

**SAINT PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)  
880 NEAL AVE. SO., AFTON, MN 55001**

**Rev. Dennis Drews, Vacancy Pastor  
Church Office: (651) 436-3357**

**Rev. Dennis Drews' Cell Phone: (952) 886-0882  
DCE Tony Engen Cell Phone: (651) 283-3478**

**9:00 A.M. Sundays: Alternating with Traditional &  
Contemporary Services (Communion at all Services)  
10:15-11:00 A.M. Sunday School; 10:30-11:00 A.M. Adult Bible Class  
6:30 P.M. Wednesdays: Lenten Midweek Services**

**Office E-Mail: [stpeter@stpeterafton.org](mailto:stpeter@stpeterafton.org)  
Rev. Dennis Drews' E-Mail: [drews5255a@aol.com](mailto:drews5255a@aol.com)  
DCE Tony Engen's E-Mail: [tony@stpeterafton.org](mailto:tony@stpeterafton.org)  
Web Site: [stpeterafton.org](http://stpeterafton.org)**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**March 11, 2018**

**Vol. 58, No. 15**

**TODAY:** 10:15-11:00 Sunday School  
10:30-11:00 Bible Class  
11:00 Elders' Meeting  
**MONDAY:** 6:30 Board of Education  
**TUESDAY:** 7:00-8:00 Adult Bible Class @ Machine Shed  
10:00-11:00 Adult Bible Class  
**WEDNESDAY:** 5:00-6:15 Lenten Supper  
6:30 Lenten Midweek Service  
7:00 Call Committee Meeting  
**FRIDAY:** 6:30-9:00 CATALYST (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders)  
**NEXT SUNDAY:** 9:00 Traditional Service with Communion  
10:15-11:00 Sunday School  
10:30-11:00 Bible Class

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**ACOLYTE:** Gabriella Richert **READER:** Laura Bauer

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**BIRTHDAYS:** TUES: Nathan Anderson, Edgar Freitag, Dennis Fritsche SAT:  
Galen Koeckeritz

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**BAPTISMAL DATES:** MON: Judy Tank TUES: David Leko THURS: Kya  
Hodgdon, Larry Meissner FRI: Jason Richert SAT: John Hundertmark

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**ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY:** 9:00 A.M.: 92.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE RADIOS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX.**  
Please see an usher. Turn to 97.8 or 98.0 for the best reception.

**CUSHIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX.** You may leave them in  
the pews after the worship service.

# CONTEMPORARY SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

March 11, 2018 – 9:00 A.M.

**AS WE GATHER** - If you were to conduct a survey on a congregation's favorite passages from Scripture, both today's Epistle and Holy Gospel would likely end up among the most loved, and rightly so. Both of these sets of verses get to the heart of what the faith is all about. They get to heart of what it is that makes Christianity different from all other world religions—things like grace, love, and sacrifice. These big two passages are “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8–9) and “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). These are verses that we should read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest!

**WELCOME** (*Worshippers greet one another.*) (*Stand.*)

**OPENING SONG:** “There Is a Redeemer”

PW 111

**THE INVOCATION** (*See screen.*)

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** (*See screen.*)

**THE SALUTATION** (*See screen.*)

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*See screen.*)

**FIRST READING:** Numbers 21:4-9 (ESV) (*Be seated.*)

**SONG:** “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” (*See screen.*)

**SECOND READING:** Ephesians 2:1-10 (ESV)

**HOLY GOSPEL:** John 3:14-21 (ESV) (*Stand.*)

**SERMON SONG:** “Grace Alone” (*See screen.*) (*Be seated.*)

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**

Text: John 3:14-21

**NICENE CREED** (*Stand.*)

(*Be seated.*)

**THE OFFERING**

(*Note to our visitors: You are our guests this morning! Please do not feel the need to make a contribution to our Offering. We would ask all visitors and members to sign the Register Pad as the Offering is being collected. Also, Prayer Cards are available in the pew racks for special intercessions during the time of congregational prayer.*)

