



Matthew 16:13-19

Closed Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing. If you arrive too late to do this before the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor after the service.

Visitors

We welcome you. Please sign the guest book and introduce yourself to the Pastor. Also complete a blue attendance card located in the pews and put an X in the () if you will be communing with us. We invite you to join us for Bible Study on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the church.

Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul

The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul is well documented as early as the fourth century, and it is remarkable to know that in keeping this feast, like so many others, we participate in the faith and tradition of our Christian brethren across the centuries. So in keeping this feast day, we celebrate these two saints together with those who lived just a few generations after Christ's resurrection and ascension. Historically, many have emphasized Peter's background as a fisherman in their celebration of these two apostles. For example, coastal peoples and those in fishing cultures often decorate their boats or wharves on this day in honor of St. Peter.

Saint Peter was a fisherman whom Jesus called into the business of fishing for men. Together with Saints James and John, He remained in Jesus' intimate closer circle. Peter is present along with these two apostles at the Transfiguration. We especially remember Peter for his confession, upon which Christ established his church: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Commending Peter, Jesus gives him and all the Apostles the keys to the kingdom of heaven so that they (and all their successors) should bind and loose sins as if Christ were speaking the words himself (Matt. 17). At Pentecost, Peter delivers his famous sermon in Jerusalem and then continues on to Samaria, Lydda, Joppa, and Caesarea, bringing the Good News to the Gentiles. According to tradition, Peter died a martyr's death in Rome, but rather than being crucified like his Lord, he insisted that he should be crucified upside down so as not to receive the honor of dying a death like Jesus'.

Saint Paul, formerly called Saul, was a Jew who was converted from a life of zealously persecuting Christians to joining their ranks and eventually writing thirteen epistles that would be included in the New Testament canon. He traveled across the Mediterranean preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and would end up being imprisoned, stoned, and tortured while pursuing his task for the love of his Lord Jesus. While St. Paul's death isn't recorded in the canon of the New Testament, it is reported that he was also martyred in Rome on the same day as St. Peter but in a different location. Being a Roman citizen, Paul was beheaded rather than crucified.

THE FEAST OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

Thursday, June 26, 2025 – 6:30 PM
Sunday, June 29, 2025 – 9:00 AM

✠ *In Nomine Iesu* ✠

Opening Hymn *A Multitude Comes from the East and the West* LSB 510

Divine Service Setting Four LSB 203

Introit *Psalm 89:1, 5, 15-16; antiphon Psalm 119:46*
The congregation chants the verses in **bold** print.

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, for- | ever;*
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

Let the heavens praise your wonders, | O Lord,*
your faithfulness in the assembly of the | holy ones!
Blessèd are the people who know the | festal shout,*
who walk, O Lord, in the light | of your face,
who exult in your name | all the day*
and in your righteousness are ex- | altèd.

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.

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.

Kyrie LSB 204

Gloria in Excelsis LSB 204

Salutation and Collect of the Day LSB 205

First Reading *Acts 15:1-21*

¹But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” ²And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. ³So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. ⁴When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. ⁵But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.”

⁶The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. ⁷And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. ⁸And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, ⁹and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith. ¹⁰Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

¹²And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. ¹³After they finished speaking, James replied, “Brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name. ¹⁵And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written,

¹⁶“After this I will return,
and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen;
I will rebuild its ruins,
and I will restore it,
¹⁷that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord,
and all the Gentiles who are called by my name,
says the Lord, who makes these things ¹⁸known from of old.”

¹⁹Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, ²⁰but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. ²¹For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Galatians 2:1-10

¹Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. ²I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. ³But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. ⁴Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. ⁶And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. ⁷On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised ⁸(for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), ⁹and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. ¹⁰Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (6:30 PM)

LSB 205

Alleluia and Verse (9:00 AM)

Matthew 16:18b

verse setting by Stephen P. Johnson

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Choir: On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:13-19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB. 206

Hymn of the Day

By All Your Saints in Warfare LSB 518:1,19,3

Sermon

Built On Christ Crucified

Prayer of the Church

LSB 207

Preparation of the Altar

Preface

LSB 208

Sanctus Holy Holy Holy

LSB 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 209

Lord’s Prayer Pater Noster

LSB 209

Words of Our Lord Verba Domini

LSB 209

Pax Domini Peace of the Lord

LSB 209

Agnus Dei Lamb of God

LSB 210

Distribution Hymns

LSB 645, 676, 622, 722

Nunc Dimittis	LSB 211
Post-Communion Collect	LSB 212
Benedicamus and Benediction	LSB 212
Closing Hymn	<i>Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head</i> LSB 647

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE PRAY for Mary Ankerberg, Sandy Damms, Tom Domagalski, Daut Gaba, Jerry Garske, Elaine Howe, Paul Howe, Donna Metzfeld, Susan Sochowski (wife of Mark Sochowski), Pat Wagner, Barbara Wieting, Carol Young, and Norm Young.

