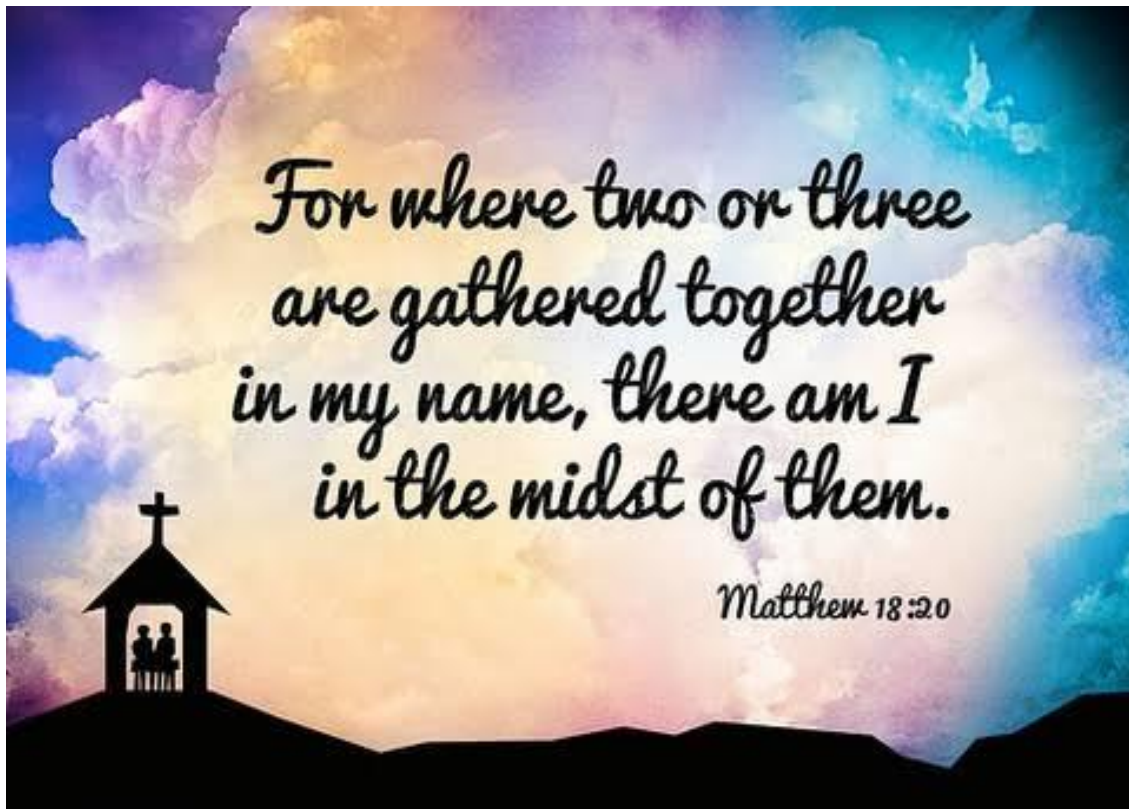




St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School

7710 East State Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815
749-5816

September 6, 2026 – 8:00am & 10:30am

Rev. Danny Eggold, Senior Pastor
Rev. Adam McDowell, Associate Pastor
Rev. Nathan Widener, Associate Pastor & Director of Community of Care
Rev. James Sharp, Missionary to Puerto Rico
Tim Degen, Director of Music & Organist
Chris Brune, Principal
Barb Christian, Preschool Director

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 6, 2026 – 8:00am & 10:30am

PRELUDE

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

arr. James Marriott

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

“Praise the Almighty”

#797

(We rise for stanza 5.)

✠ DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE ✠

(LSB, pg. 184)

INVOCATION



In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

(The 8:00 service continues with the Confession & Absolution on page 5.)

✠ ORDER OF HOLY BAPTISM ✠

(10:30)

P Our Lord commanded Baptism when He said: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

God’s Word tells us that we are all conceived and born sinful and are in need of forgiveness. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But Jesus took away our sin through His death on the cross. In Baptism

He clothes us with the robe of His righteousness and gives us a new life.

Cole and Samantha: In obedience to Christ's command and trusting in His promise, you have brought Leo Robert to be baptized. As he grows in years, will you place in his hands the Holy Scriptures, bring him to the services of worship in God's house, and provide for his further instruction in the Christian faith, that abiding in his baptismal grace and in communion with the Church, he may grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ? If so, then answer by saying, "Yes."