## **FOR ALL WHO DESIRE TO RECEIVE THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*We believe that Christ's Body and Blood is present in, with and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. In this sacred meal Jesus gives Himself in love to His Church to build us up in faith, hope and love. Since Christ is truly present, the Sacrament is not to be received in a careless or indifferent manner. St. Paul writes: "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. **Examine yourselves**, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11.27-28)*

*We believe that such self-examination necessarily includes the following points: 1) Do I believe that the only true God is the Triune God, Three Divine Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, within One Divine Being? 2) Do I humbly acknowledge before God that I am indeed a sinner in need of His grace? 3) Do I believe that Jesus Christ the Son of God is my personal Lord and Savior? 4) Do I believe that in this Sacrament Christ is truly present for me for the forgiveness of my sins? 5) Do I have a sincere desire, with God's help, to live a life that is pleasing to Him?*

*For those who can answer these questions in the affirmative, we welcome you to join us at the Lord's Table. For those who have a different religious understanding, or are unclear as to the points listed above, we ask that you talk to the pastor before receiving the Sacrament.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (See screen.) (Stand.)**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (See screen.)**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST (See screen.)**

### **THE DISTRIBUTION (Be seated.)**

### **DISTRIBUTION SONGS**

*"Only by Grace" (See screen.)*

*"Feed Us Now" (See screen.)*

*"White As Snow" (See screen.)*

*(Stand.)*

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING (See screen.)**

### **THE BENEDICTION (See screen.)**

### **CLOSING SONG: "Shout to the Lord" (See screen.)**

*(Be seated.)*

*(Dismissal of Children for Sunday School)*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **PRAYER PAGE – OUR MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

**March 11, 2018** (\*Added this week)

Family of Kelli Schmidt, daughter of Yvonne Boles & niece of Cheryl Schmidt, who went to her heavenly home on Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>\*

Family of Carol Christianson, who went to her heavenly home on February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Family of Robert Sproule, brother of Betsy Hundertmark, who went to his heavenly home on February 21<sup>st</sup>

Patrick Love, grandson of Kathy Bauer, for strength & spiritual guidance

Angie Graves, family friend of Jay & Autumn Zahn, recovering from open heart surgery (She needs a heart transplant to survive long term and is on the waiting list. Pray for complete recovery and long life.)

Derek Nelson, recovering at home after being struck by a car

Madeline Nelson, prayers for emotional and spiritual strength for her

Loren Richert, recovering from a stroke

Deb Zwickey, friend of Gayle Schneider, for relief of pain & healing after surgery

Kathy Hatanpaa, cousin of Lois Fritsche, A.L.S.

Cole Wegner, son of Jenny Veith's cousin, Cystic Fibrosis

Jeff Riemenschneider, brother of Autumn Zahn, Parkinson's

Kellen Giddings, friend of Maverick Schiltgen, recovery from a brain tumor

Grace Hedtke, Melissa Oberdeck's Godchild, bone tumor

Hubert Schiell, for healing from knee surgery (Dec. 15) (Feb. 21 surgery postponed)

Breck Fewer, son of Joe & Lindsey Fewer, recovering from heart surgery

LaDonna Freitag, daughter of Faye Freitag-Schiell, for health & healing

Laurel Bonine, for health and healing

Holly Bonine, for health and healing

Melissa Oberdeck, for health & healing

Jessica Polinske, for health and healing

Beth Larson, daughter-in-law of Ron & Joanne Larson, health & healing (brain tumor)

Alicia Cleveland, daughter of Betty Richert, Muscular Dystrophy & Leukemia

Karen Carter, niece of Cheryl Richert, kidney cancer

John Schmidt, treatment for cancer

Greg Rubenstein, husband of Marlys Albrecht, good health & healing (cancer free)

Carl Benning (requested by Alicia Benning), cancer

Nancy Wesley, friend of Gayle Schneider, treatment for recurrence of cancer

Mike Morley, friend of Bruce Albrecht, continued good health after cancer treatment

Anita Bruch, lymphoma cancer

Darlene O'Malley, grandmother of Angie Engen, Cancer

Richard Miller, Viola Miller's grandson, treatment for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Maureen Busacker, sister-in-law of Dale & Janel Busacker, cancer

