God's Economy
Death and Taxes
Time after Pentecost: October 18, 2026
Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting Two
Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Service

Welcome to St. Peter Lutheran Church!
If you are a guest with us this morning, we welcome you to fill out a connection card, located in the pew rack. You are welcome to share as much information with us as you are comfortable sharing. Please place the cards in the offering baskets.

For Worship, everything you need is included in this bulletin except for the hymns, which are found in the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal.

PRELUDE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us gather in the presence of God, who calls, equips, and sends God's people in the world.
We give thanks for all who have borne witness to God's love through acts of faith, courage, and service.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
Trusting in God's mercy and love, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not always seen your image reflected in one another. You call us to honor the gifts of all your people, yet we have failed to honor the wisdom, leadership, and contributions of women.
You call us to seek justice, yet we have ignored the realities of inequality and oppression.
You call us to care for those who struggle, yet we have too often chosen comfort over compassion. Forgive our lack of attention, and free us for joyful service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear this good news. In ✝ Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,
and renewed to serve and share God's love in the world.

Thanks be to God

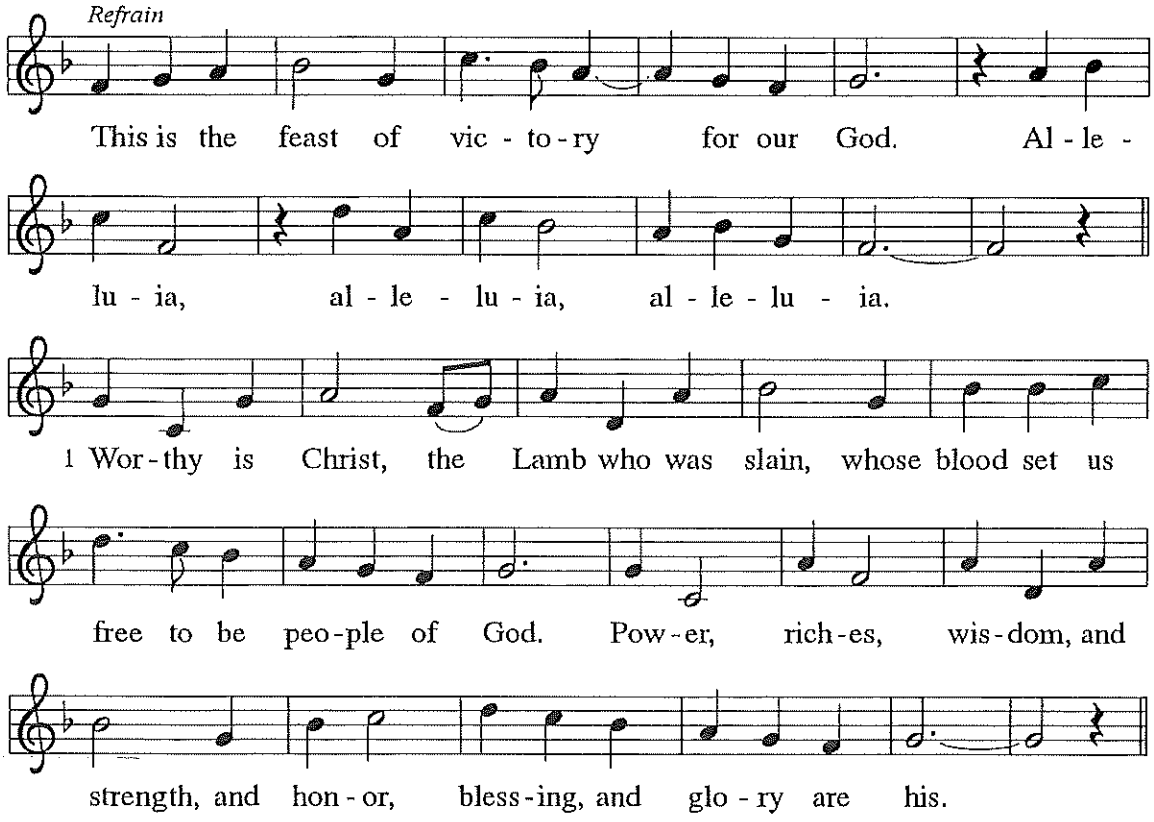
GATHERING HYMN: *Shine, Jesus Shine* **671**

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray: Lord Jesus, we come together today grateful for Your presence and for the many gifts you've placed in our lives.

You've created each of us with purpose, strength, and abilities that reflect your goodness.

