

# PETERSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 13, 2020



Our mission is “to Know Christ,  
to Grow in Christ,  
and to Show the Love of Christ.”

# Welcome to Petersburg Lutheran Church

Our mission is "To Know Christ, to Grow in Christ,  
and to Show the Love of Christ"

*We are glad you are here!*

Prelude Music

Pianist: Lila Trask

Welcome

Pastor Eric

Invocation

Opening Hymn "Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise" ELW # 834

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

**Greeting:** 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.**

**Kyrie**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord

**Lord have mercy**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy**

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen**

**Prayer of the Day:** O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21**

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives'*

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13**

<sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul;

and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

<sup>2</sup>**Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits,**

<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,

<sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>6</sup>**The Lord works vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.

<sup>8</sup>**The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

<sup>9</sup>He will not always chide,  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

<sup>10</sup>**He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor requite us according to our iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

<sup>12</sup>**as far as the east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

<sup>13</sup>As a father pities his children,  
so the Lord pities those who fear him.

## **Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12**

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own

minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

### Special Music

Be ye kind, One to another.  
Tenderhearted, forgiving one another,  
Even as God for Christ's sake has  
forgiven you.  
Do-do-doodley-do,  
Ephesians 4: 32

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

*When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.*

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then

his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’<sup>30</sup> But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.<sup>31</sup> When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.<sup>32</sup> Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.<sup>33</sup> Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’<sup>34</sup> And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.<sup>35</sup> So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: **Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**

Pastor Eric Olsen

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

*Presider:* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Presider:* If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleans us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Most Merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

*Presider:* In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ’s authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the Father , Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn**                      *“Take My Life that I may Be ”*                      **ELW # 685**

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
 it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own;  
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 at thy feet its treasure store;  
 take myself, and I will be  
 ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.  
 Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

## **Apostles Creed**

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.

## **Prayers Of The People**

### **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.

### **Offering**

#### **Offertory Prayer**

**Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, our selves, our time and our possessions, sign of your gracious love. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them and throughout this week we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption off all that you have made, for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**

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



Closing Hymn "Go My Children With My Blessing" ELW # 543



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.  
Music: AR HYD Y NOS. Welsh traditional  
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

**Sending Response**

We are welcomed into God's love,

**Just as we are**

We are sent into God's world,

**To be a reflection of Christ.**

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**ZOOM FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Join us Today (Sept 13th) Fellowship time on ZOOM. Please log in using the information below. You can join online by [Clicking Here](#) Password: 874950 or Call: 1 253-215-8782 ~if busy call 1 669-900-9128 At prompt enter Meeting ID: 846 0569 4721

## **Prayers for Health & Healing**

Tom Parker

Tim Fisk

Renee Volk

Marcy Gelhaus

Roald Norheim

Laura Lynn

Maryanne Solmonson

## **Prayers for those Serving our Country**

Jesse Anderson

serving in Bangor, WI

Ryan Beale

US Marine, serving in San Diego, CA

Dave Chapman

serving in Honolulu, HI

Shania Dahlberg

serving at Camp Pendleton, CA

Jon Floyd

serving in San Diego, CA

Trinity Dunham Parker

serving in Bangor, WA

Michael Gardner

serving in Fort Meade, MD

Alan McCay

USCG, serving in Port Angeles, WA

Erik Paulson

US Marines, serving in Pensacola, FL

Michael Serafini

serving at Ft Irwin, CA

Shane Small

US Army Ranger, Ft Richardson. AK

Kevin Thynes

serving in South Korea

Peter Vermeer

USCG, serving in Connecticut

## **Prayers for Our Church Council**

Church Council: Desi Burrell, Ginger Evens, Secretary;

Susan Holmes, President; Leesa Murph, Youth; Tom Parker,

Liv Perschon, Vice President; John Small; John Swanson;

Chris Van Ettinger, Treasurer

## **Viewing Facebook Live Worship Services**

You can still view our worship services on Facebook even if you do not have a Facebook account. Click [HERE](#) or go to PetersburgLutheranChurch2018+. Just ignore the sign in/log in prompt.

