



Peace Lutheran Church

3340 Eleventh Avenue South,

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July - August 2026

"But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,"
Philippians 3:20

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What do you think of these United States of America? To some people there is no better country on this earth and no wrong can be done by her. In the minds of other people, they look at the past actions of the settlers, especially the harms inflicted upon the Native Americans, as well as the atrocities of slavery and think that this country has much to atone for even today.

The answer is found in the middle of these two viewpoints. As Christians, we should be thankful to God for all of the blessings that He has given to us in these United States, such as the blessing of the freedom to gather in His house in worship in safety. We do not have to worry about the government coming in, closing our church, and inflicting harm upon us, as is done in many countries today. We have the blessing of freedom of speech, that we can speak out and correct our government when they do wrong. We should be proud of our citizenship, the same as the church in Philippi was proud of their Roman citizenship won for many of them in the horrors of war as Roman soldiers.

Yet, we should also remember that our country is not perfect. Our leaders are sinful men, the same as you and I are. Sinful people are going to sin. They will make mistakes. They will do things that we disagree with. Yet, we always give thanks to God for them, praying that He would keep, uphold, and work through them for the common good and keeping evil at bay.

We do this remembering where our true citizenship lies. It does not lie in being a member of the United States, but in being members of Heaven! Thanks be to God that our salvation depends entirely upon Jesus Christ and His work for us upon the cross. As Paul writes, our citizenship is in heaven because of Jesus' death and resurrection for us. We look forward to the day when everything will be made new, and we will see with our physical eyes what we currently see with our eyes of faith, that Jesus is indeed ruling and reigning over all things.

Until that glorious day comes, let us pray for the leaders of our country, and the world, call them to repentance when they err, and give thanks to God for the blessings that He gives to us through our leaders and this country.

Your Servant in Christ,
Rev. Joshua Reinke

THANKS

TO

Everyone who helped or participated in any way at VBS! It was a huge success with an average of 25 kids most days!

Everyone who has come and helped us care for the church property, the lawn and the flower beds at church.

All of the people who have offered to serve the Lord as officers for Peace Lutheran Church.

Tristin Reinke, Gloria Creek and Val Martin for playing the organ and piano during our worship services.

Elsie Huss for changing the banners and paraments.

Everyone on the Prayer Chain for their time and prayers.

All of the men who volunteer to usher.

Bob Fletcher for cleaning the church.

Cheri Magnuson for cleaning the Communion linens.

This list is not inclusive. Please accept our apologies if we have missed giving you credit for serving the Lord in any fashion. We know that the Lord knows your service to Him.



July Anniversaries

July 1	Tyler and Hunter Denning
July 3	Cole and Hannah Fennell
July 5	Pat and Helen Lewis
July 11	Mike and Patrice MacDonald
July 15	Arnie and Betsy Wirth
July 19	Ben and Shirley Coe
July 23	Lyle and Tara Onstad
July 30	Dennis and Toni Nivens

Baptismal Anniversaries

July 1	Andrew Onstad
July 2	Shirley Coe
July 11	Helen Lewis
July 15	Aquilla Reinke
July 17	Donna Hasbrouck
July 19	Eric Fletcher
July 20	Pat Lewis
July 27	Peter Richlen

August Anniversaries

August 5	- Michel and Nancy Wayman
August 6	- Collin and Molly Whitesitt
August 10	- Pastor Joshua and Tristin Reinke
August 11	- Steve and Peggy Gannon
August 11	- Jared and Lark Dudden
August 16	- Shannon and Tara Birkholz
August 17	- Kevin and Linda Aguiar
August 26	- Roland and Ruth Lass

Baptismal Anniversaries

August 6	Ernest Keitzman
August 11	Kevin Jacobsen
August 25	Loretta Walker
August 25	Val Schnackenberg
August 29	Brook Gerard



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

Ben Aagaard – 13 year old with health issues
Marylan Dallum – health issues - Fort Benton
Jody Decker – health issues - Fort Benton
Michael Drummond – Lupus
Rev. Mark Grunst of Billings who has Lewy Body disease
Rev. Erich Kaelberer – ALS
Bruce Kempf – health issues
Becky Schlund - MS
Steven Schlund - Parkinsons

LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting and Bible study will be Saturday, July 11 at 11a.m. at the church.** This is our planning meeting and we will be discussing many events and projects that we can do throughout the year. All ladies of Peace are invited to join us! Remember your Mite Boxes!
- ♥ The LWML Fall Retreats will be here soon! The dates are **September 18-20, 2026**. There are 2 places to choose from: one at **Trinity Camp in Bigfork** and another at **Mountain Top Retreat near Bozeman**. More information will be in the next *Montana Missive*. Plan now to go and join us for Bible study, food, fellowship and fun!

