

PETERSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 31, 2021

REFORMATION SUNDAY

***God is our refuge and strength, a
very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1***



***Be still then and know
that I am God. Psalm 46:10***

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

Welcome to Petersburg Lutheran Church

We are glad you are here!

PRELUDE

Musician: Tamara Evens

WELCOME

Pastor Eric Olsen

INVOCATION

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.....

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.

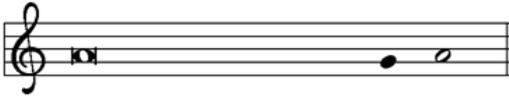
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.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

Thanks be to God!

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.

Opening Hymn “Listen, God is Calling“ ELW #513



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



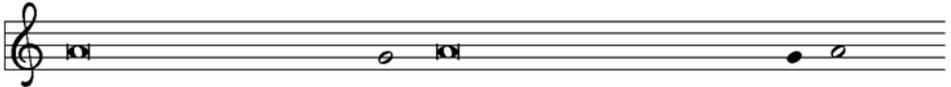
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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 mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "This is the Feast" ELW Setting Four pg 149

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Cont.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader: The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the
earth melts away.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God
has brought upon the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks
the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among
the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28 *Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;

²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Reader: The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: “*How Firm a Foundation*” **ELW# 796**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Eric Olsen

HYMN “*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*” **ELW # 597**

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN: “*Create In Me*” ELW#186

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offertory Prayer

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

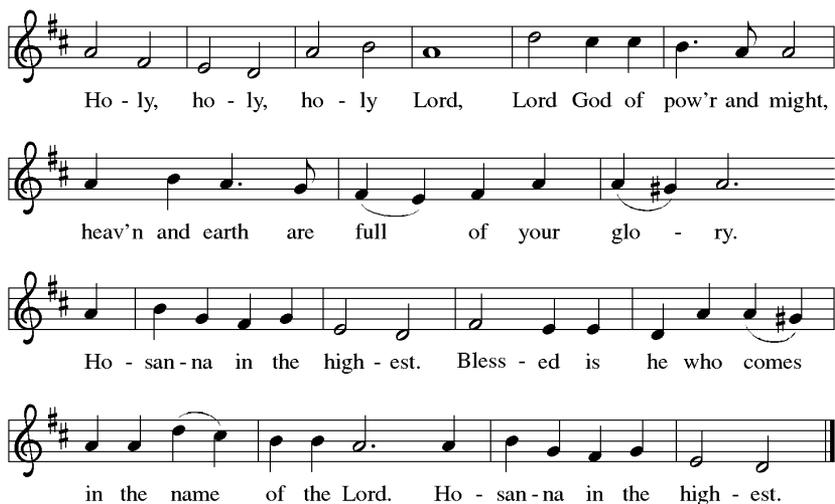
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

...



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.
 Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we
 proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

D:

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
**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.**

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Hymns

“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” **ELW# 800**

“I Love to Tell the Story” **ELW# 661**

“Rise, O Sun of Righteousness” **ELW# 657**

BLESSING and PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CLOSING *“A Mighty Fortress”* **ELW #504**

SENDING RESPONSE

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

This Week at Petersburg Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 31st

8:30 am...Adult Bible Class Studying Matthew

10 am ... Worship Service 88.5 FM

Facebook: Petersburg Lutheran Church 2018+

2 pm ... 'The Lutheran Hour' on 88.5 FM

Thursday 10 am... Lectionary Bible Study

1:00 pm Worship Service at the Manor

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.

Ushers needed. Sign up sheets will be on the back table. If anyone would like to volunteer as an usher, please sign up on the sheet or call Shannon Peeler, 518-0377. Thank you!

Worship & Congregation Meeting on November 21st

Please join us for worship on November 21st. Bishop Shelly Wickstrom will be preaching and presiding at Holy Communion that Sunday. Please plan to stay following worship for a meeting with Bishop Wickstrom where she will go over the process of calling a new pastor for Petersburg Lutheran Church.

Salvation Army Pantry: They could use donations of: Pasta sides, like Rice-a-Roni, noodles, Ramen Noodles, canned fruit, canned meats other than tuna, small sizes of peanut butter and jelly.

Ruth Circle Quilters

Quilters meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month
10am-2pm in the Church Basement.

