

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 17, 2023 — 8:45 AM

Gathering

Alleluia! Christ Has Risen! The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.



Prepare now to give thanks to God: Place an envelope in the offering plate on the way to Communion *or* use the QR code *or* download the Vanco Mobile app on your smart phone. Search on "York" and choose St Peter's Lutheran. It's easy! Give thanks generously for God's abundant grace.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Confession & Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Lord Jesus, you look on us with compassion and seek us when we are lost. Lord, have mercy. **C: Forgive our straying from your path and help us to forgive others. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have mercy on all who need healing and comfort. Christ, have mercy.

C: Forgive us when we forget to turn to you in our troubles. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you plead for sinners at the throne of judgment. Lord, have mercy.

C: Forgive us when we try to defend ourselves instead of trusting you. Lord, have mercy.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

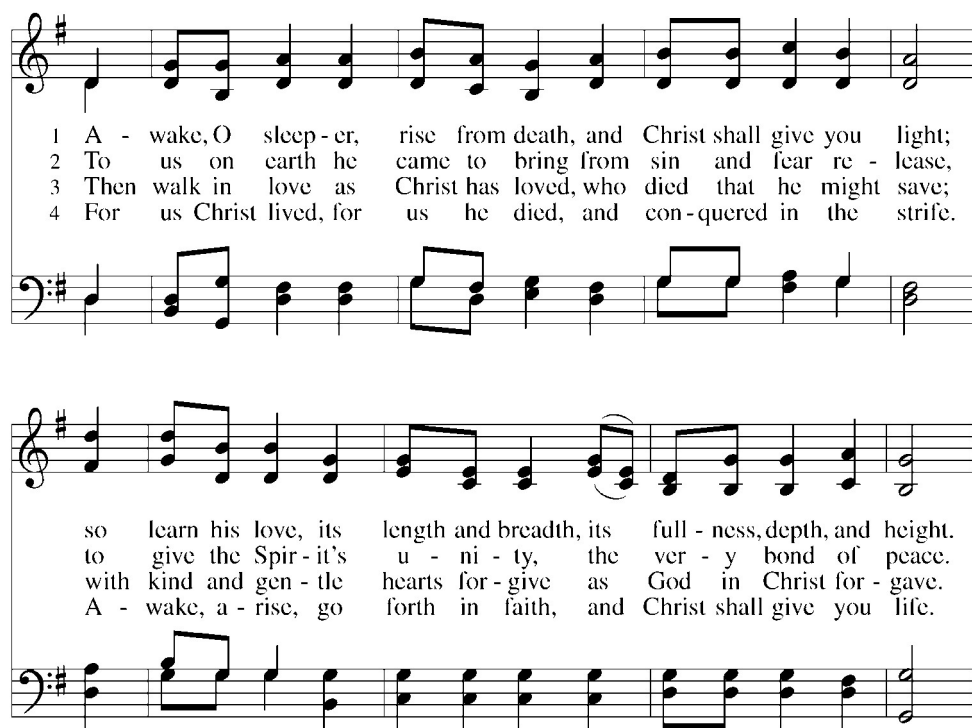
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**Hymn
Of
Praise**
#745
Blue

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
 3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
 4 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.

so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
 Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray, O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen**

The assembly is seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading — *Genesis 50:15-21*

A reading from Genesis

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a

grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁸So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave

this instruction before he died, ¹⁷“Say to Joseph I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to

them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

Psalm 103:8-13

⁸The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.

⁹**He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep his anger forever.**

¹⁰He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

¹¹**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.**

¹²As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.

¹³**As a father cares for his children, so does the LORD care for those who fear him.**

Second Reading — Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Romans

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor

or of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

The cantor will sing the alleluia once alone and then the congregation repeats it.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Alleluia. We have an advocate, Jesus ' Christ the righteous;*
 your sins are forgiven on account ' of his name. *Alleluia.* (1 John 2:1, 12)

Holy Gospel — *Matthew 18:21-35*

The Gospel According to St. Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hun-

dred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Message

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

Hymn Of the Day #307 Green

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
 Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
 Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

Apostles' Creed

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 the Church

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray to the Father for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

Almighty God, strengthen your church in all the world. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations to uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Assist all who are recovering from natural disasters. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Equip those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Be present with those who face illness of any kind; provide for those strained financially; give patience and courage to all who live with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or who are afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy. We pray especially for those we name now.... *[brief pause]*. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation to those who have no community of faith. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Accept our thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world like Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, whom we commemorate today. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Peace

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, God does not hold our sins against us. This is true peace. Like Jesus with his disciples, the pastor shares the word of reconciliation from God to us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

We share Christ's forgiving and reconciling love with one another, binding ourselves to one another as community. As we are at peace with God, so we are also at peace with one another.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING – WE RETURN THANKS TO GOD AND SUPPORT GOSPEL MINISTRY



Please prepare your offering in an envelope to place in the offering plate when you are dismissed for Communion **Or** use the QR code or download the Vanco Mobile app on your phone. You may also mail your offering to the church office or give through our website www.stpeterslutheranyork.com
Also be sure you have filled out the attendance card.

