

# Welcome to St. Peter Lutheran Church

Second Sunday after Epiphany, Sunday 18, 2026

In-Person Worship: St Peter at 9:00 am

Facebook Live, 9:00 a.m. at "St Peter Lutheran Church"

You Tube (Live) at "St Peters Lutheran Church Rockwell, IA"

Church Office: 641-822-3101 Email: stpeter@netins.net

Lay Minister Jason Grunklee: 641-990-9328 (call or text)

Email: grunklee0@gmail.com

## CALL TO WORSHIP (Please Stand)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**  
**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**  
**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn: ELW #715 "Christ, Be Our Light"

### Christ, Be Our Light

1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, lone  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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### Greeting (ELW p. 213)

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.**

## The Canticle of Praise

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth.

Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:

We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

## Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

(Please be seated)

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

*Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.*

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, O coastlands;  
    pay attention, you peoples from far away!  
The LORD called me before I was born;  
    while I was in my mother's womb he named me.  
<sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword;  
    in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow;  
    in his quiver he hid me away.  
<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
    Israel, in whom I will be glorified."  
<sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain;  
    I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the LORD  
    and my reward with my God."  
<sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says,  
    who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
    and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,  
    and my God has become my strength—  
<sup>6</sup> he says,  
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
the slave of rulers,  
“Kings shall see and stand up;  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM: Psalm 40:1-11**

*I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)*

<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently upon the LORD,  
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,  
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my ooting sure.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise <sup>to</sup> our God;  
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust <sup>in</sup> the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> **Happy are they who trust in the LORD!**  
**They do not turn to enemies or to those who <sup>1</sup> follow lies.**

<sup>5</sup> Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none  
can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can  
count.

<sup>6</sup> **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;  
you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not  
required.**

<sup>7</sup> And so I said, “Here I am; I come.  
In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

<sup>8</sup> **‘I love to do your will, O my God;  
your law is deep within me.’”**

<sup>9</sup> I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;  
I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

<sup>10</sup> **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your  
faithfulness and your deliverance;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup> You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me;  
may your steadfast love and your truth continually <sup>1</sup> keep me safe.

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

*Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

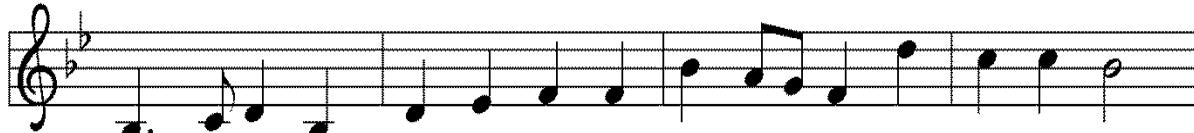
<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

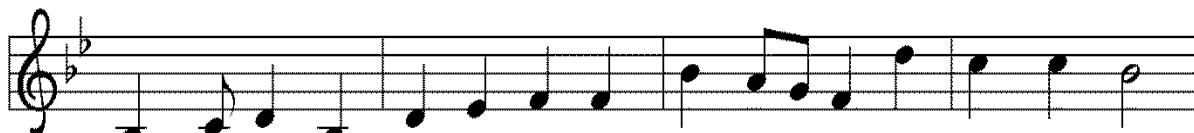
Word of God, Word of life. Thanks be to God!

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

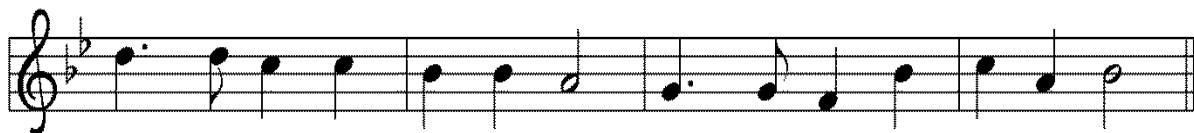
## Gospel Acclamation (Please Stand)



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## **Gospel:** John 1:29-42

*John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.*

The Holy Gospel according to John the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup> And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” <sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** (Please be seated)

