

St. Peter Lutheran Church
208 Newtown Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

PARISHSCOPE
MAY 2022

Happy
Mother's
Day!



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Pastor's Ponderings

As I was wondering what to write about this month, I got an idea from my drive to Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Ft. Wayne after Easter. All throughout the drive I heard announcements from the 60's station on Sirius radio about how they would be playing the top 300 favorite springtime songs, as voted upon by listeners, on the last weekend of April. *Here Comes the Sun* by the Beatles would certainly be at the top of my list... unless I could think of a song by my favorite 60's band, the Dave Clark Five, that had something to do with spring. Well, spring does make me glad all over!

"How about focusing upon one of my favorite Psalms?" I thought. Great idea! So, Psalm 100 – which speaks of worship – will be our focus for this month.

- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
- 2 Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
- 3 Know that the Lord, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- 5 For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

This Psalm is an excellent example of the need to read and consider more than just a verse at a time to get the proper understanding of God's Word. For instance, consider the first two verses. They tell us that worship should be joyful, right? Make a joyful noise! Serve the Lord with gladness! Taken by themselves, these verses could lead a person to make emotion or feeling the determining factor when it comes to worship. Does it move you? Excite you? Fill you with joy? If not, then it must not be good worship, right? This is the conclusion when the thoughts and emotions of the sinner are put in the driver's seat.

When the rest of the Psalm is considered we then are given the proper focus, the true source of joy and joyful worship. This begins with the third verse, which focuses us on God. The Hebrew says that God is Yahweh: the One who revealed Himself to Moses and used him to rescue the people of Israel from their bondage in Egypt. Yahweh is the Lord who brought the people to Himself at Mt. Sinai and

declared that, if they would continue listening to Him and following Him, He would make them a holy nation and a kingdom of priests. So: the Lord is the God of mercy who rescues sinners by His own mighty hand!

The Psalm goes on to say that He made us and took us to be His people, sheep who are tended by Him. What comforting news! It is knowing this – and, of course, above all knowing the fulfillment of this in Jesus and His sacrificial life for us – that gives us joy. Although God is the holy One from whom no sin can be hidden, He will receive us in Christ and make of us His holy people. What joyous news! What joy it gives! Knowing this, we are moved to "*enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.*"

The final blessing this Psalm proclaims is that the blessedness of this joy is not a temporary thing. For "*the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.*" And by His love – seen above all in Jesus – we are renewed!

The thing to keep in mind is this: Psalm 100 does not simply declare God (Yahweh, the Lord) to be the focus of worship. It declares Him to be the prompter of worship. As Ps. 16:11 says, "*You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*" The more we proclaim God and His works in Christ, then, the better – the more filled with God's joy, which alone is true – will be our worship. God will fill us with Himself... and who could not then be filled with joy? Thanks be to God!

In Christ Jesus, our Lord,
Pastor



CONFIRMATION

On Sunday, May 29 Kate Petrie will be confirmed. Kate had instruction in Luther's Small Catechism from the Pastor of her previous church in Minnesota, so Pastor Beinke spent the past year leading her through an overview of the books of the Bible. She was a wonderful student! Come early on the 29th for Bible class, as Kate will read an essay she wrote on her favorite Bible verse, Ex. 15:2, "*The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.*" She will then be confirmed during the 10:00 Divine Service.

MISSION OF THE MONTH **OPEN DOOR SHELTER**

This organization's mission is to effectively address the causes and complexities of the homeless and working poor by providing shelter, food, clothing, case management services, treatment services, transitional planning for short-term and long-term goals, subsidized housing, education, employment, and a path towards independence and success. They operate the Manna House Kitchen and pantry. Meals are served 3 times per day. Boxed and canned goods are provided to the working poor to help make ends meet.

The shelter operates primarily from private donations, with less than 40% of their operating budget coming from government funding. Their board is comprised entirely of uncompensated volunteers. Doors are always open, 7 days/week, 365 days/year.

ELECTRONIC GIVING THROUGH ZELLE

Did you know that your offering may be sent electronically using "Zelle"?

Zelle is a fee-free transfer service, which most major banks offer their customers on their respective online platforms. No information from your account is revealed to us. You simply set up St. Peter Lutheran Church on your end and use this email address: stpeterzelle@yahoo.com. (Do not use the cell phone # option.) You may use Zelle one time or set up recurring payments. Zelle allows you to designate your contribution if applicable – Mission of the Month, flowers, etc. – or if no designation, your contribution will be applied towards general operating expenses.