Office Hours for Holiday

The church office will be OPEN Monday through Wednesday, June 29, 30 and July 1 from 9 AM to 1 PM and **CLOSED** on **Thursday, July 2 for the holiday**.

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Reinke and family will be leaving on vacation July 17 and they will be gone until August 8. If you have need of pastoral care during this time, please call Arnie Gidlow at 406-468-9385 or Lyle Onstad at 406-781-6488.

Fuddruckers' Burgers for Benefits fundraiser for Wee Disciples is the **third Tuesday of each month** from 5 to 9 PM. (The next fundraising evening is on July 21 and August 18.) No coupon necessary! Just mention Wee Disciples and they will donate 20% of the total ticket to Wee Disciples. **You can use dine-in or takeout.** Thank you for supporting Wee Disciples!

Ushers for July

July 5 ----- Pat Lewis
----- Taylor Martin
July 12----- Arnie Gidlow
----- Patrick Tenold
July 19----- Greg Franczyk
----- Andrew Onstad
July 26----- Cole McPartlin
----- Dennis Nivens

Ushers for August

Aug 2 ----- Arnie Gidlow
----- Jayden McPartlin
Aug 9 ----- Arnie Gidlow
----- Tyler Denning
Aug 16 ----- Patrick Lewis
----- Patrick Tenold
Aug 23 ----- Dennis Nivens
----- Greg Franczyk
Aug 30 ----- Lyle and Andrew Onstad

From the
rising of the sun
to its going down
the LORD's name is
to be praised.

Psalms 113:3, NKJV



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 9

(5 July 2026)

Zechariah 9:9–12

Romans 7:14–25a

Matthew 11:25–30

Jesus Christ, Our Savior, Is Our True Peace and Sabbath Rest

Though we have died with Christ in Holy Baptism, and we are raised to new life in Him, we find “another law waging war” in our body and life, that is, between our old Adam and the new man (Rom. 7:23). By the Spirit of Christ, we “desire to do what is right,” but we are not able to do so because “nothing good” dwells in our sinful flesh (Rom. 7:18). “Thanks be to God,” therefore, “through Jesus Christ our Lord,” who delivers us from “this body of death” (Rom. 7:24–25). We rejoice in Him, our gentle King, who comes “righteous and having salvation” (Zech. 9:9). He speaks peace to our embattled hearts, and by His blood of the New Testament He sets us “free from the waterless pit,” and He returns us to the stronghold of our Baptism (Zech. 9:10–12). Though we “labor and are heavy laden,” He calls us to Himself and gives rest to our souls through His free and full forgiveness (Matt. 11:28), not because we are “wise and understanding,” but by the “gracious will” of God the Father, whom “the Son chooses to reveal” in love (Matt. 11:25–27).

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 10

(12 July 2026)

Isaiah 55:10–13

Romans 8:12–17

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love

As “the rain and the snow come down from heaven” and “water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout” (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as “an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off” (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and “indeed bears fruit” (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who “have received the Spirit of adoption as sons” (Rom. 8:15). Thus being “led by the Spirit of God,” we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we “also be glorified with him” (Rom. 8:17).

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 11

(19 July 2026)

Isaiah 44:6–8

Romans 8:18–27

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

The Word of the Gospel Bestows the Righteousness of Christ and Brings Forth Faith

The good Seed, which is “the Son of Man,” Jesus Himself (Matt. 13:37), brings forth a harvest of faith and bears good fruits in “the sons of the kingdom” (Matt. 13:38). Whatever is sown apart from His Word is of the devil, who plants the weeds of unbelief and sin, even among the people of God. Thankfully, the Lord is patient and He does not uproot the weeds, lest the plants also be destroyed. He lets “both grow together until the harvest” (Matt. 13:30), while He continues to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thus, He preserves His Church in righteousness, because He alone is “the King of Israel and his Redeemer” (Is. 44:6). Since all things are in His gracious care and keeping, “fear not, nor be afraid” (Is. 44:8). For “the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God” (Rom. 8:19), and in this hope we also wait with patience. Though we do not yet see it, “the Spirit helps us in our weakness” (Rom. 8:26) and, in truth, “the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us” (Rom. 8:18).

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 12

(26 July 2026)

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

Romans 8:28–39

Matthew 13:44–52

The Son of God Has Redeemed Us for Himself with His Holy and Precious Blood

The Lord our God has chosen us to be “his treasured possession,” not because of any strength in us, but solely “because the LORD loves” us (Deut. 7:6–8). He is faithful, and He “keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments” (Deut. 7:9). He has searched for us and found us in love, and He has bestowed on us “great value” by the great price that He has paid on the cross (Matt. 13:45–46). In His joy, He has redeemed us by His cross and gathered us into His kingdom by the Gospel. Now we are “hidden in a field,” covered by the cross and subject to the persecution of the world (Matt. 13:44), not for destruction, but “to be conformed to the image of his Son” (Rom. 8:29). Since we “are called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28), and because Christ Jesus died, rose again and lives to intercede for us “at the right hand of God” (Rom. 8:34), there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from “the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:39).

