

# Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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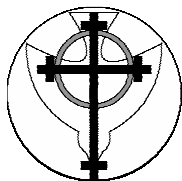
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Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-1pm

**Rev. Thomas C. Messer, Pastor**

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## 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.

# Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

4 October Anno ✠ Domini 2009



*"For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 14:11)*

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## LSB DIVINE SERVICE 3, PAGE 184

### 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)*

#### **Preparatory Prayers**

*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:** 901 “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

**The Confession and Absolution** (pp. 184-185)

## From Martin Luther’s Sermon for Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity Luke 14:1-11

This Gospel offers us two leading thoughts; one is general and is found in all our Gospel lessons, the other is peculiar to this one. First, in its general character, it shows who the Lord Jesus is and what we may expect of Him, and in this is exhibited both faith and love.

Faith is here set forth in that this man, sick with the dropsy, looks to Christ and firmly believes He will help him. This faith he had as the result of his previous acquaintance with Jesus. He knows Him as a kind, friendly and sympathetic man who always helps everyone and lets none go away un comforted. Had he not heard such reports about the Lord he would not have followed Him, even into the house. He must indeed have had some Gospel knowledge and believed the wonderful things spoken about Him.

And this is the Gospel, as I said, that must be preached and heard before there can be faith. We must know that God is kindly disposed toward us and has sent His Son from heaven to help us. This the conscience must hear and believe; for if God were unfriendly and unmerciful toward us, it would avail little to know that all His creatures sympathize with us. If God is satisfied with us, no creature can do us any harm, as St. Paul says in Rom. 8:31: “If God is for us, who is against us?” Let death, devil, hell and all creation rage; we are safe. Therefore it is the Gospel that must present to us the God-man as merciful. This is the fountain from which our heart can draw faith and a friendly confidence toward God – that He will help both the dying and the living in every distress.

**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**

618 “I Come, O Savior, to Thy table

783 “Take My Life and Let It Be”

706 “Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

587 “I Know My Faith Is Founded”

**The Nunc Dimittis** (pp. 199-200)

**The Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Collect** (pp. 200-201)

**The Salutation and Benedicamus** (pp. 201-202)

**The Benediction** (p. 202)

**The Closing Hymn:** 811 “Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices”

**The Postlude**

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

## **The Service of the Word**

### **The Introit**

*Ps. 119:1-2, 5-6; antiphon: Ps. 119:137, 124*



Righteous are you, | O LORD,\*

and right are your | just decrees.

**Deal with your servant according to your | steadfast love,\*  
and teach me your | statutes.**

Blessèd are those whose way is | blameless,\*  
who walk in the law | of the Lord!

**Blessèd are those who keep his testi- | monies,\*  
who seek him with their | whole heart.**

Oh that my ways may be | steadfast\*  
in keeping your | statutes!

**Then I shall not be | put to shame,\*  
having my eyes fixed on all your com- | mandments.**

**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.**

Righteous are you, | O LORD,\*  
and right are your | just decrees.

**Deal with your servant according to your | steadfast love,\*  
and teach me your | statutes.**

**The Kyrie** (p. 186)

**The Gloria in Excelsis** (pp. 187-189)

**The Salutation and Collect of the Day** (p. 189)

Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; 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

*Proverbs 25:6-14*

<sup>6</sup>Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, <sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen <sup>8</sup>do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? <sup>9</sup>Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, <sup>10</sup>lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

<sup>11</sup>A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

<sup>12</sup>Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold is a wise reprover to a listening ear. <sup>13</sup>Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest is a faithful messenger to those who send him; he refreshes the soul of his masters.

<sup>14</sup>Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give.

## The Gradual

*Ps. 33:12, 6*

Blessèd is the nation whose God is the LORD,\*

**the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!**

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,\*

**and by the breath of his mouth all their host.**

## The Epistle

*Ephesians 4:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

## The Triple Alleluia (p. 190 - Top)

## The Holy Gospel

*Luke 14:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. <sup>2</sup>And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup>And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" <sup>4</sup>But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. <sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" <sup>6</sup>And they could not reply to these things.

<sup>7</sup>Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, <sup>8</sup>"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, <sup>9</sup>and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. <sup>11</sup>For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

## The Nicene Creed (p. 191)

## The Hymn of the Day: 557 "Seek Where You May to Find a Way"

## The Sermon

## The Offertory (pp. 192-193)

## The Offering is gathered for the Lord's work (p. 193)

*(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 Prayer of the Church (p. 193)

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

## The Service of the Sacrament

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

## The Preface and Proper Preface (p. 194)

## The Sanctus (p. 195)

## The Lord's Prayer (p. 196)

## The Words of Our Lord (p. 197)

## The Pax Domini (p. 197)

## The Agnus Dei (p. 198)