

# **Welcome to St. Peter Lutheran Church**

Third Sunday after Epiphany, Sunday 25, 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](mailto:stpeter@netins.net)

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

Email: [grunklee0@gmail.com](mailto: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 #817 "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"

## You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore *Tú has venido a la orilla*

1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -  
1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing  
2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther  
3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing  
4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the

ca - do ni\_a sa - bios ni\_a ri - cos; tan só - lo  
nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly  
treasure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my  
love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's  
long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing; O lov - ing

quie - res que yo te si - ga.  
ask - ing for me to fol - low.  
fish - nets and will for work - ing.  
will - ing to go on lov - ing.  
Friend, you have come to call me.

*Refrain / Estribillo*  
Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,  
Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,  
has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la\_a - re - na he de - ja - do mi  
you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my  
bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

2 *Tú sabes bien lo que tengo:  
en mi barca no hay oro no espadas;  
tan sólo redes y mi trabajo.*  
Estribillo

3 *Tú necesitas mis manos,  
mi cansancio que a otros descanse,  
amor que quiera seguir amando.*  
Estribillo

4 *Tú, Pescador de otros mares;  
ansia eterna de almas que esperan.  
Amigo bueno, que así me llamas.*  
Estribillo

Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936–1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946  
Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabaráin  
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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

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

(Please be seated)

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 9:1-4

*The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.*

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

**PSALM:** Psalm 27:1, 4-9

*The LORD is my light and my salvation. (Ps. 27:1)*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

<sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;

have mercy on me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message “Seek my face.”**

**Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

*Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God’s salvation.*

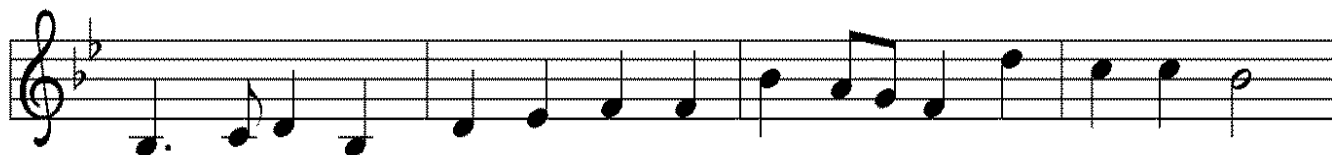
<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.

<sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

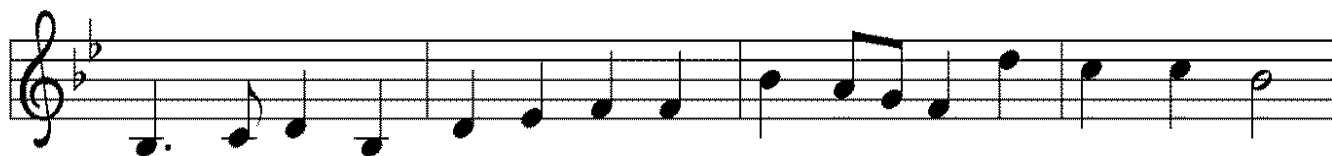
<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

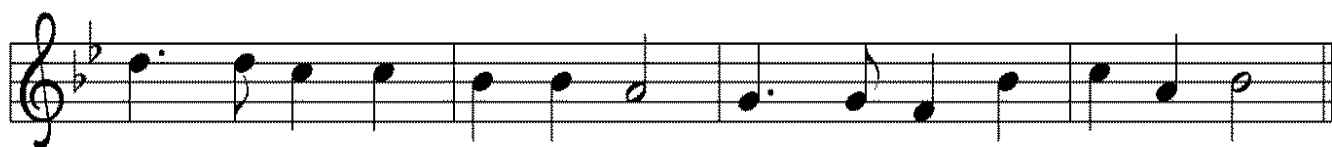
## Gospel Acclamation (Please Stand)



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:** Matthew 4:12-23

*Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned."

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

<sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And

he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."<sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him.<sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.<sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

## Children's Sermon

### Sermon

### Hymn of the Day ELW #843 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

#### Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



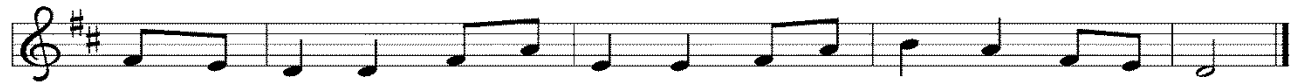
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;  
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;  
 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.  
 praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.  
 Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
 Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;  
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
 from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
 Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955  
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813  
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(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.)*

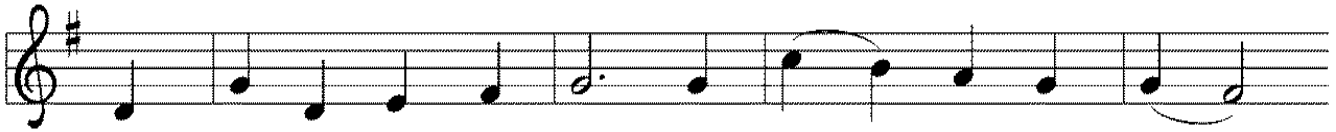
**Please remember in your prayers:** Rhett Dhondt, Christine Foell, Mona Arends, Jo Thomas, Jenn Butler, DiAnne & Dave Severin, Lorna Thompson, Wendell & Dawn Thomas, Audrey Harder, Kathleen Hansen, Larry Kruckenberg, Janet and Kevin Hoftiezer, Joan Petersen, Lon Peterson, Wendy Jorgensen, Seneca Echelberger,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

### **Offering**

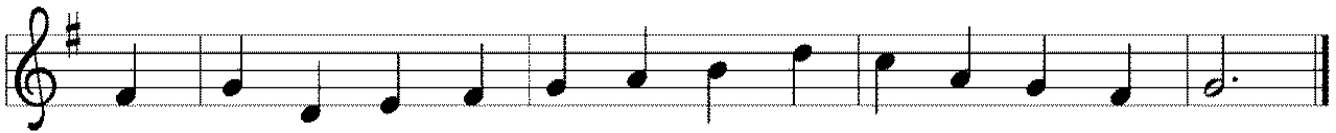
**"Please turn and greet your neighbor."**

**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.

**Amen.**

### 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** (Please stand)

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.

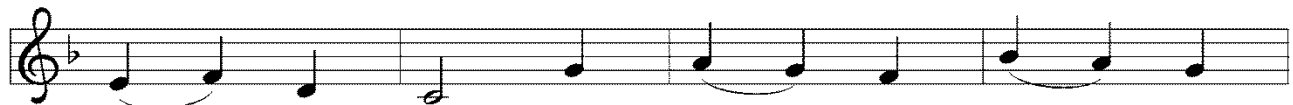
**Amen**

## Sending Hymn ELW #551 "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

### The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
joy like seed and, all our days, to  
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
share a dream and help - the blind to see.  
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

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## Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **USHERS FOR FEBRUARY**

Dave, Christy & Troy Meinders, Mark Twedt & Families

### **GREETERS FOR FEBRUARY**

Kyle & Danielle Kothenbeutel

### **COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR FEBRUARY**

Angie Twedt

### **ACOLYTES FOR FEBRUARY**

8<sup>th</sup> – Allee & Lucas

22<sup>nd</sup> – Aspen & Avery

**For those of you that did not** make it to church last Sunday when the annual meeting was held please make sure you pick up a 2026 handbook on a table in the Narthex.

**Those of you that have anything** for the February newsletter I will need it by Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **Calendar for the Week**

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
Tuesday, December 27 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 Quilter's 6:30 pm Bible Study
Sunday, February 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation 10:00 am Coffee