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 13

(2 August 2026)

Isaiah 55:1–5

Romans 9:1–5 (6–13)

Matthew 14:13–21

Christ Jesus, the Living Bread from Heaven, Feeds the Children of God

By the Gospel of “the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever” (Rom. 9:5), we are “the children of God” (Rom. 9:8), “not because of works but because of him who calls” (Rom. 9:11). Therefore, “listen diligently” and “hear, that your soul may live.” By His sacrificial death in His flesh and blood, He has made “an everlasting covenant” for us. Since He now calls us to Himself, we come to Him “and eat what is good, and delight ... in rich food” (Is. 55:2–3). He has come with divine compassion to save us from sin and death and to feed us with Himself. As our Lord Jesus once took bread, “said a blessing,” broke the loaves, “and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds” (Matt. 14:18–19), He also now takes bread, blesses it by His Word to be His very body, and distributes it to His Church by the hand of His called and ordained servants. Just as “they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces,” there is more than enough for His whole Church to eat and to be satisfied (Matt. 14:20).

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 14

(9 August 2026)

Job 38:4–18

Romans 10:5–17

Matthew 14:22–33

Christ the Crucified Comes to Save Us by the Word of Faith

The Lord who “laid the foundation of the earth” (Job 38:4) is the Author and Giver of life who governs all things by His Word. His wisdom and power are beyond our understanding, except as He reveals Himself in the incarnate Word, Christ Jesus. He has “entered into the springs of the sea” and “walked in the recesses of the deep” (Job 38:16), and He draws near to us in mercy. We have been “a long way from the land, beaten by the waves” and tossed about by hostile winds (Matt. 14:24). In our mortality and sinful unbelief, we do not always recognize the Lord Jesus. But as we cry out in fear, He speaks tenderly to us, “Do not be afraid,” and He reaches out His hand to save us (Matt. 14:27, 31). “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Rom. 10:13), and now we call upon Him in faith, because we have heard “through the word of Christ” (Rom. 10:17). “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (Rom. 10:8).

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 15

(16 August 2026)

Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

Matthew 15:21–28

The Church Lives Under the Cross of Christ and Prays in the Hope of His Mercy

By her persistent prayer that Jesus would have mercy and help her (Matt. 15:22, 24), and even in the face of His initial silence and apparent rejection (Matt. 15:23–26), the Canaanite woman boldly confessed her faith in Him (Matt. 15:27–28). Her beautiful example encourages us to cling to the words and promises of the Gospel, even in the face of the Law that accuses and condemns us. “For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable” (Rom. 11:29), and His Law “has consigned all to disobedience” for the very purpose “that he may have mercy on all” (Rom. 11:32). Hence, the woman’s faith and hope were not disappointed, but her prayers were answered in the mercy of Christ. Not only does He grant us the crumbs from His table, but He also feeds us with “the children’s bread” in the house of His Father (Matt. 15:26–27). He has brought us to His “holy mountain,” and He makes us joyful in His house, where He hears our prayers and accepts our sacrifice of praise upon the altar of His cross (Is. 56:7).

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 16

(23 August 2026)

Isaiah 51:1–6

Romans 11:33—12:8

Matthew 16:13–20

The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Son of the Living God

Jesus asked His disciples: “But who do you say that I am?” (Matt. 16:15). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we believe and confess that He is “the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matt. 16:16). As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, He looses us from all our sins and preserves our life within His Church, against which even “the gates of hell shall not prevail” (Matt. 16:18–19). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness “will never be dismayed” (Is. 51:6). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that “joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song” (Is. 51:3). Therefore, “according to the measure of faith that God has assigned” (Rom. 12:3), we also offer ourselves “as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God” (Rom. 12:1) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 17

(30 August 2026)

Jeremiah 15:15–21

Romans 12:9–21

Matthew 16:21–28

The Glory of God Is the Passion and Cross of Christ Jesus

After St. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, our Lord “began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised” (Matt. 16:21). Upon hearing this “theology of the cross,” Simon Peter stumbled into a satanic “theology of glory.” But the glory of God is revealed in the Passion and cross of His incarnate Son. The faithful prophets, such as Jeremiah, suffered persecution and rejection in anticipation of Jesus’ cross. Yet the Lord did not abandon them; He remembered them, and He was with them to deliver them (Jer. 15:15–20). By His cross, Jesus has redeemed the world, and in His resurrection, He has vindicated all who trust in Him. Thus, the Christian life is a discipleship of self-sacrificing love. Since Christ Jesus has reconciled us to God, we “live peaceably with all” (Rom. 12:18). By the certainty of His cross and resurrection, we “rejoice in hope,” and we are “patient in tribulation” and “constant in prayer” (Rom. 12:12).