Teresa Kopps, spiritual blessings and successful treatment of Stage 4 cancer

Tim Sachi, friend of Steve & Sharon Wellner, cancer

Don Goodwin, son-in-law of Stan Simkins, cancer

Jerry Mueller, son of Evie Mueller, health & healing (cancer free at this time)

Jason Bauer, nephew of Kathy Bauer, cancer

Sue Dickey, friend of Kathy Bauer, cancer

Marilyn Stalhiem, aunt of Linda Veith, cancer

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If you would like to include the needs of a sick relative or friend in our weekly Prayer Page, call the church office at (651) 436-3357, or submit the request via E-mail: [stpeter@stpeterafton.org](mailto:stpeter@stpeterafton.org) by Wednesday afternoon. Prayer requests will be kept on our list for two months unless otherwise directed. To request a prayer for our "Prayer Chain" that you would like us to send out via E-mail, call the church office. If anyone would like to be added to this list, call the church office with your E-mail.

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**BULLETINS THIS MORNING** are sponsored in memory of Tim Durow by Marv Durow & family. (He would have been 52 today.)

**VOLUNTEERS FOR LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICE MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30 P.M.:** USHERS: Jay Zahn, Elder; George Riemer; Jim Jordan; Clyde Erickson; Bruce Albrecht; ACOLYTE: Izaak Schmidt; GREETERS: (Open).

**VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE: 9:00 A.M.:** COFFEE HOSTS: Donna & Don Kosen; USHERS: Jay Zahn, Elder; George Riemer; Jim Jordan; Clyde Erickson; Bruce Albrecht; ACOLYTE: Ryan Bernath; READER: Shelly Love; GREETER: Donna Kosen.

**SOUP SUPPER!** Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-6:15 p.m. – Vegetable Beef Soup. Work Group 4 is serving. Peggy Oehlke & Julie Erickson are calling. 5 workers and 5 pans of bars are needed. A donation of \$6.00 per person is the suggested price to meet the expenses. Any excess money will be used towards the Kitchen Fund.

**JOIN US FOR OUR MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE** this Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Theme: Living Lent (the animals tell the story) “The Hen Tells of a Grieving Savior.”

**CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF KOREA IS THE MISSION-OF-THE-MONTH FOR MARCH & APRIL.** See the mission board in the narthex for more information. We give special thanks for continued restraint in action on both sides despite heated rhetoric and tension between the U.S. and DPRK. If you would like to support this Mission-of-the-Month, there are special Mission envelopes in your offering envelope box, in the pews, or on the Mission Board.

Plan ahead now for the **POTLUCK SUPPER** on Friday evening, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The potluck will begin at **6:15 (note time change!)**, preceding the **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHRISTUS CHORUS CONCERT** at 7:30. The chorus and its director David Mennicke will join us for supper - which means you get to talk with them personally! Let's all come out to support this group, especially since one of the singers (Christy Peterson) attends church here very regularly!

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES FOR APRIL** are due in the church office on Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER CONCERN?** Please contact Pastor Drews, Cheryl Richert, Gayle Schneider or any of the Elders with your request. We will send an e-mail for you so that we can pray for that individual's needs. There is power in prayer! If you would like to be a part of this Prayer Chain, provide Cheryl with your e-mail address.

**ATTENTION 5<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS! CATALYST (MONTHLY YOUTH NIGHT)** meets every third Friday of the month. It will meet on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Come for a night of worship, prayer, games, music, and friendship. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. As always, please bring your friends!

**EASTER GARDEN** - Spring is on its way, so it is time to think about our Easter Garden display for the sanctuary. Flowers can be given in honor or in memory of someone. Envelopes for a freewill donation are provided in the pews for this purpose. Please fill one out and return to the church office or offering plate by **Sunday, March 18, 2018**. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter Lutheran Church. It is the intent to use some of this money to provide flowers to our shut-ins before Easter. The display at church will be up through the April 15<sup>th</sup> service. Flowers can be taken home after the service that day. Any questions can be directed to Judy Hansen.