We know that, along with these blessings, women across the world face injustice, We ask you to meet them — and us— with your comfort and your peace.

May we be your hands and feet as we work to empower women of every nation.

Fill this gathering with your joy. Help us slow down enough To feel your nearness and appreciate the women who surround and support us in faith.

Guide us as we continue to serve you and shine your light in the world. Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

A reading from Isaiah

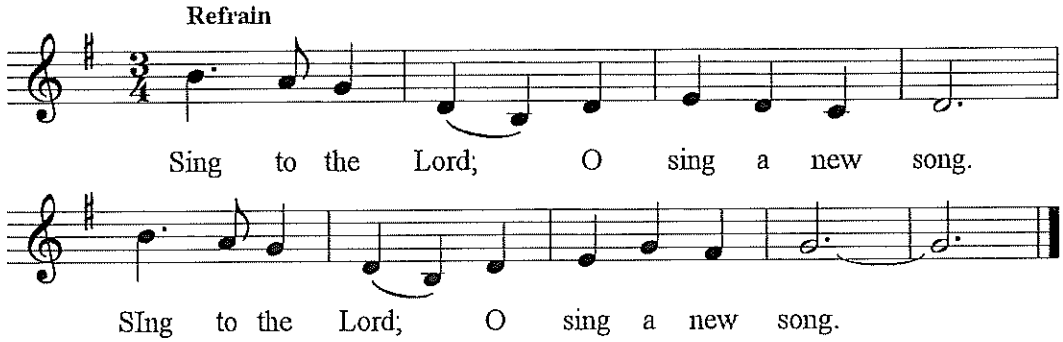
1 Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
2 I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
3 I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
4 For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
5 I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
6 so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
7 I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

We sing the refrain, then read the Psalm responsively, singing the refrain where indicated with an "R".

Psalm 96:1-13



1 Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
2 **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;**
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
3 Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
4 **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,**
more to be feared than all gods. R
5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
6 **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;**
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
8 **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;**
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD. R
9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!**
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be
moved will judge the peoples with equity."
11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and
all that is therein.
12 **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at**
your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.
13 You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

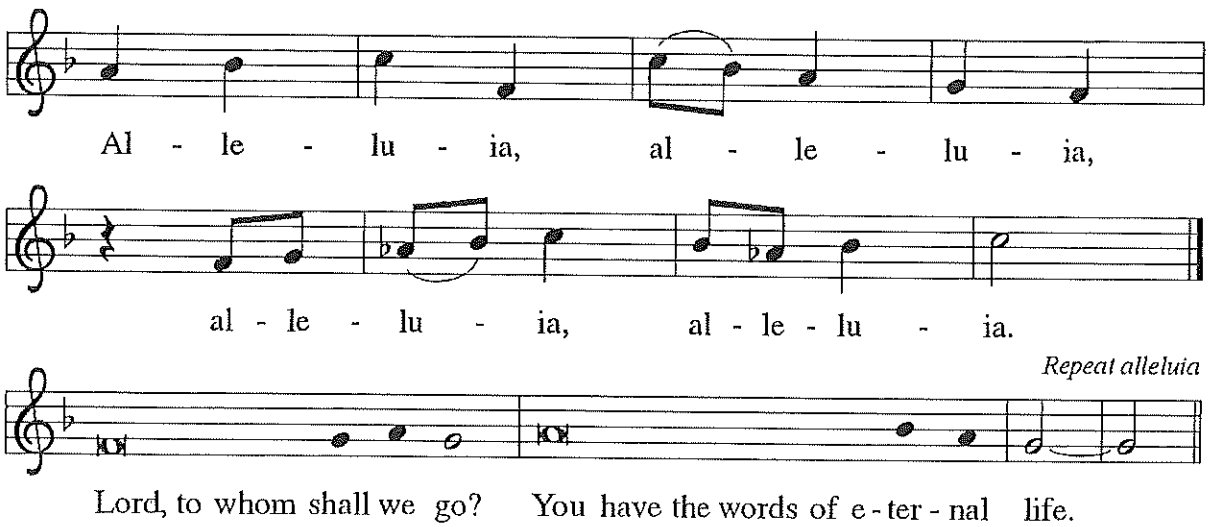
A reading from First Thessalonians.

