

I HAVE GONE ASTRAY LIKE A LOST SHEEP; SEEK
THY SERVANT; FOR I DO NOT FORGET THY
COMMANDMENTS.
-PSALMS 119:176 KJV

St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School

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

September 14, 2025 – 8:00am & 10:30am

Rev. Daniel 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 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 14, 2025 – 8:00am & 10:30am

PRELUDES

“Andante”

Johann Krieger (1651-1735)

“Andante con moto”

Johann Kindermann (1616-1655)

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

“Chief of Sinners, Though I Be”

#611

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P Most holy and merciful Father,

C Like sheep, O Lord, we have strayed and wandered from You. We have sinned against You and each other. We have done the evil You forbid and we have not done the good You desire. There is no health in us. Come to us, Good Shepherd, claim us as Your own, cover us with Your grace, forgive us of our many sins, and restore us according to Your mercy, that we may love You above all things and serve You with all our gifts. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

KYRIE

(Tune: "Your Table I Approach")

Have mercy on us, Lord.
Receive our prayers and praise.
Defend us by Your mighty Word
Lord, comfort, help, and save.

Grace all who worship here
With unity and peace.
In all the world, both far and near,
Your kingdom, Lord, increase!

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

(Tune: "All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine")

Give glory to our God, exalted high
Peace to His people, with His grace supplied.
Our God we praise, adore, and glorify. Alleluia!

Lord God, our Father and our mighty king,
Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, You bring
Our sin's forgiveness; thanks and praise we sing. Alleluia!

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our prayer,
You sit at God's right hand, in power there.
To Father, Son, and Spirit we declare: Alleluia!

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray together:

C Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure.
Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing

in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11-24

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. ¹⁷“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet? ²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 119:169-176

P Let my cry come before you, O LORD;
give me understanding according to your word!

- C** Let my plea come before you;
deliver me according to your word.
- P** My lips will pour forth praise,
for you teach me your statutes.
- C** My tongue will sing of your word,
for all your commandments are right.
- P** Let your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.
- C** I long for your salvation, O LORD,
and your law is my delight.
- P** Let my soul live and praise you,
and let your just decrees help me.
- C** I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant,
for I do not forget your commandments.
- P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
C as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

EPISTLE READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹²I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1-10

ALLELUIA VERSE

(Tune: "For All the Saints")

**Great is the Lord, and worthy of all praise!
His mighty pow'r continues to amaze.
For all Your works and ways my voice I'll raise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable: ⁴"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

C **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.

(10:30 – During the Hymn of the Day, children age 3 through first grade are invited to attend “Kids of the Kingdom” children’s church. They will return following the sermon.)

HYMN OF THE DAY **“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”** **#609**

SERMON **“God, Where Are You?”**
Text: Psalm 119:176 – Pastor Adam McDowell

**RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and
GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY VERSE *(Tune: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”)*

Create in me a pure heart Lord
A spirit new within
O cast me not away from You,
But cleanse me from my sin.

Restore to me salvation's joy
Your Holy Spirit breathe
Within my heart to grant me grace
Uphold me, Spirit free.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Good Shepherd, You came into the world to save sinners. Rescue us from our sins by Your grace, forgive and restore us according to Your promise, and help us that we may not sin; Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Good Shepherd, encourage and inspire us according to Your grace and by the power of Your Spirit, that with faithful words and good works we may show forth Your Gospel to the world so that many may be called from darkness into Your wonderful light; Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Good Shepherd, we face a world at war with You and with one another. Bring peace out from the strife, bless us and all people with good and faithful leaders, and prosper the causes of justice, the protection of the weak, and the pursuit of virtue among us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Good Shepherd, come to the aid of those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and deliver them from their afflictions according to Your will, that all who cry to You may know and confess that Your grace alone is sufficient for their every need; Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Good Shepherd, hear us and grant us all things beneficial to us and profitable for our salvation but keep from us all things harmful in body and soul; Lord, in Your mercy.

C **Hear our prayer.**

- P** Into Your hands, O blessed Good Shepherd, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answers us, O Lord.
- C** Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

BENEDICTION

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Earth and All Stars”

#817

(St. Peter's Day School August 2025 Hymn of the Month.)

POSTLUDE

“Earth and All Stars”

arr. Wayne Wold