Of course, you may continue using your offering envelopes or send your offerings by mail to the church - whatever works best for you! We are grateful for all giving in whatever form. If you have any questions, you may contact Bob Streb at stpetertreasurer@yahoo.com. if you have a question about how your particular bank's Zelle platform works, please contact your bank for advice.

CHANCEL SCHEDULE

<u>April 25 thru May 8</u>	Ena and John Meek
<u>May 9 - 22</u>	Kathy and Tom Collins
<u>May 23 thru June 5</u> <u>(Pentecost June 5)</u>	L. Beinke, G. Wash

USHERS

<u>1st Sunday</u>	B. Streb, D. Cakavell, W. Palmisano
<u>2nd Sunday</u>	C. Mathis, J. Soos
<u>3rd Sunday</u>	I. MacKenzie, S. Yuen
<u>4th Sunday</u>	T. Collins, O. Brown, S. Sabol
<u>5th Sunday</u> <u>(Jan, May, July & Oct)</u>	T. Collins, O. Brown, S. Sabol

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

<u>1st Sunday</u>	C. Mathis
<u>2nd Sunday</u>	B. Streb
<u>3rd Sunday</u>	T. Collins
<u>4th Sunday</u>	I. MacKenzie
<u>5th Sunday</u>	R. Castillo

COUNTERS

<u>May 1</u>	C. Douthwaite, J. Orban
<u>May 8</u>	S. Yuen, C. Douthwaite
<u>May 15</u>	S. Yuen, J. Orban
<u>May 22</u>	I. MacKenzie, E. Meek
<u>May 29</u>	I. MacKenzie, E. Meek

THANK YOU FOR DONATED ITEMS

Dear fellow members,

I wanted to extend my deepest gratitude for all the donated items sent to Iraq during my deployment. The soldiers enjoyed it all and I am truly blessed to be part of our church community. We arrived safely back to Massachusetts at the end of March and we are once again enjoying the freedom our country has to offer.

Again, thank you so much. I am grateful for your support of our troops.

Nick Arcario

OUTDOOR VOTER'S MEETING/SUMMER PICNIC

On Sunday, June 12, we will meet outside for our quarterly Voter's Meeting. At this meeting we will have the election of officers and board members.

Join us for fun and fellowship at 11:30 am, immediately following the divine service. The meat will be provided. Look for the potluck sign-up sheet in mid-May. Invite friends and family. If you would like to volunteer to help with the grilling, please contact Gary Melfi.

If you have any questions concerning the picnic or would like to volunteer to help with set-up or clean-up, contact Fay Sobottka at faysobottka42@gmail.com.

Please mark your calendars. We hope to see you there!



THANKS!

Many hands showed up to help with the big cleanup on April 9, the cross hall moves on February 26 and January 8, and a couple other small group work days.

Big thanks to all of you !!

- Jason Behmlander,
- Pastor Beinke,
- Janel Cassara,
- Rick Castillo,
- Tom Collins,
- Cindy Douthwaite,
- Michael Graupner,
- Ian MacKenzie,
- Carl Mathis,
- John Meek,
- Gary Melfi,
- Gunilla Moy,
- Joe Orban,
- Wayne Palmisano,
- Leah Petrie,
- Steve Petrie,
- Holly Robaczynski,
- Peggy Ruhnke,
- Nancy Sayler,
- John Shane,
- Fay Sobottka,
- Bob Streb.

Extra thanks to Nancy Sayler who packed up and is restoring the Library.

(Apologies to anyone accidentally not listed, you are sincerely appreciated too!)

PICTURE DIRECTORY



WE NEED
YOU
to make our new
family directory
complete

PARKING

Although only 2 spaces are officially marked as “handicap” parking, on Sundays please be considerate of the members needing to avoid stairs and long walks and reserve all upper parking lot spaces for all those who need them.

If God has blessed you with better mobility, park in the lower lot and enjoy the walk!

The Deacons & Stewardship Board is coordinating the effort to gather photos and publish a new Photo Directory. Our most recent photo directory was published in 2004 - we are ready for a new edition!

The members of the Deacons & Stewardship Board are: Holly Robaczynski, Karen Shane, JoAnn Shapiro, and Sheena Yuen. Ask one of them to take your photo at church.

Submit your photo or beware of what we find.