FLOWERS are given in memory of Carol Riedel.

SERVICE SCHEDULE The Sunday Divine Service is now 9:00 a.m. The Thursday 6:30 p.m. Divine Service will continue. Sunday Adult Bible Class will move to 10:30 a.m. and will be in the **school**. There is no Sunday School during the summer, but will resume after Labor Day.

SCRIP Orders are due next Sunday, July 6. A Scrip order box, order forms, and envelopes are located in the narthex and church/school office. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

SUMMER CHOIR continues next on **Sunday, July 13** with a rehearsal at 7:45 a.m. in the balcony in preparation for the 9:00 AM service. No previous choir experience is required -all ages are welcome to join. Any questions, ask Mr. Johnson at sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org. Mark your calendars as we will also sing on July 20, August 3, and August 10.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS for the church and school will be Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting **June 9**.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY If you are a member of Our Father's in good standing and are studying at a college or university for full-time church work, you may apply for funds from the Our Father's Scholarship Fund. All applications are due **August 15. You need to apply for these funds every school year that you are requesting funds.** Applications can be obtained from the church office or from Linda Hojnacki directly. Applications need to be given to Linda Hojnacki or put in her church mailbox with the appropriate paperwork requested. Any questions, please feel free to contact Linda at (414) 427-5949 or talk to her directly.

HELP WANTED: School Secretary Trainee Our Father's Lutheran School is seeking a person to succeed Mrs. Wang when she retires after the '25-'26 academic year. This person would begin paid training during the summer of '25. Applicant must be proficient in, or willing to learn, Microsoft Word and Excel, and able to multi-task in a busy office environment. For more information or to apply, please contact Principal Cahill at 210-473-7109 or bcahill@ourfatherslutheran.org.

DO YOU LISTEN TO PODCASTS? Listen to *On The Line* with Dr. David Peterson: "A Lutheran Renewal is Happening (And it Might Surprise You)." See link here or scan the QR code: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbm0phc3cic>



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday	6/29	DIVINE SERVICE Adult Bible Class	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday	7/2	No Morning Bible Study	
Thursday	7/3	DIVINE SERVICE	6:30 p.m.
Sunday	7/6	DIVINE SERVICE Adult Bible Class	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

**THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER
FOR THE WEEK OF
THE FEAST OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL**

"Built On Christ Crucified"
June 29 through July 5, 2025

The confession of Peter is a celebration of the mercy of God the Father. In American churches the call for decisions and personal experience pushes aside the central reality of faith. Faith does not come from human reason, an emotional experience, or powerful preaching. Faith is a gift of God the Father to human beings who are blind because of sin. Our blind stubbornness prevents any man from coming to faith. Peter was the same, as the episode immediately following this Gospel confirms his vision was still not clear. God the Father opens the eyes of sinful men to behold His own dear Son hidden in the weak flesh of man. By the mercy of the Father, not by the wisdom of flesh and blood, we confess that the bleeding, mutilated body of Christ is the key to our salvation. Who has known the mind of the Father that he can explain this great mystery of grace? The Son is the wisdom and knowledge of His Father. How does the Father reveal this Wisdom and Knowledge? Through the office of the Holy Ministry where the proclamation of the Word binds the sins of the unrepentant and looses the sins of the repentant. As God the Father took Israel as His children so He takes you as His children and brings you out from the bondage of blindness. The Father has opened your mouth to confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

INVOCATION: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE CREED

VERSE: ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **Ephesians 2:13**

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK: Merciful and eternal God, Your holy apostles Peter and Paul received grace and strength to lay down their lives for the sake of Your Son. Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit that we may confess Your truth and at all times be ready to lay down our lives for Him who laid down His life for us, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

PSALM OF THE WEEK: 34

PSALMODY PRAYER: O Hearer of the cries of the poor man, send Your holy angel to encamp around this poor sinner and deliver me from all enemies. I give thanks that You grant me to taste Your life-giving flesh and blood in the Sacrament that I may know the depths of Your goodness. Open the ears of this child that I may hear just as You first heard my cries for mercy. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	Hebrews 9:11-15
Tuesday	Hebrews 9:16-28
Wednesday	Hebrews 10:1-10
Thursday	Hebrews 10:11-25
Friday	Hebrews 10:26-39
Saturday	Luke 15:11-32

THE BOOK OF CONCORD: The Augsburg Confession (AC VI-VII)

Article VIII What is the Church?

