SAINT PETER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Summer Worship

Eleventh Weekend after Pentecost
August 8 and 9, 2026

An Introduction to Worship
Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Prelude
Announcements
Silence in Preparation for Worship
Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity,☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin to God.
Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**
Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Gathering Song **"My Lord, What a Morning"** **#438**

REFRAIN: My Lord; what a morning; My Lord, what a morning; oh, my Lord, what a morning; when the stars begin to fall.

You will hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. *REFRAIN*

You will hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. *REFRAIN*

You will hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. *REFRAIN*

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Children's Message (Sunday) – Michelle Schaffer

First Reading 1 Kings 19:9-18

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85: 8-13

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.
Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.
Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before the Lord
and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Announcement of the Gospel
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Adam Wutka

Hymn of the Day **"O Bread of Life"** **#480**

**O bread of life from heaven, O food to pilgrims given,
O manna from above: feed with the blessed sweetness
of your divine completeness the souls that want and need your love.**

**O fount of grace redeeming, O river ever streaming
from Jesus' wounded side: come now, your love bestowing
on thirsting souls, and flowing till all are fully satisfied.**

**We love you, Jesus, tender, in all your hidden splendor
within these means of grace. Oh, let the veil be riven,
and our clear eye in heaven behold your glory face to face.**

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

Petitions end: Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The Peace is shared among us.

Offering

Offering Song "As Saints of Old" No. 695 Verse 3 only

In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. An**d 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.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy (spoken)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

--- INDOOR SERVICES ONLY ---

The Remembrance

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.

Invitation to Communion

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Communion Hymns **"For the Bread Which You Have Broken" #494**

**For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

**By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

**With the saints who now adore you, seated at the heav'nly board,
may the church still waiting for you keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.**

**In your service, Lord, defend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us let your kingdom come, O Lord.**

***"When Peace Like a River"* #785**

**When peace like a river attendth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll.
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,**

REFRAIN: It is well, it is well with my soul. It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul). It is well, it is well with my soul.

**Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control, that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.** *REFRAIN*

**He lives - - - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!** *REFRAIN*

**Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpets shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul.** *REFRAIN*

Worship continues at "ALL SERVICES," below.

—- OUTDOOR SERVICE ONLY —-

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

THE REMEMBRANCE

Please open the bread side of your container.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

The Body of Christ, given for you.

All receive the bread.

Please remove the seal on the cup.

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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

All receive the cup.

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.

ALL SERVICES

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

Sending **"Lift Every Voice and Sing"** **#841**

Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listn'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated weekly at St. Peter and on most major festivals of the Church Year. At the Table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. In this Sacrament, the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All are invited to come forward. Those who are baptized are welcome to receive the bread and cup. Those not baptized or not yet communicant should feel free to come forward for a blessing. ***We now have gluten-free packets available for the outdoor services.***

OUR SUNDAY 10:30 SERVICE is broadcast live on WLKR 95.3 FM and can be viewed on our Facebook page after 2pm.

THIS WEEKEND'S COMBINED SCRIPT/BULLETIN is available on the St. Peter webpage (stpeter-elca.org). Click on "Current Bulletin" on our homepage under "Quick Links." Please take your bulletin home with you to reference the calendar and read the announcements!

IF YOU NEED HEARING ASSISTANCE, we have devices available. Please see an usher for assistance.

ALTAR FLOWERS are in honor of the members of our St. Peter Church family! There are a few dates left for the rest of the year. The price is $40.00. Flowers may be picked up before noon on Sunday or on Tuesday during office hours.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH BAGS that are available in the narthex have recently been restocked with new coloring books, crayons and toys. Please help yourself before the services and let your children enjoy the newly revamped church bags!

ATTENDANCE FOR AUGUST 1-2

36 (5:30) 61 (9:00) 54 (10:30) 527 views of Facebook

The Worship Assistant Schedules for September through December will be generated mid-August. Please complete a green sheet in the narthex if you want to make changes or if you would like to become a worship assistant (see * below). Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help with these ministries, and be sure to make any changes or call Denise in the office before August 13th.

CONTRIBUTING TO WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND:

Presiding – The Rev. Adam D. Wutka
Accompanist * – Dennis Stoneham, Saturday; Mary Bauer, Sunday
Music Director – Bob Battiste

	5:30pm	9:00am (outdoor)	10:30am
Assisting Minister*	Gloria Setzler	Michelle Schaffer	Kathy McClendon
Lector*	Dot Herman	Nick Wenzel	Dale Schnetzer
Ushers*		Bruce Thayer	Darlene Janka
		Cindy Thayer	Len Janka
Communion Assts.*	Ellie Sigsworth	Rebecca Beck	Donna Young
			Stu Young

Slides Projection * Sandy Reitzel
Slides Preparation * Connie Hanke
Altar Guild * (August) – Pam Mangold & Cindy Thayer
Liturgical Arts Team * – Becky Beck, Amy Parcher, Michelle Schaffer, Sue Silcox, Laura Winkler Smith, Barb Spino
Office Administrator – Denise Hipp

CHURCH NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR PASTOR ADAM will be this week on Tuesday, August 11th at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. There will be an "Ice Cream Bar" reception following the installation. Please come and introduce yourself to Pastor Adam and his family!