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.
2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. 9 For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

15 The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said.
16 So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians,
saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of
God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you
do not regard people with partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think.
Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" 18 But Jesus, aware of their
malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19
Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a
denarius. 20 Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose
title?" 21 They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give
therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things
that are God's." 22 When they heard this, they were amazed, and they
left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

BELLS

GUEST SPEAKER: Quinn McDougall, St. Paul's Episcopal

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Praise and Thanksgiving* **689**

APOSTLES' CREED

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

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

The offering is collected. You can share your tithes and offerings by:

- *Cash or check using envelopes in the pews*
- *Sending a check via your bank's bill pay feature*
- *Using this QR code to give via debit or credit card or to set up automated giving through Vanco.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
Generous God, we thank you for those who have cared for us and for the gifts we are free to share with others.
Bless these offerings, that through them the needs of the world may be met. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, unite 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.

HYMN: *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth* **735**
Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

May the Lord of abundance bless your going in and your coming out. May heaven's door open wide and shower you with abundant favor. May you radiate Christ' unconditional love, live justly, and walk humbly. May God give you the laughter of Sarah, the song of Miriam, the courage of Deborah, and the voice of Mary Magdalene. And may the blessing of God our Creator, Jesus Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Sanctifier bless you now and remain with your always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* **779**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Work for justice. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Wes & Judy Gahler in honor of Lindsay's birthday.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Musician	John Beamer
Video Tech	Mark Cuthbertson
Greeter	Brenda Shaneck, Lisa Diekman
Usher	
Reader	Women of the ELCA
Communion	Mary Dehring, Wes Gahler
Fellowship	Kapp Family

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Today	Worship	8:45 AM
	Sunday School	10:00 AM
	No Adult Sunday School Until November 15th	
Mon	Finance	6:30 PM
	Church Council	7:30 PM
Tue	Quilt Sewing	9:00 AM
	Hannah Circle	10:30 AM
Wed	**BEACON NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**	
	A.A.	8:00 PM

WE WELCOME Quinn McDougall from St. Paul Episcopal Church with Rita's Soups ministry. Quinn and his sisters initiated the Rita Soup ministry.

SWISS STEAK DINNER today at St. John Lutheran Church, Rocky Ridge. Drive thru only from 11:30 to sold out.

REFORMATION SUNDAY is next Sunday, October 25. Remember to wear your **RED**.

HARVEST FESTIVAL COLLECTION. The campaign for canned goods for Luther Home of Mercy's Community Homes ends next Sunday, October 25.

SUNDAY SCHOOL'S Bible Verse for October is: 1 John 4:19, *"We love because he first loved us."*

BLUE BARREL: October's collection is Thanksgiving food items going to Lutheran Social Services.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY is November1. We remember those who have died in the faith since last All Saints Sunday. There is a list on the podium in the Narthex where you can add names in addition to our member (through Sunday, October 25).

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH annual Advent Brunch will be held December 5, 2026 beginning at 9:30 AM. Tickets are $10, with reservation, limited seating. Please RSVP by November 22. This year's theme is *Piecing Together the Promise of Advent.* A handmade quilt was made go with this theme and will be raffled off to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Ottawa County. See bulletin board for more information.

ATTENDANCE: Worship: 73 SS:
TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

Current:$2546	Benevolence:$263	Loose Change:$20
Building Fund:$251	Boiler:$45	SS:$13
St. Luke's Ministry$4085.50	Luther Disaster Response:$25	

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

October 25 REFORMATION SUNDAY
Greeter: Pam King
Usher:
Reader: Bonny Ottney
Communion: Pam King
Mary Dehring
Fellowship: Wendy Millinger
Flowers: Tom & Bonny Ottney

November 1 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
Greeter:
Usher: Judy Gahler
Reader: Judy Gahler
Children's Message: Pr. Matt
Communion: Wes Gahler
Mary Dehring
Fellowship: Wes & Judy Gahler
Flowers: Claudette Allred

November 8
Greeter: Pam King
Usher:
Reader:
Communion: Wes Gahler
Pam King
Fellowship:
Flowers: Pat & Jan Cassity

November 15
Greeter:
Usher:
Reader:
Communion: Wes Gahler
Mary Dehring
Fellowship:
Flowers: Rufena Hartford

November 22
Greeter: Pam King
Usher:
Reader:
Communion: Wes Gahler
Pam King
Fellowship:
Flowers: Wes & Judy Gahler

November 29 ADVENT
Greeter:
Usher:
Reader:
Communion: Wes Gahler
Fellowship:
Flowers: Judy Zunk

St. Peter Lutheran Church
Worship 8:45 AM, Sunday School 10:00 AM (Sept-May)
Pastor Matt Musteric
17877 W. State Route 579, Martin, Ohio • 43445 • 419-836-8903
stpeterblackberry@gmail.com

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