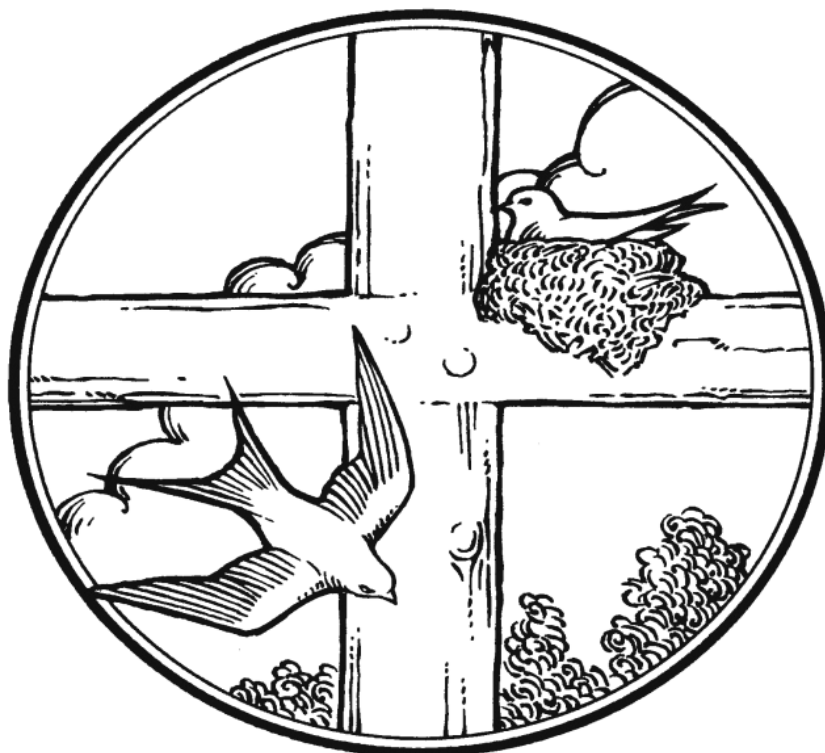


Ember Wednesday in September

16 September A+D 2026



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church U. A. C.
& Rainbow Preschool
145 S. 6th Street, Waterford, Wisconsin
Missouri Synod

Church

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Hymn of Invocation: 351 Creator of the Stars of Night

Order of Worship: p. 184

Introit

Psalm 81:5a; antiphon: vv. 1-2a, c-3a, 4



Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of | Jacob.*

Take a pleasant psalm | with the harp.

Blow the trumpet in | the new moon;*

for this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of | Jacob.

This He ordained in Joseph for a testi- | mony,*

when He went out through the land of | Egypt.



G Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Bow down Thine ear, O LORD, | hear me;*

O Thou my God; save Thy servant that trust - | eth in Thee!

Be merciful unto | me, O Lord,*

for I cry unto Thee | daily.

Kyrie - Collect of the Day *p. 186ff*

P Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord, to Thy suppliant family, that, as they abstain from bodily foods, they may also fast from vices of the mind; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Nehemiah 8:1-10

In those days: All the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. Then he read from it in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. So Ezra the scribe stood on a platform of wood which they had made for the purpose; and beside him, at his right hand, stood the Levites. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Also the Levites helped the people to understand the Law; and the people stood in their place. So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said

to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep.” Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Mark 9:17–29

At that time: One of the crowd answered and said to Jesus, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.” He answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.”

Apostles’ Creed

Hymn of the Day: 760 What God Ordains Is Always Good

Sermon

Hymn: 774 Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy

Offertory *p. 192 ff*

Prayer of the Church **P** Lord, in Your mercy; **C** hear our prayer.

Preface - Agnus Dei *p. 194 ff*

Distribution Voluntary: 701 Draw Us to Thee

Nunc Dimittis - Benediction *p. 199 ff*

Hymn to Depart: 889 Before the Ending of the Day

Looking Forward to Sunday (Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity)

Lessons: I Kings 17:17-24; Ephesians 3:13-21; Luke 7:11-16

Hymns: TLH 259(printed)-759-758-755/756/774/742/618/619-672

Looking Forward to Next Wednesday

Lessons: Colossians 2:8-13; Matthew 19:16-21

Hymns: 645-581-880

We Welcome Our Guests Today!

We're glad you've joined us in worship today. Please fill out a Visitor Card (located in the pew rack) and hand it to an usher or place it in the offering plate. We also ask that you read *"Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion"* printed below. Please visit our **Welcome Center** in the narthex and worship with us again soon.

Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion

In keeping with the tradition of the early Church and the Lutheran Confessions, we celebrate the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. Because Holy Communion is an expression of complete unity of faith and doctrine, only active and repentant members of St. Peter's or a sister Missouri Synod congregation may commune. This is not a judgment of the faith of others, but rather an indication of our obedience to the Lord's command that those who kneel together at His altar be in complete unity regarding what they believe and teach (please read I Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:17-32). Your respect for our practice concerning the Lord's Supper is appreciated. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions.

If communing with individual cup, please hold your empty cup until Pastor has passed you with the chalice. And please remember to fill out a Communion card.

The Gathering of the Offerings

God finances His church. The gathering of the offerings is, therefore, not merely collecting money. It is a holy privilege for those who believe in Jesus Christ. This is our opportunity to gratefully respond to God's love and grace by returning a portion of the gifts He has given us. As God's children, we consider it a special honor to build and extend His kingdom through our offerings. St. Paul writes, "God loves a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7b NKJV). Our visitors and guests are in no way compelled to contribute to this offering. We ask nothing of our guests except that they return here often to hear more about God's great love in Jesus Christ, our Lord. If anyone wishes to give electronically, you may scan this QR code to set up an account.



Small Children

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). Jesus wants your little ones present with Him during our worship service. And so do we.

When you're little, it's hard to sit without fidgeting or making some noise. And of course babies join us with their songs, too! We consider their small voices to be a part of our sacred music as they learn with us what it is to be a Christian. We encourage their presence throughout the entire service.

If you feel that your children are being too disruptive, please feel free to take them to the nursery that is located on the other side of the Conference Room. A closed-circuit television will bring the service to you. An usher will be happy to direct you.

"Repetitio est mater studiorum: Repetition is the mother of all learning." The more they're here, the easier it will get.