Everything we are and have belongs to God and is entrusted to us for God's glory. We are committed to sharing God's resources so that we can be a vital center for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and help others locally and around the world.

The Great Thanksgiving – The Eucharistic Meal

As the baptized children of God, we are invited by God to share the heavenly banquet. Jesus seats us at his table where we are delivered from sin, death, and evil by his body and blood from his death on the cross. In this meal, Jesus forgives our sins, granting us life and salvation. He is truly present here and reveals himself to us in the breaking of bread. When we share Jesus' meal, we receive the Holy Spirit to live in hope and joy.

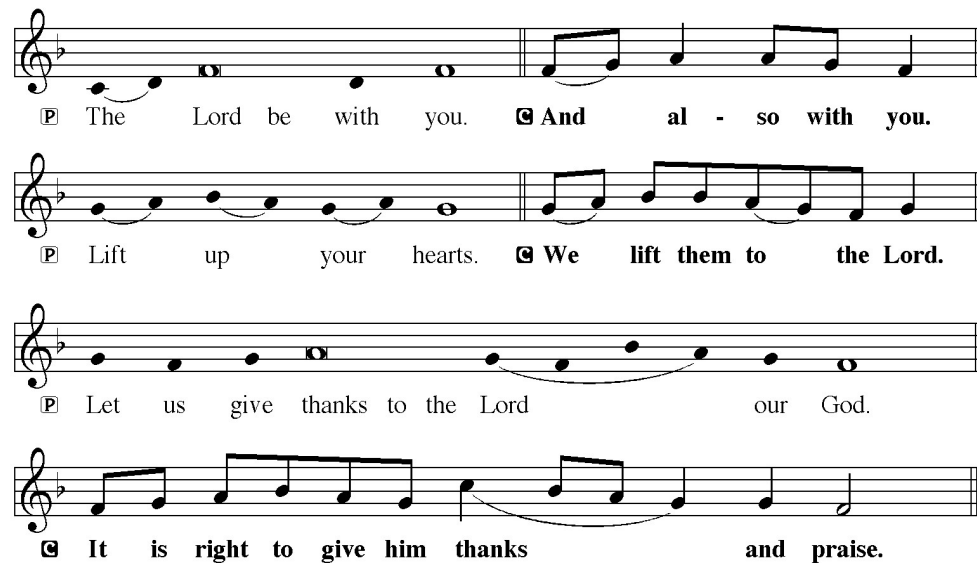
The ministers make ready the bread and wine.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

Dialogue



P The Lord be with you. C And al - so with you.
 P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord.
 P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

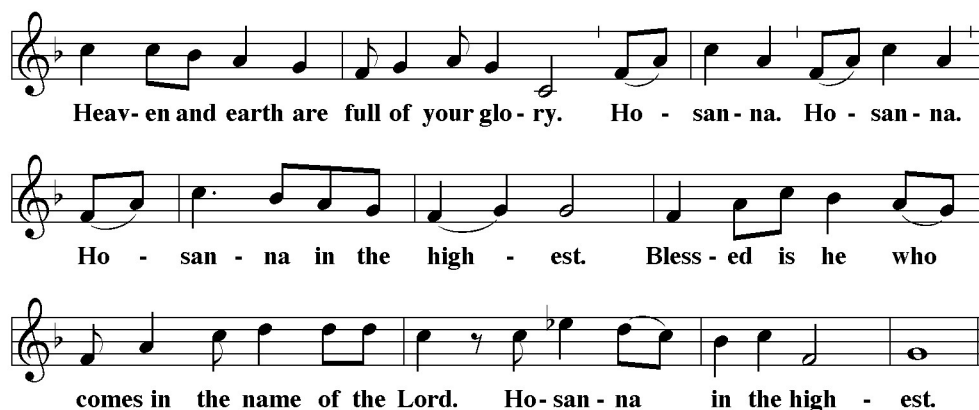
Preface

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through 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. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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.

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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast. **C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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**

Fraction — The Breaking of the Bread

The Body of Christ is broken as he was broken for us in the Passover, in the loaves, and on the cross. He gives himself to us as he fed the multitudes. Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb who gave himself to deliver all people from slavery to sin.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C: Thanks be to God.