R Yes.

P Leo Robert Smith, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your forehead and upon your heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ, the crucified.

P Let us join in the prayer our Lord has taught us:

C 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.

RITE OF BAPTISM

P Let us all, together with the sponsors and parents, faithfully speak in testimony of the forgiveness of sins and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows in and through Baptism.

P Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C I do renounce them.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?
C Yes, I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?
C Yes, I believe 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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
C Yes, 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.

(We are seated.)

The Baptism of Leo Robert Smith

Leo is the son of Cole and Samantha (Hoffman) Smith

His sponsors are Leah Fultz and Andrea Panyard

P Leo Robert Smith, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P May the Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins; strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

C Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE BAPTISMAL CANDLE

P Leo Robert: receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the light of the world. Live always by the Light of Christ, for Jesus said, “Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness but will always have the light of life.”

SPONSOR’S PLEDGE

P Leah and Andrea: Having witnessed Leo’s baptism, will you remember him in your prayers, remind him that he is a baptized child of God, and, as much as you are able, give your counsel and aid, especially if he should lose his parents that he be brought up in the true knowledge and worship of God? If so, then answer by saying, “Yes.”

R Yes.

CONGREGATION’S PLEDGE

P Fellow Members of God’s Kingdom: Through Baptism, God has made Leo His own precious child. Will you welcome him into the Lord’s family? Will you receive him as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, and help him grow in the faith of his baptism, so he may join us in proclaiming the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light? If so, then answer by saying, “Yes.”

C Yes.

P May God enable us all to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P Leo Robert: Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, by your Baptism has made you His dear child. May He strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

C Amen.

(The 10:30 service continues with the Kyrie on page 6.)

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION (8:00)

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

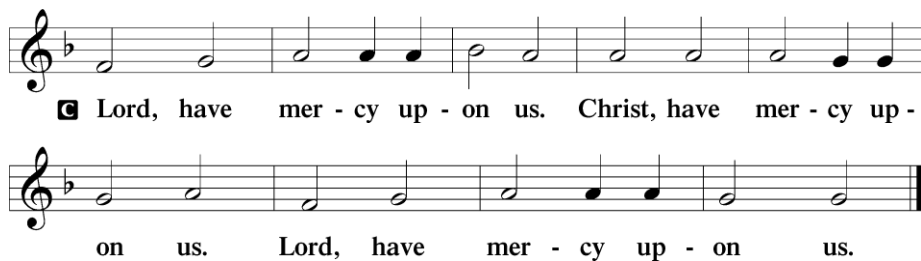
P O Almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

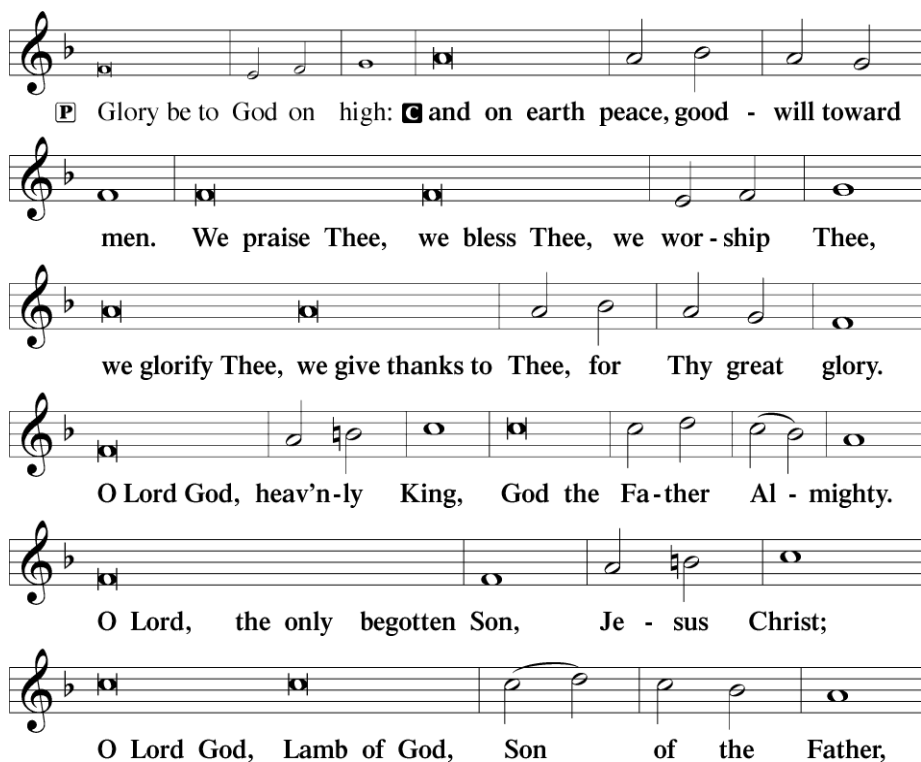
(10:30 – *We rise.*)

