



*Rejoicing  
in the  
House of the Lord!*

*Psalm 122:1*

**September 30, 2018**

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St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

1600 S. Main St.

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235

[www.stpetersfdl.net](http://www.stpetersfdl.net)

Worship: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:30 am

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Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808

Pastor Matthew M. Guse: 517-9000

For hospital visits or emergencies, please call Pastor Zuberbier at 517-8808.

St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Andrew Mildebrandt, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302

Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

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**WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE** May the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Thank you for joining us for worship. If you have any questions about our service or practice, please feel free to ask one of the ushers or a pastor.

- Family restrooms are available in the multi-purpose room off the narthex or on the right side of the large hallway leading to the school wing.
- A parent's room with audio feed and a window into the sanctuary is available.
- Listening devices and six large print hymnals are available, please ask an usher.
- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
- Please silence your cell phone and all other electrical devices to help minimize distractions during Divine Worship. Thank you.
- Hymns and songs are reprinted under OneLicense #A-713891. Artwork obtained from churchart.com. Scripture texts are taken from the New International Version 1984 translation.
- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. Please feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastors, one of the ushers, or one of the members. If you are a visitor from out of town, please be sure to introduce yourself to one of the pastors after the service. We welcome all of you to come and worship with us again.

**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** God the Father, Son, and Spirit, Ever-blessed Trinity, humbly now our thanks we offer, all unworthy though we be. Freely you have showered blessings countless as the ocean's sands, blessings rich and overflowing on the labors of our hands. God of grace and love and blessing, yours alone shall be the praise. Give us hearts to trust you truly, hands to serve you all our days. Lord, bestow your future blessing till we join the heavenly host, there to praise and serve you ever, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. (See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of *Christian Worship*.)

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**SERVICE THEME** Our worship is enriched through Christian symbols which lift our hearts and minds to heavenly things.

## BELLS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor/**Congregation**

I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
**“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”**

I love the house where you live, O LORD,  
**The place where your glory dwells.**

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty!  
**My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD.**

My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.  
**Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young,**

A place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God.  
**Blessed are those who dwell in your house; They are ever praising you.**

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;  
**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

For the LORD God is a sun and shield.  
**The LORD bestows favor and honor.**

I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
**“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”**

## HYMN

**“God Is Here! As We His People”**

*CW 532*

*All*

God is here! As we his people Meet to offer praise and prayer,  
May we find in fuller measure What it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, All our varied skills and arts  
Wait the coming of his Spirit Into open minds and hearts.

*Men*

Here are symbols to remind us Of our lifelong need of grace.  
Here are table, font, and pulpit; Here the cross has central place.  
Here, in honesty of preaching, Here, in silence as in speech,  
Here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

*Women*

Here our children find a welcome In the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
Here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant Seek in worship to explore  
What it means in daily living To believe and to adore.

*All*

Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom, In an age of change and doubt,  
Keep us faithful to the gospel; Help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication, All we have to give, receive;  
We who cannot live without you, We adore you! We believe!

## CONFESSION

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.  
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,  
For sins of habit and sins of choice,  
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,  
You should cast me away from your presence forever.  
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## ABSOLUTION

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In the peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord.

## HYMN

### “I Love Your Kingdom, Lord”

*CW 533 v 1, 3, 5*

I love your kingdom, Lord, The place of your abode,  
The Church our blest Redeemer saved With his own precious blood.

I love your Church, O God, Your saints in ev'ry land,  
Dear as the apple of your eye And graven on your hand.

