

# **PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

"Where the Love of Christ is Shared"

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## **Pastor Mark Griesse**

**VISITORS:** Please introduce yourself to Pastor Griesse and sign our Guest Book located in the narthex. We ask that you fill out a green visitor card, found in the back of your pew, and give to an usher or put in the offering plate when offering is collected.

**NURSERY:** We have an infant nursery for parents to care for small children. Ask an usher for assistance.

*If you have a prayer request, write it on the blue prayer card found on back of the pews, and give to an usher when offering is being collected.*

## **TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**August 27, 2017**



### **AS WE GATHER**

There are many different opinions in our world about who the Lord is, and many of those opinions are based on who people want the Lord to be. What a privilege and joy it is that as we gather we don't need to try to seek and find the Lord and His attributes on our own. Instead, He reveals Himself as who He was, is, and ever shall be, in and throughout Scripture. We hear this today in our Old Testament Reading as God, through Isaiah, calls His people to look and listen to Him as He seeks and makes us His redeemed children (*Isaiah 51:1–6*). As His children, we are part of His Body and blessed to complement one other in faith and fellowship (*Romans 11:33–12:8*) and in the confession of who our Savior Jesus Christ truly is (*Matthew 16:13–20*). As He continues to seek and to find, and by the calling, gathering, and enlightening by His Holy Spirit through His Word, we worship in that promised grace giving certain hope now and in the future.

## ✖ PREPARATION ✖

### HYMN

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

[Sts. 1–3: *LSB* 904]

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from

all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night  
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;

Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach-ings,  
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your

sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.  
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.

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### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✖ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 138:2, 6; Romans 12:2*

Pastor: I bow down toward Your holy temple

**People: and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness, for You have exalted above all things Your name and Your Word.**

Pastor: For though the Lord is high,

**People: He regards the lowly, but the haughty He knows from afar.**

Pastor: Do not be conformed to this world,

**People: but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.**

## **CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION**

*Isaiah 51:1–2, 4, 6, adapted*

Pastor: The Lord, who is the rock of our salvation, invites His people to listen. “Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord.”

**People: We confess that we have not listened to the Lord. We have instead listened to what our itching ears want to hear and have shut our ears to the truth of Your Word.**

Pastor: The Lord invites His people to look. “Look to the rock from which you were hewn . . . to Abraham and Sarah.”

**People: We confess that we have not always looked to the Lord for our provision, hope, and guidance. We have looked for and to other things of this world that have led us astray, through which our worship and prayers have faltered.**

Pastor: The Lord invites His people to “Give attention to Me, My people, and give ear to Me, My nation.”

**People: We confess that we have become distracted in our earthly pilgrimage. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Pastor: “Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but My salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will never be dismayed.”

Upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of

you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, the rock on whom our confession is made, our hope is built, and our eternal victory won, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

*(Children may be excused for Children's Church)*

**HYMN SING** (Congregation members select Hymns)

## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**



**✖ WORD ✕**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 51:1–6*

*(Listen, look, and give attention to the salvation of the Lord.)*

<sup>1</sup> “Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,  
you who seek the LORD:

look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

<sup>2</sup> Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
that I might bless him and multiply him.

<sup>3</sup> For the LORD comforts Zion;  
he comforts all her waste places  
and makes her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup> “Give attention to me, my people,  
and give ear to me, my nation;  
for a law<sup>[a]</sup> will go out from me,  
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> My righteousness draws near,  
my salvation has gone out,  
and my arms will judge the peoples;  
the coastlands hope for me,  
and for my arm they wait.

<sup>6</sup> Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;<sup>[b]</sup>  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

Pastor: Fear the LORD, you His saints,  
for those who fear Him lack nothing!

**People: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

## EPISTLE

*Romans 11:33–12:8*

*(Bound together in faith as one body)*

<sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

<sup>34</sup> “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”

<sup>35</sup> “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”

<sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

<sup>12:1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world,<sup>[c]</sup> but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.<sup>[d]</sup>

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members,<sup>[e]</sup> and the members do not all have the same function,<sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. <sup>6</sup> Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;<sup>7</sup> if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching;<sup>8</sup> the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads,<sup>[f]</sup> with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE

*Ephesians 2:19b–20*

**All:** Alleluia. You are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 16:13–20*

(*Confession of Jesus as the Christ*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor: Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said,

**People: “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”**

Pastor: He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied,

**People: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”**

Pastor: And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Then He strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN SING (Congregation members select Hymns)

## SERMON

“Debt Paid, Life Transformed”

*Romans 11:33–12:8*

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

## OFFERING TO THE LORD'S WORK IS GATHERED

*(Guests, please fill out green visitor cards, found on back of pews, and place them in offering plate as the offering is gathered.)*



## HYMN SING (Congregation members select Hymns)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, from You and through You and to You are all things. You have built Your Church on the confession of the Gospel and have promised that the gates of hell will not overcome it. To Your Church throughout the world, together and united as one body, grant the faith and courage to confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Wherever the Church is under attack, O Lord,

**People: protect and defend her against the assaults of the evil one even to the gates of hell.**

Pastor: Wherever people are oppressed or denied their dignity, O Lord,

**People: raise up leaders to order society in peace and justice. May all the rulers of the earth acknowledge Your authority in gratitude and praise.**

Pastor: Wherever Your people are straying from Your Word and will, O Lord,

**People: arm Your servants with Your mighty Gospel, and cause them again to confess You as the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

Pastor: Whenever we fail to use the gifts You have placed within us, O Lord,

**People: turn our hearts toward repentance and open our eyes to see the gracious opportunities for service that You provide within the Body of Christ.**

Pastor: Whenever we allow the distractions of this world to blind us to Your power and glory, O Lord,

**People: remind us again of the depth of Your riches, wisdom, and knowledge. Call us again to listen, and look, and pay attention that we may seek You where You and salvation will be found.**

Pastor: Wherever people are in mourning or ill health, without food or shelter, or in any other distress, O Lord,

**People: visit, relieve, support, and uplift them in Your mercy. Fulfill Your purpose for them.**

Pastor: We remember before You especially those near and dear to us, *[including . . .]*. O Lord,

**People: hear our prayer, Rock of our salvation.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

# **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All:** 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

## BENEDICTION

*Isaiah 51:6, adapted*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  
☩ give you peace.

## People: Amen.



## HYMN

## “You Are the Way” [LSB 526]

1 You are the way; through You a - lone Can  
2 You are the truth; Your Word a - lone True  
3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb Pro -  
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant

we the Fa - ther find; In You, O Christ, has  
wis - dom can im - part; You on - ly can in -  
claims Your con - qu'ring arm, And those who put their  
us that way to know, That truth to keep, that

God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.  
form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.  
trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.  
life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

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## **SERVING PEACE IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING**

**Organist:** Joan Stocker

**Ushers:** Russell & Hilde Hibdon

**Acolyte:** Russell Hibdon

**Reader:** Hilde Hibdon

**Counter:** Jody Hert

**Altar Guild:** Hilde Hibdon