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



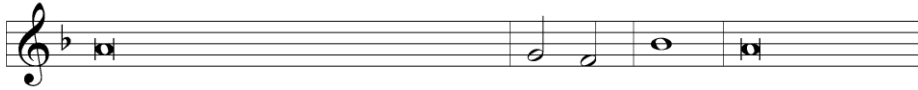
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



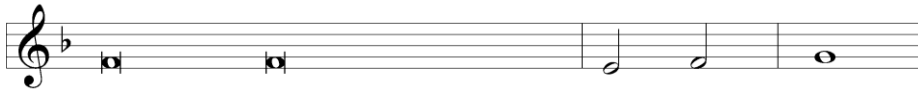
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir-it.

P Let us pray. O God, from whom all good proceeds,

C Grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(We are seated.)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”

Scott Noble, Soloist

Lord Jesus Christ, be present now; our hearts in true devotion bow.
Your Spirit send with light divine and let Your truth within us shine.

Unseal our lips to sing your praise in endless hymns through all our days.
Increase our faith and light our minds; and set us free from doubt that blinds.

Then shall we join the hosts that cry, “O holy, holy Lord Most High!”
And in the light of that blest place we then shall see You face to face.

All glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity, be praise throughout eternity!

EPISTLE READING

Romans 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant

for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(We rise.)

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around

his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED (8:00)

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both
the living and the dead,
Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(10:30 – No Kids of the Kingdom children’s church today.)

(We are seated.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

#850

SERMON

“The Littlest Ones”

Text: Matthew 18:1-20 – Pastor Adam McDowell

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS

VOLUNTARY

“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

arr. Allan Mahnke

OFFERTORY



C 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

(We rise.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Confident that our heavenly Father desires life for His people and promises to be present wherever two or three are gathered in His name, let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

(A brief silence.)

- P** O Lord, give pastors and all Your baptized people courage to speak Your Word faithfully, calling sinners to repentance and proclaiming the life found in Christ. Keep us attentive to Your voice and ready to speak the truth in love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord of all creation, turn our eyes from worthless things and teach us to cherish the world You have made. Restore communities suffering in the aftermath of disaster (*especially...*). Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** God of justice, guide all who create, enforce, or interpret laws. Turn them from selfish gain and lead them to seek the common good, especially the welfare of all who labor. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** God of love, on this Labor Day weekend, we give You thanks for workers in every honest vocation. Grant them meaningful work, fair compensation, safe working conditions, and proper rest. Provide for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and teach us to value each person's labor as a means through which You care for Your creation. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, awaken us from indifference to those around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, strengthen those in failing health, calm troubled hearts, and tend the hurts we carry. We pray especially for those we have named and those we name in our hearts...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, resolve conflicts within our congregation through honest conversation, patient listening, repentance, and forgiveness. Reconcile us to one another, and make Your good news known even through our imperfections. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, grant Pastor McDowell wisdom and clarity as he deliberates the calls he has received. Guide him by Your Word, give peace to him and his family, and

lead him to serve wherever his gifts may best strengthen Your Church and proclaim Your Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

P God of life, we give You thanks for all who have died in the faith (*especially...*). Sustain us in the hope of the resurrection, and bring us with them into the fullness of Your eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Amen.

P Teach us Your way, O Lord; give us understanding, incline our hearts to Your testimonies, and grant these prayers and whatever else You know that we need; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