## **Children’s Sermon**

## **Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day** ELW #732 “Borning Cry”

## Borning Cry



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;  
3 "In the mid-dle a-ges of your life, not too old, no lon-ger young,



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold.  
you were raised to praise the liv-ing Lord, to whom you now be-long.  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be-gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."  
I'll be there to make your vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun."  
I'll be there as I have al-ways been, with just one more sur-prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937  
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker  
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## Baptism: Creed Thomas Kockler son of Tanner & Margo Kockler

(Please Stand)

### Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

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 resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **The Prayers:**

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation. (*Response to the petition.* "Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**"

"Lord, Listen to" Your Children Praying" ELW #752

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord send your spirit to this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

*(Leader will lead you in prayer, then sing again.)*

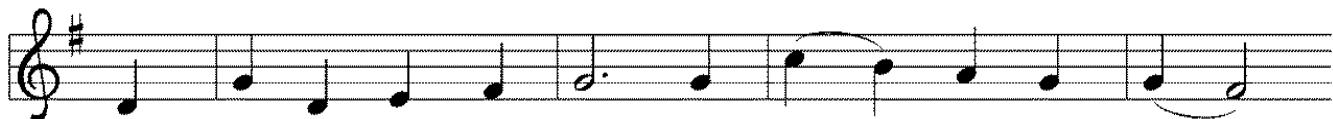
**Please remember in your prayers:** Christine Foell, Mona Arends, Jo Thomas, Jenn Butler, DiAnne & Dave Severin, Lorna Thompson, Wendell & Dawn Thomas, Audrey Harder, Kathleen Hansen, Larry Kruckenberg, Janet and Kevin Hoftiezer, Joan Petersen, Lon Peterson, Wendy Jorgensen, Seneca Echelberger, Jill Watters, Renee Dahlen, Diane Sterns and all who are homebound or hospitalized.

**"Please turn and greet your neighbor."**

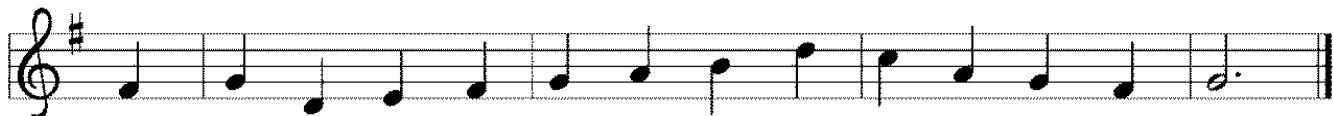
### **Offering**

**The Offertory:** (Please Stand) #686 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

## We Give Thee but Thine Own



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.  
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

### Offering Prayer

God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### Holy Communion

**Words of Institution:** “In the night in which he was betrayed...”

**The Lord’s Prayer:** “Our Father, who art in heaven...”

**Communion Distribution (Please be seated)**

### Prayer after Communion

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  bless you now and forever.

Amen.

## Sending Hymn ELW #661 "I Love to Tell the Story"

### I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry  
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911  
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **USHERS FOR JANUARY**

**Shane Heft, Tyler, Layton and Huston Christopherson & Families**

### **GREETERS FOR JANUARY**

**Dave & Christy Meinders**

### **COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR JANUARY**

**Christy Meinders**

### **ACOLYTES FOR JANUARY**

**Avery Kothenbeutel & Allee Butler**

**Congratulation's to Tanner & Margo Kockler on the baptism of their son, Creed Thomas Kockler.**

**This morning Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> the annual meeting will be held immediately following the service.**

### **Sunday School News:**

- **We will not have Sunday School** on the following dates:
  - Sunday January 18

### **Calendar for the Week**

Sunday, January 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am Worship Service with Communion and annual meeting following the service <b>NO</b> Coffee <b>NO</b> Sunday School <b>NO</b> Confirmation
Monday, January 19 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 pm Bingo at Care Center
Tuesday, January 20 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 Quilter's 6:30 pm Bible Study
Wednesday, January 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:15 am Prayer Service at Care Center 5:30 pm Fellowship Games
Saturday, January 24 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 am Men's breakfast
Sunday, January 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am Worship Service with Communion 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation 10:00 am Coffee