¹Strictly speaking, the Church is the congregation of saints and true believers. However, because many hypocrites and evil persons are mingled within them in this life [Matthew 13:24-30], it is lawful to use Sacraments administered by evil men, according to the saying of Christ, “The Scribes and ²the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat (Matthew 23:2). Both the Sacraments and Word are effective because of Christ’s institution and command, even if they are administered by evil men.

³Our churches condemn the Donatists, and others like them, who deny that it is lawful to use the ministry of evil men in the Church, and who think that the ministry of evil men is not useful and is ineffective.

Article IX Baptism

¹Concerning Baptism, our churches teach that Baptism is necessary for salvation [Mark 16:16] and that God’s grace is offered through Baptism [Titus 3:4-7]. ²They teach that children are to be baptized [Acts 2:38-39]. Being offered to God through Baptism, they are received into God’s grace.

³Our churches condemn the Anabaptists, who reject the Baptism of children, and say that children are saved without Baptism.

Article X The Lord’s Supper

¹Our churches teach that the body and blood of Christ are truly present and distributed to those who eat the Lord’s Supper [1 Corinthians 10:16]. ²They reject those who teach otherwise.

CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: The Ten Commandments
Review of the Commandments and the Close of the Commandments

What does God say about all of these commandments?
He says, "I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments."
(Exodus 20:5-6)

What does this mean?
God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

PRAYER: Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord’s Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

THE LORD’S PRAYER

LUTHER’S MORNING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

OR

LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB 608 “Lord, to You I Make Confession” (stanza 4)

4 Lord, on You I cast my burden—
Sink it in the deepest sea!
Let me know Your gracious pardon,
Cleanse me from iniquity.
Let Your Spirit leave me never;
Make me only Yours forever.

LOOKING FORWARD TO
THE WEEK OF
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

July 6, 2025
“Built On Christ Crucified”

518 By All Your Saints in Warfare

1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For
2 We praise You for Saint Pe - ter; We
△ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And

all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O
praise You for Saint Paul; They taught both Jew and
wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the

Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For
Gen - tile That Christ is all in all. To
Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till

You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the
cross and sword they yield - ed And saw Your king - dom
all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the

crown; And now they shine in glo - ry
come; O God, these two a - pos - tles
throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry

Re - flect - ed from Your throne.
Reached life through mar - tyr - dom.
And praise to God a - lone.

Text: Public domain
Tune: Public domain

HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 569, 611, 608, 623, 709, 725, 922

READINGS

Micah 7:18-20
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:11-32

Luke 15 is a very important parable for understanding the forgiveness of sins, faith, and the true identity of the Father in the Gospel of Luke. It is a story about the life of the baptized in the Church. In Luke’s version of the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus instructs His disciples to pray *Father*. The Father is the source of all life and every good thing. He freely bestows His gifts upon all whom He calls sons in baptism. The youngest son’s mistake is to see his father as someone who owes him an inheritance. Faith does not see sonship as something we have earned or as a way of earning the Father’s favor, but as the gift granted to us in baptism where we are made full heirs of eternal salvation. Faith does not try to bargain with God like the son’s original thought, but comes to the Father with the simple confession of sinfulness and unworthiness. The Father then dresses us once more in the baptismal robes and brings us to the feast of His own Son’s body and blood that we might live as His own sons once more. The older son does not live by faith either for he also thinks the father owes him something for his loyalty. This is a danger for us in the Church as sometimes we think we deserve more than some who have fallen and then been restored through the forgiveness of sins. Faith lives upon the forgiveness of sins even as we are taught to pray in the Lord’s Prayer, *Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us*.



Saint Peter and Saint Paul

Read more about these men being united in faith and united in life at:

<https://allthehousehold.com/sts-peter-and-paul/>



Our Father's Ev. Lutheran Church, School and Childcare

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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