Email photos to Communications@StPetersNorwalk.org

BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY 2022

May 1: Judges 13:1-14:20
John 1:29-51
Psalm 102:1-28
Proverbs 14:15-16

May 2: Judges 15:1-16:31
John 2:1-25
Psalm 103:1-22
Proverbs 14:17-19

May 3: Judges 17:1-18:31
John 3:1-21
Psalm 104:1-23
Proverbs 14:20-21

May 4: Judges 19:1-20:48
John 3:22-4:3
Psalm 104:24-35
Proverbs 14:22-24

May 5: Judges 21:1-Ruth 1:22
John 4:4-42
Psalm 105:1-15
Proverbs 14:25

May 6: Ruth 2:1-4:22
John 4:43-54
Psalm 105:16-36

Proverbs 14:26-27

May 7: 1 Samuel
1:1-2:21
John 5:1-
23
Psalm
105:37-45
Proverbs
14:28-29



May 8: 1 Samuel 2:22-4:22
John 5:24-47
Psalm 106:1-12
Proverbs 14:30-31

May 9: 1 Samuel 5:1-7:17
John 6:1-21
Psalm 106:13-31
Proverbs 14:32-33

May 10: 1 Samuel 8:1-9:27
John 6:22-42
Psalm 106:32-48
Proverbs 14:34-35

May 11: 1 Samuel 10:1-11:15
John 6:43-71

Psalm 107:1-43
Proverbs 15:1-3

May 12: 1 Samuel 12:1-13:22
John 7:1-29
Psalm 108:1-13
Proverbs 15:4

May 13: 1 Samuel 13:23-14:52
John 7:30-53
Psalm 109:1-31
Proverbs 15:5-7

May 14: 1 Samuel 15:1-16:23
John 8:1-20
Psalm 110:1-7
Proverbs 15:8-10

May 15: 1 Samuel 17:1-18:4
John 8:21-30
Psalm 111:1-10
Proverbs 15:11

May 16: 1 Samuel 18:5-19:24
John 8:31-59
Psalm 112:1-10
Proverbs 15:12-14

May 17: 1 Samuel 20:1-21:15
John 9:1-41
Psalm 113:1-114:8
Proverbs 15:15-17

John 17:1-26
Psalm 119:81-96
Proverbs 16:6-7

May 18: 1 Samuel 22:1-23:29
John 10:1-21
Psalm 115:1-18
Proverbs 15:18-19

May 29: 2 Samuel 14:1-15:22
John 18:1-24
Psalm 119:97-112
Proverbs 16:8-9

May 19: 1 Samuel 24:1-25:44
John 10:22-42
Psalm 116:1-19
Proverbs 15:20-21

May 30: 2 Samuel 15:23-16:23
John 18:25-19:22
Psalm 119:113-128
Proverbs 16:10-11

May 20: 1 Samuel 26:1-28:25
John 11:1-53
Psalm 117:1-2
Proverbs 15:22-23

May 31: 2 Samuel 17:1-29
John 19:23-42
Psalm 119:129-152
Proverbs 16:12-13

May 21: 1 Samuel 29:1-31:13
John 11:54-12:19
Psalm 118:1-18
Proverbs 15:24-26

May 22: 2 Samuel 1:1-2:11
John 12:20-50
Psalm 118:19-29
Proverbs 15:27-28

May 23: 2 Samuel 2:12--3:39
John 13:1-30
Psalm 119:1-16
Proverbs 15:29-30

May 24: 2 Samuel 4:1-6:23
John 13:31-14:14
Psalm 119:17-32
Proverbs 15:31-32

May 25: 2 Samuel 7:1-8:18
John 14:15-31
Psalm 119:33-48
Proverbs 15:33

May 26: 2 Samuel 9:1-11:27
John 15:1-27
Psalm 119:49-64
Proverbs 16:1-3

May 27: 2 Samuel 12:1-31
John 16:1-33
Psalm 119:65-80
Proverbs 16:4-5

May 28: 2 Samuel 13:1-39

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH - MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 10:00 am Bible Study Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm	6	7
8  10:00 am Worship Service 8:45 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	9	10	11	12 10:00 am Bible Study Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm	13	14
15 COUNCIL MEETING 10:00 am Worship Service 8:45 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	16	17	18	19 10:00 am Bible Study Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm	20	21
22 10:00 am Worship Service 8:45 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	23	24	25	26 <i>THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD</i> 10:00 am Bible Study Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm	27	28
29 10:00 am Worship Service 8:45 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	30 	31				