifts, holiday crafts, local artisans, food sampling, fair trade gifts, Trim A Tree fundraiser, and more. Vendors wanted with unique items, arts & crafts: \$30 per table space, register now. Contact Kim at 443-415-5824 for more information.

Sponsorships Available: Altar flowers for 10:15 am. worship on 11/30 (contact Nancy Barnes).

St. Peter's Family Goods Center: We are in the homestretch of doing the finishing touches on the FGC, and hope to be operating before Thanksgiving! Spread the word! 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.

On-line Giving: As an alternate way of submitting your offering, you can make donations 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.

News from St. Peter's Elementary School & PACE

Although the school year has begun, it's not too late to enroll! Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions, want to schedule a tour, or to register. Referrals are always welcome!