**ADULT CHOIR** will be on a short hiatus – no performances on March 14<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>; no rehearsals on March 13<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>. We will resume rehearsals on March 27<sup>th</sup> in time for Good Friday and Easter.

**EASTER BREAKFAST** – Easter is Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> this year. The Easter Breakfast is a fundraiser for the youth. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to sign up for donations of food and to volunteer to work. Your help is needed and appreciated.

**5TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT:** On Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, we will be helping prepare and serve dinner for those less fortunate at House of Charity in Minneapolis. We will meet at the church at 3:00 p.m. and drive out as a group. Please let Tony know if you are coming so he can arrange suitable transportation.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** Neighborhood Social on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, at Noon. Start thinking of friends & neighbors you'd like to invite. A post card invitation will be available. More information coming soon. – Linda Craig

# CONTEMPORARY SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

March 11, 2018 – 9:00 A.M.

**AS WE GATHER** - If you were to conduct a survey on a congregation's favorite passages from Scripture, both today's Epistle and Holy Gospel would likely end up among the most loved, and rightly so. Both of these sets of verses get to the heart of what the faith is all about. They get to heart of what it is that makes Christianity different from all other world religions—things like grace, love, and sacrifice. These big two passages are “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8–9), and “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). These are verses that we should read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest!

**WELCOME** (*Worshippers greet one another.*) (*Stand.*)

**OPENING SONG:** “There Is a Redeemer”

PW 111

**THE INVOCATION** (*See screen.*)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** (*See screen.*)

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**THE SALUTATION** (*See screen.*)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY** *(See screen.)*

**Pastor:** Let us pray, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul.

**People:** **Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience;**

**Pastor:** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*(Be seated.)*

**FIRST READING:** Numbers 21:4-9 (ESV)

**SONG:** “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” *(See screen.)* **BOB 130**

**SECOND READING:** Ephesians 2:1-10 (ESV)

*(Stand.)*

**HOLY GOSPEL:** John 3:14-21 (ESV)

*(Be seated.)*

**SERMON SONG:** “Grace Alone” *(See screen.)* **BOB 77**

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

Text: John 3:14-21

*(Stand.)*

### **NICENE CREED**

*(Be seated.)*

### **THE OFFERING**

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## **FOR ALL WHO DESIRE TO RECEIVE THE LORD'S SUPPER**

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*We believe that such self-examination necessarily includes the following points: 1) Do I believe that the only true God is the Triune God, Three Divine Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, within One Divine Being? 2) Do I humbly acknowledge before God that I am indeed a sinner in need of His grace? 3) Do I believe that Jesus Christ the Son of God is my personal Lord and Savior? 4) Do I believe that in this Sacrament Christ is truly present for me for the forgiveness of my sins? 5) Do I have a sincere desire, with God's help, to live a life that is pleasing to Him?*

*For those who can answer these questions in the affirmative, we welcome you to join us at the Lord's Table. For those who have a different religious understanding, or are unclear as to the points listed above, we ask that you talk to the pastor before receiving the Sacrament.*

*(Stand.)*

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (See screen.)

**Pastor:** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For our synodical and district presidents, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

(Continued)

Pastor: For all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who are ailing and those who grieve, that they may be strengthened in body and spirit, confident of the love of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (*See screen.*)

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament.

Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST** (*See screen.*)

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. (*1 Corinthians 11:26*)

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** (*Revelation 22:20*)

## **THE DISTRIBUTION** (*Be seated.*)

### **DISTRIBUTION SONGS**

"Only by Grace" (*See screen.*)

**BOB 178**

"Feed Us Now" (*See screen.*)

**BOB 53**

"White As Snow" (*See screen.*)

**BOB 241**

(*Stand.*)

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING** (*See screen.*)

Assistant: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**THE BENEDICTION** (*See screen.*)

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine  
on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with  
favor and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG:** “Shout to the Lord” (*See screen.*) **BOB 198**

*(Be seated.)*

*(Dismissal of Children for Sunday School)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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