**Agnus
Dei**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

The pastor will commune. Then she will commune those with infirmities in the pew. Then the congregation. Place your offering in the offering box and then take an empty cup. Receive the Body of Christ in your open palm from the pastor and then proceed to the assisting minister to receive the Blood of Christ. Return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your emptied cup into the bowl of water. Give thanks to God for such grace!

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say...

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond...

C: Amen.

Post Communion Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. **C: Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Benediction

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen**

Sending Hymn

#196

Green

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
Text © Oxford University Press.

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

St. Peter's Lutheran

Oktoberfest — Saturday, September 30 — 12:00-2:00 PM

Rain or Shine! Bring your own lawn chairs.

—Live Music from the Dockenspieler—ZED Fries—Desserts—
Mark your calendars.

Blessing of the Animals — Sunday, October 1, 1:00 PM

At St. Peter's Lutheran — Bring your pet (or a photo of your pet)

December 27, 1927 — August 26, 2023



In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life, **Gloria Aughenbaugh Knobloch** was commended to the Lord at a memorial service on September 8 at Heffner Funeral Chapel & Crematory. Burial was at Prospect Hill Cemetery. Gloria was the wife of the late Harris E. Augenbach & the late J. Philip Knobloch, Jr. She was the daughter of the late George & Estella Williams; the mother of the late Pamela Nester; sister of the late Paul & Robert Williams; three grandchildren, four great grandchildren; two stepsons, five step grandchildren.

Portions of this service are from sundaysandseasons.com.

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MFMRFRS & FRIENDS



Susan Becker—Tom Brusan—Evelin Burgos—Janice Cromer—Rich Davis—Don Gise—Shelva Gise—Bruce Harget—Cheryl Hibner—Samantha—Hilker—Ken Humphreys—Lori Joseph—Shirley Lutz—Ron Malehorn—Fabian Marrero—Michele McFarland—Philip Michael—Brenda Croumer Miller Charlie Neff — Rowan Neff—Scott Neff—Kathy Pugh—Dolores Rehmeyer—Betty Roach—Donna Roach—Toni Schrieber—Emma Smyser—Nicole Smyser—Nancy Stough Miller—Mia Snyder James Thompson—Vickie Toomey—Matthew Walters—Zach Weiland—Margaret Wiley—Dave Yates—Lois Yates—Stephen Young—the family & friends of Gloria Aughenbaugh.

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Donna Arnold—Norma Buck—Bill Everhart—Don Everhart—Helen Everhart—Doris Hoffacker Ken & Joyce Innerst—Carla & Mike Lehr—Jean Leiphart John Lehr—Joanne V. Martin—Marguerite Ness—Betty Roach—Lois Smith—Lois Snyder Joyce Topper



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH YORK
PARTNER # 20144

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or small household goods at the donation center:**

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York, PA 17403

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Located in the Queensgate Shopping Center!

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

OFFERING

General \$ 1,485.00

Capital Improvement \$ 30.00

HVAC \$ 105.00

Masonry \$ 10.00

God Has a Mission!

As disciples and stewards of Jesus Christ, we, the members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church are committed to the preaching & teaching of the Word of God to all people. We will reach out to one another and to others, giving and receiving, in worship, fellowship, and witness to Jesus Christ!

We belong to:

- ♦ The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
- ♦ The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
- ♦ The Lower Susquehanna Synod—Bishop James Dunlop.
- ♦ The York Conference—The Rev. Stanley Reep, Dean
Trinity, Wrightsville; St. James, Hellam; St. Mark, York; Advent, York; Christ, York; Union, York; St. Matthew, York; St. Jacob, York New Salem; Shiloh; Trinity, York; Grace, York; Zion, York; St. Peter's, York; St. Paul, York; Luther Memorial, York; Christ, Spry; St. James, York
- ♦ We are companions with the Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania and sister congregation to Iyunga Parish. Bishop /Rev. Geoffrey Mwakihaba.
- ♦ We are partners with Christ Lutheran Church, Manchester, PA

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
947 North George Street, York PA 17404
8:45 AM—Worship Service

Church Staff

The Reverend Beth A. Schlegel, <i>STS</i>	Pastor
Terri Schroll	Secretary
Kristen Hartman—Susan Hartman	Sextons

Our phone number is: 717-854-0589
Our Website is: <http://www.stpeterslutheranyork.org>
Our Email Address is: stpeterslutheran@verizon.net
Pastor Beth Schlegel: Phone #: 717-495-8894
Email: pastorschlegel@live.com

This Week CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday
8:00 AM — 1:00 PM

Friday
OFFICE CLOSED