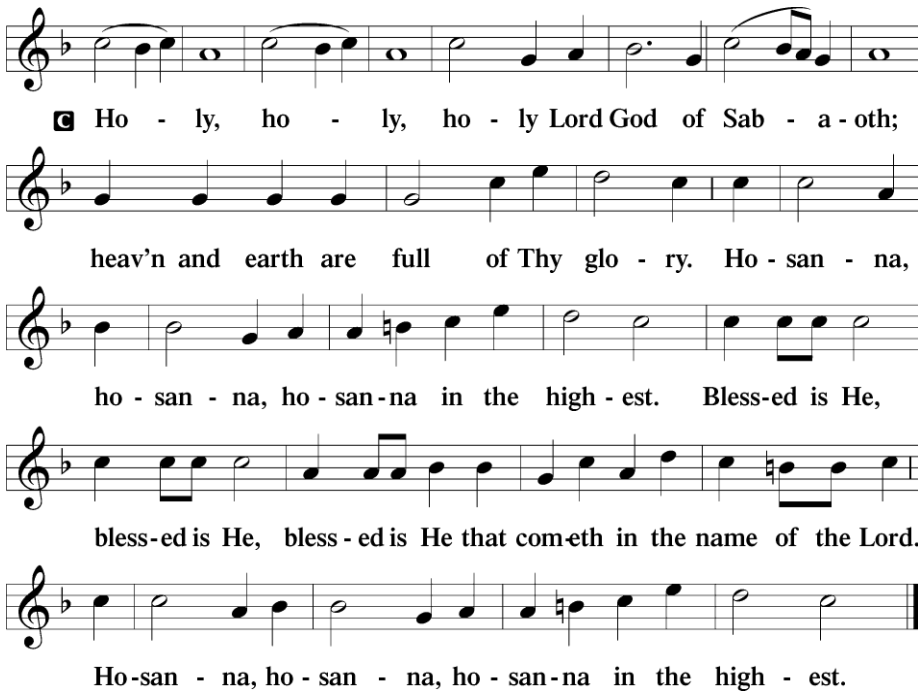


C It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER (8:00)

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF OUR LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



G A - men.

AGNUS DEI



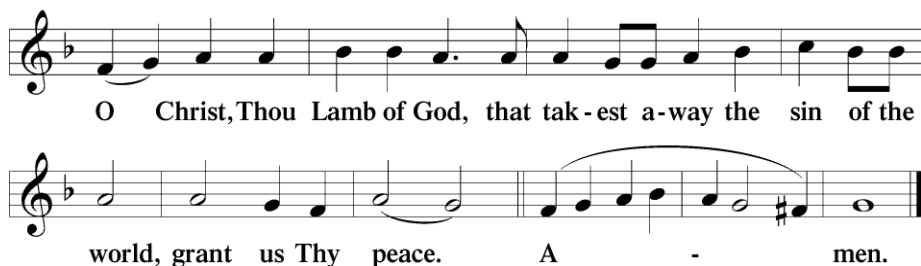
G O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



(We are seated.)

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

#740

“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

#707

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” *(We rise for stanza 3.)*

#803

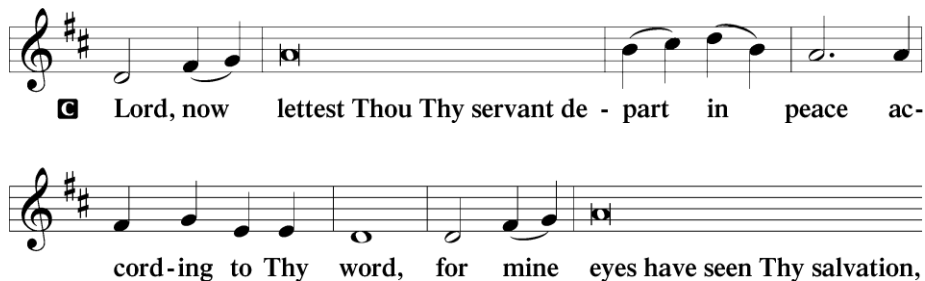
(We rise.)

DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICTION and DISMISSAL

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(We are seated.)

CLOSING HYMN *(The 2026-2027 theme hymn for St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School.)*

“One in Christ and One in Spirit”

(Tune: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”)

One in Christ and one in Spirit, one in Christian unity.

From our Father, we inherit life with Him eternally.

Made anew in Word and water, freed from death and cleansed from sin.

Perfect son and holy daughter – hearts made pure and whole within.

Christian sisters, Christian brothers, reaching out to those in need,

We proclaim Good News to others as we boldly share our creed.

In our learning and our growing, we are strengthened in the Word.

In our coming and our going, we live out what we have heard.

One in Christ, now and forever, with one voice, we gladly sing.

Neither life nor death can sever Christians from their loving King.

As we learn of His salvation, may we tell of Jesus' grace

To each future generation at all times, in ev'ry place.

POSTLUDE

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

arr. Paul Manz