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+

October Prayer Partner: Trapper Creek Fellowship

October 3% Mission Support: Each month PLC designates 3% of it's offering to a particular ministry. Petersburg Mental Health had been designated to receive our October support. However, due to the changes that have taken place there, they no longer need our assistance. The Church Council has selected Petersburg's newest non-profit "Humanity in Progress" to receive the October Mission Support this year. Humanity in Progress was founded in 2020 and is focused on addressing Housing insecurity in Petersburg, connecting people to basic needs and resources, and addressing food insecurity. They currently have a food and clothing drive in progress. More information can be found at psghumanity.org

Prayers for Health & Healing:

Joseph Tagaban, Ken Caulum, Mariann Solmonson, Roald Norheim,

Prayers for those Serving our Country

Jesse Anderson	Serving in Bangor, WI
Ryan Beale	US Marine, Deployed
Dave Chapman	Serving in Honolulu, HI
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 in Swindon England
Shane Small	US Army Ranger, Ft Richardson. AK
Kevin Thynes	Serving in South Korea
Peter Vermeer	USCG, serving in Connecticut
Chase Hammer	Us Marine, Jacksonville, NC

Prayers for Our Church Council Church Council:
Chris Van Ettinger– President, Desi Burrell– Vice President
Robin Roberts– Treasurer, Nancy Berg-Worship
Tom Parker-Youth, John Swanson-Building Maintenance,
Bridget Wittstock– Good Beginnings, Kara Newman, John Small



Happy Birthday!!

Monday, Nov 1st: Harry Rogers

Wednesday, Nov. 3rd: Svea Burrell

Thursday, Nov. 4th: Joshua Thynes

Friday, Nov. 5th: Molly & Sam Volk

Saturday, Nov. 6th: Cadence Flint

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:

October Monthly Budget \$21,145

October Offering to Date \$12,330

Yearly Budget \$253,750

Yearly Offering to Date \$177,044

Holy Communion

On the first and third Sundays of the month we will have two stations for Communion. One by the organ or you may go up to the Altar Rail. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays we will have one station in the front of the Church.

Thank you Volunteers	This Week: Oct. 31 st	Next Week: Nov. 7 th
Musician	Tamara Even	Helen Mehrkens
Reader	Sue Flint	Bill Moulton
Counter	Katey Gilpin	Katey Gilpin
Coffee Crew	Church Council	Last Name A-E
Video	Jim Roberts	

GOSPEL MESSAGE: October 31, 2021

Free, Indeed?

Today the scriptures tell us that God’s grace comes freely, as a gift. But is anything really free? Advertisements claiming “free” goods or services pique our attention: What’s the catch? What does the small print say? Even beyond the world of commerce, we know that nothing comes without a price: time and sacrifice are required for a scholarship to college, a promotion at work, a happy marriage, a worry-free retirement. Our worthiness and success can seem to hang on our ability to perform, to do well, to get things right, to excel. Even with those closest to us—friends, coworkers, and family members—we may feel just one mistake or misstep away from losing their approval. In such a world, is God any different?

Yet before we were even born, before our first exam or job interview, before our first failure or sin, before our first fight or our first loss, Jesus Christ hung on a cross to be a sign that God’s grace is free indeed. To his cross he drew every cost, every pain, every judgment, every failure—and what poured forth was only love, as pure gift. In his cross, there is no catch or small print; there is simply the divine love that has been there for us all along. This is the love of a God who made the world and called it good. It is the love of a God who formed us and gave us life. It is the love of a God who sees us, suffers with us, and binds up all our wounds.

Child of God, God loves you, deeply and freely. As an assembly, we are gathered by this truth. We practice it in the font and at the table, through our words and in our offerings. It calls us to always be reformed so God’s grace and love may pour forth through us into the world, free of charge.

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Next weeks Readings: 1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

Petersburg Lutheran Church

Pastor Eric Olsen plcakpastor@gmail.com

406 Excel Street PO Box 709

Office: 772-3144 Email: plcakoffice@gmail.com

Good Morning Church Family,

You are all invited to a farewell party for Pastor Eric and Carol on **Sunday November 7th from 5-7pm** in the Holy Cross House. Dinner will be provided. No need to bring anything other than yourselves. We will be encouraging masks while moving about.

If you are uncomfortable in a group setting or the dinner does not fit in your schedule, Pastor Eric and Carol will be greeting folks for a drive-by farewell on **Sunday November 7th from Noon until 12:30pm** along side the Holy Cross House. Please come and enjoy a time of fellowship and wish them well on their well deserved retirement.

RSVP'S are appreciated but not required.

Desi Burrell 907-518-1110 or desiburrell1@gmail.com.

I just want an idea on how many to cook for.

Blessings,

Desi

Good Beginnings Preschool Christmas Wreath Fundraiser

Each Noble Fir wreath is dressed with incense cedar, juniper berries, pine cones, and hollies with bright, red berries. Wreaths make a beautiful, festive gift and can be drop shipped to any address in the lower 48.

In town wreath price \$68.00
Drop ship wreath price \$88.00
With an additional \$22.00 for deliveries to Hawaii and other cities in Alaska

See a sample wreath at Petersburg Lutheran Church or Good Beginnings Preschool.



You can place an order with any Good Beginnings Board Member or GINGER EVENS (907) 518-0943 Ginger will be taking orders in the fellowship hall after the next two Sunday for half an hour following church.

Wreaths will be available the week of Thanksgiving.