

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

The Fourth Day after Epiphany Sunday, February 1, 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 #873 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



1 Re - joi - ce, ye pure in heart! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing;  
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,  
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth  
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.  
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.  
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

*Refrain*



Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing!

5 At last the march shall end;  
the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their home at last,  
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,  
the Lord whom we adore:  
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.  
Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

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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 Cantic 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, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

(Please be seated)

**FIRST READING:** Micah 6:1-8

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.*

<sup>1</sup> Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> "O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

<sup>6</sup> "With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you

but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

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

**PSALM:** Psalm 15

*LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)*

<sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup> **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup> they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup> **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the  
innocent. Those who do these things shall never be <sup>l</sup> overthrown.

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

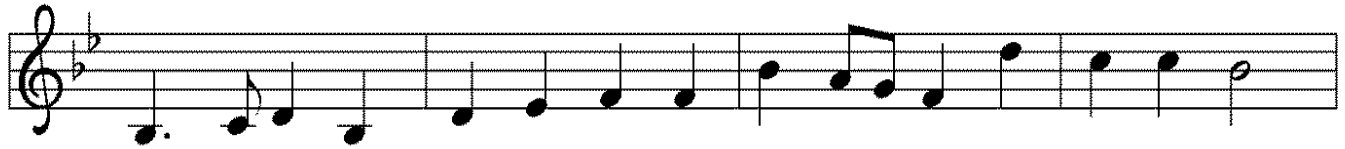
<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom

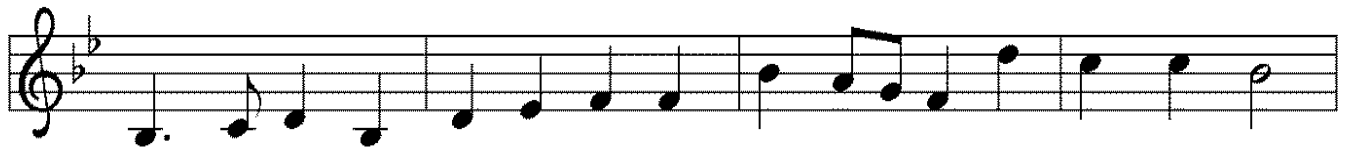
from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

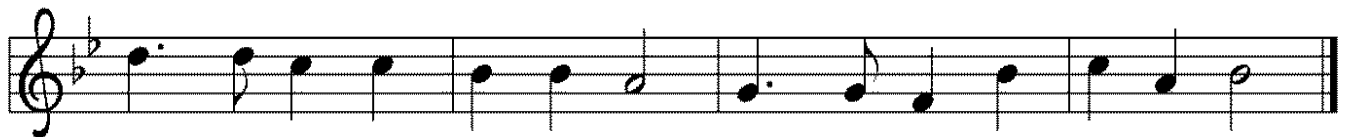
**Gospel Acclamation** (Please Stand)



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 5:1-12

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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

## Children’s Sermon

### Sermon

#### Hymn of the Day ELW #522 “As We Gather at Your Table”

##### As We Gather at Your Table



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;  
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri-umphant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;  
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love’s vic-t’ry known.  
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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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, Marlys Johnson, 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 Stearns and all who are homebound or hospitalized.

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

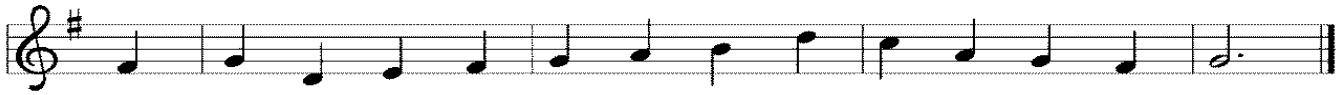
### **Offering**

**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.

**Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught;

**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.**

### 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 #669 "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"**

# Rise Up, O Saints of God!



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;  
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;  
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;  
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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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

Lenten season will soon be upon us with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Women of Faith will once again serve delicious soup suppers prior to some of the Lenten Services. Please check the handbook to see if you are included on one of the

committees. You will also receive a letter with information about the supper. Soup suppers will be served on February 25, March 4, March 11, March 18, and March 25. If you have questions or would like to help with any of these please call Lana Schaefer 641-425-7615.

Thank you in advance for all those working and those attending. The suppers will be served at 5:30 followed by our Lenten Service at 7:00.

**Youth for Christ will be having** a Valentine's Dinner on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at Faith United Church Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 6:00 pm and dinner served at 6:30 pm. They will be serving spaghetti and meatballs, green beans, salad, breadsticks and dessert. RSVP at 641-425-5708 by Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. This is a free will donation. You can pick up a flyer on the table in the narthex with more information.

## **St Peters Women of Faith**

**Women of Faith meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday** of every month at 1:30 for bible study, business meeting, coffee and fellowship. We are currently studying the book of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians' "Wisdom for Living'.

The Quilters meet every Tuesday at 9:00. All members are welcome to come and help with this important Mission Project.

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **February:**

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>** – monthly WOF meeting at 1:30 in the Parish Hall. All women are welcome to join.

Carol Ames has the lesson and Carol Wessels is hostess.

**February 16<sup>th</sup>** – Bingo at the Rockwell Care Center. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Louise Patterson.

**February 25<sup>th</sup>** – WOF will serve Lenten Soup Supper prior to Lenten Service. The suppers are free-will offering and open to the public.

#### **March:**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>** - **WOF's** monthly meeting at 1:30 in the Parish Hall. All women are invited to attend.

Bev Peters has the lesson, and Nancy Corporon is hostess.

**March 4, 11, 18, 25<sup>th</sup>**– WOF will serve Lenten Soup Suppers prior to Lenten Services. The suppers are free-will offering and everyone is welcome.

**March 16<sup>th</sup>** – WOF have bingo at the Rockwell Care Center. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Louise Patterson.

***Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who respects the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30***

## Calendar for the Week

Sunday, February 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation
Tuesday, February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1:30 pm St Peter Circle 9:00 am Quilter's 6:30 pm Bible Study
Wednesday, February 4 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm Fellowship Games
Sunday, February 8 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am Worship Service with Communion 10:00 am Coffee 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Confirmation