

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801

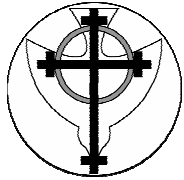
463-5754 ~ www.peacealma.org

Email: contact@peacealma.org

Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor

Home: 463-3093 ~ Cell: (989) 388-2037

Email: pastor@peacealma.org



Eighth Sunday after Trinity

13 July Anno † Domini 2008

Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House this morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for the Lord comes to you here in this place to give you His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through His precious means of grace – His Holy Word and Sacraments. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you as you receive these Divine gifts. Please take the time to fill out the **Record of Fellowship form** that is in the pew. If you are visiting with us this morning, we want you to know that we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by signing the guest book that is in the hallway on the left as you leave the sanctuary. The Lord be with us in Divine Service this morning!

Holy Communion Practice

- The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. In preparation for receiving this blessed Sacrament, you may refer to Martin Luther's "Christian Questions with Their Answers" found on pages 329-330 in *LSB*.
- Communicants at this altar are to be in full confessional fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the LCMS are asked, out of love and Christian responsibility, to refrain from partaking with us this morning. If you have any questions regarding Holy Communion, you are invited and encouraged to speak with the pastor before or after the Service.
- See Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.



"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves." (Matt. 7:15)

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

13 July Anno † Domini 2008



LSB DIVINE SERVICE 4, PAGE 203

The Service of Preparation

(Upon entering the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

The Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

The Opening Hymn: 578 “Thy Strong Word”

The Confession and Absolution (p. 203)

From Martin Luther’s Sermon for The Eighth Sunday after Trinity Matthew 7:15-23

We should well consider this passage, for Christ our Lord here commands and gives all Christians the power to be judges of all doctrine, and He gives them power to judge what is right and what is not right. It is now well on a thousand years that this passage has been perverted by false Christians, so that we have had no power to judge, but had to accept what the Pope and the councils determined, without any judgment of our own.

Now this Gospel here overthrows the very foundations of popery and of all councils, for we are not bound to keep what the Pope commands and men decree. Therefore I say again, firmly grasp what this Gospel teaches, for the authority has never been given either to the Pope or councils, or anyone else, to sit and determine what is faith. For Christ says: "Beware of false prophets." Either the Gospel lies, or the Pope and councils do. Christ says we have the right to judge all doctrines, and whatever is proposed for us to keep or to reject. Here the Lord does not speak to the Pope, but to all Christians. And as the doctrine is proclaimed to all: "Whosoever ye would that men should do to you, do even so to them;" so likewise the words exclude no one: "Beware of false prophets." From which it clearly follows that I may indeed judge of the doctrine.

Hence I can say: Pope, you together with the councils have resolved, and now I have to decide whether I may accept it or not. Why? Because you will not stand and answer for me when I die, but I must see to it myself how I stand before God, so that I may be certain of my fate.

The Offering is gathered for the Lord's work (p. 207)
(If you have not done so already, please sign and share the Fellowship folders in the pews to assist us in keeping accurate attendance records. Thank you.)

The Service of the Sacrament

(Please read the statement regarding Holy Communion on the back of the bulletin)

The Preface and Proper Preface (p. 208)

The Sanctus (p. 208)

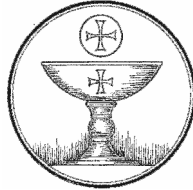
The Prayer of Thanksgiving (p. 209)

The Lord's Prayer (p. 209)

The Words of Our Lord (p. 209)

The Pax Domini (p. 209)

The Agnus Dei (p. 210)



Communicants are invited to pray the following:

Before receiving the Sacrament:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament:

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

634 "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"

586 "Preach You the Word"

647 "Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head"

The Nunc Dimittis (p. 211)

The Post-Communion Collect (p. 212)

The Benedicamus and Benediction (p. 212)

The Closing Hymn: 680 "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise"

The Postlude

The Service of the Word

The Introit

Ps. 48:1a, 3, 11, 14; antiphon: Ps. 48:9-10



We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God,*
in the midst of your | temple.

As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth.*
Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

Great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised*
in the city of our God, His holy | mountain.

Within her | citadels*

God has made himself known as a | fortress.

Let Mount Zion | be glad!*

Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your | judgments!

This is God, our God forever and | ever.*

He will guide us for- | ever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God,*
in the midst of your | temple.

As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth.*
Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

The Kyrie (p. 204)

The Gloria in Excelsis (p. 204)

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 205)

Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 23:16-29

¹⁶Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. ¹⁷They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'"

¹⁸For who among them has stood in the council of the Lord to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? ¹⁹Behold, the storm

of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰The anger of the Lord will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

²¹“I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. ²²But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

²³“Am I a God at hand, declares the Lord, and not a God afar off? ²⁴Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ ²⁶How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the Lord. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, declares the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

The Gradual

Ps. 31:2b, 1a

Be a rock of refuge for me,*
a strong fortress to save me!

**In you, O Lord, do I take refuge;*
let me never be put to shame.**

The Epistle

Romans 8:12-17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

The Alleluia and Verse (p. 205)

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:15-23

¹⁵[Jesus said:] “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of

heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

The Nicene Creed (p. 206)

The Hymn of the Day: 745 “In God, My Faithful God”

The Sermon: “Beware of False Prophets” (Jer. 23:16-29; Matt. 7:15-23)

The Blessing of Our New Sanctuary Lamp

Our beautiful, new sanctuary lamp is given by Dave and Carol Zeile to the glory of God and in memory of Dave’s father, Arnold Zeile, who was called home by the Lord on 26 December Anno ✠ Domini 2007.

P Beloved in the Lord, Moses was commanded by the Lord to receive gifts from the people for the beautification of the sanctuary. Everyone whose heart stirred and whose spirit was moved brought a contribution to the Lord to be used in the Lord’s House is all its services.

Since the Lord has taught us in His Holy Word that everything is sanctified by the Word of God and prayer, it is fitting that we bless and sanctify this sanctuary candle for use in God’s Holy House.

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

P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray: O God, you have directed us to bring offerings for Your glory. We implore You to bless this sanctuary lamp. Grant that it may reflect our love for You, benefit Your Church, and bring joy to those who look upon it, reminding them of the True Light who has come into the world, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this sanctuary lamp and those who look upon it.

C **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Church (p. 207)

P . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**