

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
 Blessing of Our Labor  
 Service of Holy Communion  
 Sunday, September 4, 2022, 10:30 am

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**PRELUDE**

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does. God of mercy and forgiveness,

**we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven, † and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

*"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"*

#808

1. Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;  
 I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:  
 you alone are our life and our peace and our love.  
 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.
2. Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.  
 May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
3. As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,  
 to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.  
 For you saved me by giving your body and blood.  
 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.
4. I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;  
 but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.  
 And with all of the fam'ly you saved by your love,  
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

## 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.**

## LITANY FOR THE BLESSING OF OUR LABORS

Almighty God, when you formed us lovingly out of the dust of the earth, you breathed into us the breath of life and gave us work and purpose for living.

**You placed Adam in the garden to till and keep it.**

Through our work, you have made us co-creators with you, shaping the world in which we live.

**Through our work, you give us dignity and strength.**

By our labor, we enrich the world.

**By our labor, we enjoy the fruits of creation.**

By our labor, we find direction and purpose.

**By our labor, our families are made secure.**

For providing varieties of work and for blessing us by our labor,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those who plow the fields and those who make the plow; for steelworkers and machinists; for those who work with their hands and those who move the earth,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those who tend the sick and those who seek new cures; for doctors and nurses, for scientists and technicians; for counselors and psychologists,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those who think and those who imagine; for those who create technology and those who maintain it; for inventors and explorers, for artists and musicians; for those who write, and those who entertain,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those who work in offices and those who work in warehouses; for secretaries and receptionists, for stockers and bookkeepers; for those who market products and for those who move them,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those who work at home; for caregivers and stay-at-home parents; for grandparents and those whose labor may go unnoticed,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those who inspire our minds and those who motivate us; for teachers and preachers, for social workers and church workers; for those who help the poor and those who work with our children,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those whose labor is tidiness and cleanliness; for janitors and sanitary workers and housekeepers; for those who produce cleaning products and those who use them,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

For those who protect us and our nation; for military personnel and fire fighters, for law enforcement officers and elected officials,

**we give you thanks, O Lord.**

You bless us all with skills and gifts for labor.

**You provide us with opportunities to use them for the benefit of others as well as ourselves.**

Guard and protect those who labor in the world.

**Bless the work of our hands, O Lord.**

Look kindly upon the unemployed and the disabled.

**Give health to the sick and hope to the poor.**

Keep us from laboring only for greed.

**Make us loving and responsible in all that we do. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. Direct us, O Lord God,

**in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

**The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**SECOND READING**

Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

p. 142

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL**

Luke 14:25-33

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Ann Marshall

**HYMN OF THE DAY***"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"*

#802

1. Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure,  
through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in his footsteps treading, trav'lers here our home above,  
Full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Savior's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.
2. Let us suffer here with Jesus, and with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness; where he is there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter, we shall reap celestial joy:  
All discomforts that annoy shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
3. Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death he conquered death,  
He will free us from destruction, give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion that would lead us into sin;  
And the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heaven.  
Jesus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
4. Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead  
that to life we may awaken. Jesus, you are now our head,  
We are your own living members: where you live, there we shall be  
In your presence constantly, living there with you forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be; life eternal grant to me.

**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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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.

*(brief silence)*

*Petitions end:* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MEAL

#### OFFERING SONG

*"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"*

#182

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seed that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. Gracious God,

**In your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

p.144

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

#### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*At the conclusion: Amen*

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## SHARING OF COMMUNION

### COMMUNION HYMN

*"Lamb of God"*

p. 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*"My Faith Looks up to Thee"*

#759

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away;  
oh, let me from this day be wholly thine!
2. May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;  
as thou hast died for me, oh, may my love to thee  
pure warm, and changeless be, a living fire.
3. While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.
4. When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me  
roll;  
Blest Savior, then, in love fear and distrust remove;  
oh, bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!

*"All My Hope on God Is Founded"*

#757

1. All my hope on God is founded  
who will all my trust renew,  
who through change and chance will guide me,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown, God alone,  
call my heart to be thine own.
2. Mortal pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray our trust;  
what with care and toil we fashion,  
tow'r and temple, fall to dust.  
But thy pow'r, hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tow'r.
3. Great thy goodness, e'er enduring;  
deep thy wisdom, passing thought;  
splendor, light, and life attending thee,  
beauty springing out of naught.  
Evermore from thy store  
newborn worlds rise and adore.

4. Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of God's own Son.  
Christ doth call one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

**TABLE BLESSING**                      *At the conclusion: Amen*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**      *At the conclusion: Amen*

### **SENDING**

**BENEDICTION**                      *At the conclusion: Amen*

**SENDING SONG**                      *"O God beyond All Praising"*

#880

1. O God beyond all praising, we worship you today.  
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,  
at blessings without number and mercies without end;  
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
2. The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,  
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;  
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown-  
though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:  
for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,  
and we through him are given the final victory.
3. Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;  
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**