THE NORTHWESTERN OHIO SYNOD COUNCIL passed a resolution inviting congregations who are hosting the bishop (or one of the assistants) to take a Special Offering. Please make your checks payable to the Northwestern Ohio Synod Annual Fund and send it to Northwestern Ohio Synod, Office of the Bishop, 1701 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, Ohio, 45840 or place in the offering plate. The goal of the Annual Fund is to help the Northwestern Ohio Synod meet local needs as we live out our God given mission: ***"Sent by the Crucified and Risen Jesus to Make Disciples, Equip Leaders, Strengthen Parishes, and Nurture New Communities for the Renewal of Northwestern Ohio and the World".***

CHRISTIAN SERVICE DAY COLLECTION During the month of August, we will be collecting items for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. For a list of items needed, please see the display in the narthex by the elevator. Thank you!

HURON COUNTY FAIR GAME VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Volunteers are needed at the fair on Tues., Aug. 18th for the games in the Pickworth Building after the Kid's Pedal Pull. We need help to set up games and supervise during the event. Prize boxes are already prepared, and some games are available as well. Anyone interested in helping or if you have any questions, please contact Michelle Schaffer at 419-706-8732.

FELLOWSHIP WEEKENDS To give our wonderful fellowship team a break in August, we are looking for teams of people to help with these events. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex with dates chosen for fellowship. If you would like to help, please sign your name and contact information. Thank you!

CHRISTIAN DAY NURSERY SCHOOL We still have openings in all our classes for the 2026-2027 school year. Registration forms can be found on the preschool office door or online at stpeter-elca.org. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Schaffer at 419-706-8732 or christiandns1967@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED by the end of October for our PowerPoint Ministry. Please call the church if you are interested in learning how to create our slides. Training will be provided! We would like to thank Connie Hanke for her many years of service to this ministry!

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY Since there have been no volunteers to drive the church bus, we will not have a transportation ministry at this time.

BLESSING BOX DONATIONS The Outreach Ministry is asking for donations of canned or boxed non-perishable items during the months of July and August. Donations can be placed near the green bins in the narthex. Thank you!

MONEY COUNTER We are in need of an additional money counter on Sunday mornings after the 10:30am service. If interested, please contact the office. Thank you!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY has an overabundance of crocheted shawls, afghans and lap robes available. They are now located in the office under the counter, so please help yourself if you are in need of one, or if you know someone that could use one!

$ $ $ JULY FINANCIALS $ $ $

Income for Budgeted Expenses $181,452.36

Total Expenses for Budgeted Expenses $178,345.87

Income above Expenses $3,106.49

At the end of July, we had taken in about $3,000 more than we have spent. Our pastoral expenses will be doubling, now that we are paying Pastor Adam instead of our Interims. Our giving will need to increase in order to cover the increased costs. We need to be faithful in our giving and show our appreciation to God for bringing us our new Pastor.

COTTAGE MEETINGS Now that we have a new pastor, it is time to start building stronger relationships together with him in the ministry we share. The Mutual Ministry Team has set up a series of Cottage Meetings to provide congregation members and Pastor Adam a chance to get to know each other better. These small gatherings will be hosted in various congregation members' homes and limited to 12 additional people. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board. Please prayerfully consider joining one of these Cottage Meetings or hosting one yourself as we welcome Pastor Adam into our family of faith. The Cottage Meetings currently scheduled are as follows:

8/19 - 6:30pm - The Fehlan Residence – 29270 Route 511, Wellington

8/26 - 6:30pm - The Ruggles Residence – 4562 Huber Road, Norwalk

9/2 - 6:30pm - The Stevens Residence – 63 Twin Oaks, Milan

9/10 - 6:30pm - The Gottfried Residence – 1453 New State Road N., Norwalk

If you are interested and willing to host a Cottage Meeting in your home in the 2nd half of September, please reach out to a member of the Mutual Ministry team (Scott Beck, Lily Culler, Carol Hiszem, Ellie Sigsworth, Joyce Stevens, Nick Wenzel) or the church office.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS With another school year upon us, many of our St. Peter youth and adults are headed back to the classroom this month. Toward the end of worship at each service on August 22-23, we will offer a Blessing of the Backpacks. Students, faculty, and staff are welcome to come forward for a blessing and bring their school bag (if they so choose).

CALENDAR – Week of August 9, 2026

Sunday, August 9 **Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost**	9:00am	Holy Communion (Outdoor)	Shelter
	10:30am	Holy Communion	Sanctuary
	1:00pm	NA	FH
Monday, August 10 - Church Office Closed	6:30pm	NAMI	RM 206
	7:00pm	Executive Committee	RM 204
Tuesday, August 11	6:30pm	Pastor Adam Installation	Sanctuary
		Fellowship to Follow	FH
Wednesday, August 12	5:00pm	Outreach Committee	Narthex
Thursday, August 13	6:00pm	Newsletter Committee	Narthex
	7:00pm	Council Meeting	RM 206
Friday, August 14 - Church Office Closed	7:00pm	NA	FH
Saturday, August 15 **Twelfth Weekend of Pentecost** **Guest Pastor Ann Marshall**	5:30pm	Holy Communion	Chapel
	6:30pm	Fellowship	FH
Sunday, August 16	9:00am	Holy Communion (Outdoor)	Shelter
	10:00am	Fellowship	FH
	10:30am	Holy Communion	Sanctuary
	11:30am	Fellowship	FH
	1:00pm	NA	FH

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
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419-668-2856
Email: stpeternorwalk@gmail.com *Website: stpeterelca.org*

In case of a pastoral emergency and the office is closed, please call 419-577-6514.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS THROUGH SEPT. 7th (Labor Day)
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm
(Closed on Monday & Friday)