Sure as your truth shall last, To Zion shall be giv'n  
The brightest glories earth can yield And brighter bliss of heav'n.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

♪ **And also with you.**

Let us pray:

O God, you have promised to be with your Church forever. We thank you for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your favor over these past years. Increase our faith, knit us together in the bonds of love, and make our fellowship an example to all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD OF GOD

### FIRST LESSON

**Joshua 3:9-4:9**

*The LORD had the Israelites set up memorial stones to remind them of his great miracle of allowing them to cross the Jordan into the Promised Land of Canaan.*

Joshua said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God. <sup>10</sup>This is how you will know that the living God is among you...<sup>11</sup>See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you. <sup>12</sup>Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. <sup>13</sup>And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.” <sup>14</sup>So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. <sup>15</sup>Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, <sup>16</sup>the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup>The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground. <sup>4:1</sup>When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, <sup>2</sup>“Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, <sup>3</sup>and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan from right where the priests stood and to carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.” <sup>4</sup>So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, <sup>5</sup>and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, <sup>6</sup>to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ <sup>7</sup>tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.” <sup>8</sup>So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. <sup>9</sup>Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.

## Psalm 122

### Refrain



I re - joiced with those who said to me,



“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

### Psalm Tone



I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”  
Our feet are standing in your gates,  
O Jerusalem.

### Refrain

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
“May those who love you be secure.  
May there be peace within your walls  
and security within your citadels.”

### Refrain

For the sake of my brothers and friends,  
I will say, “Peace be within you.”  
For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek your prosperity.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Refrain

## SECOND LESSON

## Revelation 1:9-20

*With vivid symbolism, Jesus assures the churches he is among them.*

I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup>On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup>which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.” <sup>12</sup>I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup>and among the lampstands was someone “like a son of man,” dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup>His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. <sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup>I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. <sup>19</sup>“Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. <sup>20</sup>The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels [or: messengers, perhaps referring to the pastors] of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

## HYMN

## “Beautiful Savior”

*CW 369: 1, 3, 4*

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I’d love thee, Truly I’d serve thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine!

The gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 13.

♪ **Glory be to you, O Lord!**

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

*Jesus used vivid word symbols (parables) to teach about the kingdom of God.*

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. <sup>2</sup>Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. <sup>3</sup>Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. <sup>4</sup>As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup>Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. <sup>8</sup>Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. <sup>9</sup>He who has ears, let him hear. <sup>18</sup>Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. <sup>21</sup>But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. <sup>22</sup>The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

This is the gospel of the Lord.

♪ **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*CW 529*

*v 1 – Children v 2 – Congregation v 3 – Children v 4 – Congregation v 5 – All*

## SERMON

**Genesis 9:8-17**

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: <sup>9</sup>“I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came

out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: <sup>13</sup>I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. <sup>16</sup>Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>So God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.”

## Christian Symbols Help Us Remember

*Pastor Zuberbier*

### APOSTLES' CREED

**“We All Believe in One True God”**

*CW 270*

We all believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Ever-present help in need, Praised by all the heav'nly host,  
By whose mighty pow'r alone All is made and wrought and done.

We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son,  
Who descended from his throne And for us salvation won,  
By whose cross and death are we Rescued from all misery.

We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who from both fore'er proceeds,  
Who upholds and comforts us In all trials, fears, and needs.  
Blessed, holy Trinity, Hear our praise eternally!

### GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

### SERMON HYMN

### “In Christ Alone” CWS 752

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when  
strivings cease! My Comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone—who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Till on that cross, as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev’ry sin on him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory, Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am his and he is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow’r of Christ in me;  
From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from his hand;  
Till he returns or calls me home, Here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand.

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### CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God, heavenly Father, the unfailing giver of every good gift, we implore you to dwell continually among us with your holy Word and sacraments, so that by grace we poor sinners may be turned to you and be saved eternally, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♪Amen.

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

♪Amen. Amen. Amen.

### “Benediction”

*by Bob Burroughs*

*After the students sing this twice, the congregation is asked to join them on the third time.*

To him who is able to keep you from falling, and bring you faultless to his throne;  
To Jesus, our Savior be glory and honor from ages past, now and evermore.  
Amen, amen. Amen and peace to you; Amen, amen. Amen and peace to you.



**ORGANIST**  
Phil Otto

**GREETERS**  
7:45 ~ Ken & Jo Wendorff  
10:30 ~ Judine Schicker