### **Sermon audio/video:**

<https://www.petersburglutheran.com/sermons-2/>

Service is broadcast on 88.5 FM Radio

Follow us on Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

## **Holy Communion**

We will be celebrating Holy Communion next on October 4th.

## **Bulletin Cover Art**

We are looking for people who are interested in submitting a picture or artwork for the bulletin cover relating to the scripture lessons for that Sunday. You can find the coming week's scripture lesson at the bottom of the last page of the bulletin. If you would like to look further ahead, please contact the church office and we will send you the scripture lessons for the coming weeks. 772-3144 or [plcakoffice@gmail.com](mailto:plcakoffice@gmail.com). Thank you!

## **This Week at Petersburg Lutheran Church**

**Sunday, Sept 13th**

8:30 am... Adult Bible Class, Fellowship Hall

9:00 am... "Sing for Joy" St. Olaf Choir, Northfield, MN

10 am... Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

9:30 am and 2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

**Thursday**

3:45 pm... Executive Committee Meeting

**Sunday, Sept 20th 10 am ...**Worship Service 88.5 FM

10 am~ Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

9:30 am and 2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

### **Petersburg Lutheran Church**

Pastor Eric Olsen ~ [plcakpastor@gmail.com](mailto:plcakpastor@gmail.com)

406 Excel Street PO Box 709 ~Office: 772-3144

### **Pastor Vacation & Continuing Education & ZOOM Bible Study**

The Lectionary Bible Study on ZOOM will not be held the next two Thursdays and will resume on October 1st. Mark Kubo will be preaching on September 20th and 27th while Pastor is off for vacation and continuing education.

### **Birthdays This Week**

**Sun. Sept. 13:** Charlie Rhoden

Tues. Sept. 15: Sue Paulsen

**Fri. Sept. 18:** Miriam Swanson

Mon. Sept. 14: Avery Skeek

**September Prayer Partner:** Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Juneau  
**September Mission Support:** Prisoners for Christ; Woodinville, Washington  
**Salvation Army Pantry:** canned fruits

### **Your Offering**

Thank you for continuing to bring your offering to church and mailing it in. Some have started to contribute electronically by giving from their checking account or a credit card. You can access the secure giving site through our web page click [HERE](#) and clicking the words GIVING along the top of the web page. You can also go directly to the secure site by clicking [HERE](#)

### **Your Offerings**

Offering Month to Date \$9725

Offering Year to Date \$136,512

Monthly General Budget \$20, 162

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

September 13, 2020

### LECTIONARY 24

#### Deep Waters of Forgiveness

Churches have different practices around baptism. In some churches, a small bowl holds just enough water to trickle a few drops over the head. In others, the bowl is wider and the water is splashed with the whole hand. In yet other churches, the person is fully immersed in a font large enough for them to go all the way underwater. Sometimes the water stays in the bowl, sometimes a bit splashes out, and sometimes the whole area around the font gets wet. But no matter the amount of water used, there's always more where it comes from. God's waters of forgiveness run deeper than we will ever know.

The waters of baptism are so deep that even a few sprinkles cover a lifetime of falling short. We are forgiven time and again for a myriad of sins. And because the weight of sin has been lifted from us, we are free to extend such forgiveness to others.

In fact, our faith depends on it. In the Lord's Prayer, our petition for forgiveness is directly tied to our own willingness to forgive others: "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." Thankfully, we are not expected to conjure up such forgiveness on our own. We draw from the endless supply of divine reserves. Where we, and Peter, might have difficulty forgiving a mere seven times, Jesus reminds us that his kind of forgiveness can be measured on an exponential scale.

While our capacity for forgiveness may be limited, Jesus' well of forgiveness is deep enough for all people and all matters of sin. When we find ourselves struggling to extend forgiveness to others, we return to the baptismal font. This is an overflowing well of love. Drawing from this water, we draw from the limitless supply of forgiveness.

Remembering our baptism, we are reminded not only that we are forgiven, but that we, too, are agents of forgiveness in the world.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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Next week's readings: Jonah 3:10--4:11; Psalm 145:1-8, Philippians 1:21-30  
Matthew 20:1-16