



Peace Lutheran Church

3340 Eleventh Avenue South,

Great Falls, Montana 59405

Pastor: Rev. Joshua Reinke

Office: 406-761-7343

Fax: 406-452-3884

www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org

June – July, 2025

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What is the role of the church? What is the importance of being a member of this church? Are we not all members of the body of Christ?

These questions, as well as many more, are among ones that Pastors get asked, and are some of the most misunderstood ones of our day and time. If you were to ask these questions to someone on the street, they might say that it does not really matter what church you go to, so long as you go somewhere. Many people consider churches to be a social gathering place or a place to be physically fed. Many will go only when they need help and have nowhere else to go. Sadly, many see church as a place to be ignored, thinking that all churches are interested in is money.

In a sense these answers are partially correct, but the church is so much more! The church is not in the business of making money. Rather, it deals with the state of the eternal soul. It is true that God is with all believers no matter what church they attend. This is what we call the church invisible in the Small Catechism. His Word works where and when it pleases and He knows His sheep and they hear and follow His voice.

At the same time, we confess that it does matter what church you attend. Why? For the very reason that what we believe and confess about who God is, as His people, matters. Being God's people through the waters of Holy Baptism, we seek to worship God rightly understanding the Word that He has given to us. We are not saying people who attend other churches are not Christians, they may very well be. It is God who sees and judges the heart on the Last Day. As our Lutheran Confessions state: "We do say that this Church exists: truly believing and righteous people scattered throughout the whole world. We add the marks: the pure teaching of the Gospel and the Sacraments" (Apology VII and VIII 20). In other words, the true church with true saints can be found in the world, namely, where we find the voice of Christ with His gifts of forgiveness given and received, and the saints of God abiding in love with one another, wherever and whenever that may happen.

This is why we also call ourselves a confessional church. We hold ourselves to the confessions as they are a clear explanation of Scripture and a way of keeping us safe from false beliefs. For example, if I made the best brownies in the world, and used the best of the best chocolate, flour, and sugar, would you eat it? Sure! Yet, If I added a special ingredient, just a pinch of dog poop sprinkled over top, you would instantly refuse because it's no longer good for you. This illustration can be used, not only for how a little bit of sin corrupts the whole, but also when it comes to worship. Just a little bit of false doctrine creeps in, and eventually the whole Church is destroyed. Thus, why we state that membership is important. Your name is more than just a name on a roll. It is a public statement that you believe and confess the same things that this church beliefs and confesses. What you believe, teach, and confess about who you are and who God is, is a means of safeguarding your very soul for life everlasting. By resisting false doctrine and error, clinging to, and growing, in the one true Faith, you grow and are nourished being a branch attached to the true Vine. That is why everything, from our liturgy, Bible Studies, VBS, and sermons is taken from the very word of God. That your soul might be fed and kept safe.

Being a member does have physical implications as well. It means that you will be able to receive the encouragement, strength, prayers, baptism, the Lord's Supper and the application of God's Word from fellow Christians and a pastor, which you may not have the privilege of receiving as a non-member. It will tell other Christians and the world that you have considered it a serious matter to be able to join together with Christians to support the work of the church of calling a pastor, providing instruction in the Christian faith for the youth, adults, the elderly, doing evangelism and mission work at home and abroad. It not only witnesses to other people who you are and what you are about, but it shows God that you are not just talking about and maybe doing half-heartedly the things related to your soul but are involved whole-heartedly in doing what He expects. Joining is a serious declaration, one that should not be taken lightly, as you promise when you become a member that you intend, -with His help, -to participate fully in doing the things of God.

I shall wrap this up here, before it takes up the whole newsletter! As we gather around the marks of the church, His Word and Sacraments, may God continue to strengthen and nourish our faith, until the day when the church invisible becomes the church visible when we are with all the saints gathered around the throne of God in the New Jerusalem forever.

Your Servant in Christ,
Rev. Joshua Reinke

THANKS

Everyone who donated and helped in any way with the rummage sale.
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 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.



June Anniversaries

June 5 – Bailey and Brenna Johnson
June 15 – Tyler and Natalie Gill

Baptismal Anniversaries

June	1	Dennis Nivens
	3	Maverick Meierhoff
	9	Joshua Baumer
	11	Jennifer Lewis
	12	Linda Aguiar
	14	Angela Fletcher
	16	Alicia Fletcher
	18	Phyllis Schaaf
	20	Toni Nivens
	27	Marge Johnsten

July Anniversaries

July 1	Tyler and Hunter Denning
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 25	Joshua and Kate Baumer
July 30	Dennis and Toni Nivens

Baptismal Anniversaries

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



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

Ben Aagaard – 12 year old with liver cancer
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
Marge Johnsten - cancer
Connie Juden - health issues
Rev. Erich Kaelberer – ALS
Bruce Kempf – health issues
Eloise Morehead – health issues
Becky Schlund - MS
Steven Schlund - Parkinsons

Ushers for June

June 1-----	Arnie Gidlow and Dennis Nivens
June 8-----	Lyle and Andrew Onstad
June 15-----	Arnie Gidlow
-----	Kevin Aguiar
June 22-----	Mitch and Taylor Martin
June 29-----	James Onstad
-----	Greg Franczyk

LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting is Saturday, June 7 at 11 AM.** We will have the election of officers and take care of any other business that needs to be handled. Please plan to come!
- ♥ **Our planning meeting will be Saturday, July 12 at 11:00 a.m.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and participate in the planning of the coming year's activities and servant event projects. Many new and exciting ideas will be talked about and planned!

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Friday Ladies Bible study

With all the extra moisture received in May, we may experience a Super Bloom of wildflowers in June. Drive up to the mountains to check it out. You won't be disappointed! In shady forest areas look for white Lady's Slipper orchids and pink Prince's Pine. Open meadows will be sporting blue camas, lupines, bear grass, and more. In boggy ditches and along streams watch for blue forget-me-nots and magenta elephant's head.

Assisted Living Ministry brings hymn singing and a devotion to Highgate Senior Living, 3000 11th Avenue South at 1:30pm on Friday, June 27th. Before going to Highgate there will be a no host lunch at The Loft, 4810 2nd Avenue North at 11:45am and on July 25 the group will go to Dantes, 1325 8th Avenue North, before going to Highgate for hymn singing and devotions. If you have house guests visiting, bring them along to these activities.

Pastor Reinke will hold worship service at Highgate on Monday, June 9th at 1:30pm. On Monday, June 16th at 1:30pm he will be at The Lodge, 1801 9th Street South. The services at Highgate and The Lodge are canceled for July since Pastor will be on vacation.

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Remember to bring your **baby bottles** from Echoz back to the church on or before
Sunday, June 15, Father's Day.

Thank you for your continued support of this wonderful program!

Coffee and Chat starts

Would you like to sharpen your signing skills? Pastor has set up a time for anyone who wants to practice their sign language skills by sitting and visiting with deaf to meet at Double Barrel, 1500 9th Avenue South, **Saturday, June 21 at 11 AM**. Feel free to come and join us!

Offering Counters needed!

We need people to help count the offering each Sunday in **July and October**. If you have never counted before and would like to be trained, or if you know how to count and can volunteer sometime during these months, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway or contact Chairman Greg Franczyk.

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Reinke and family will be leaving on vacation July 1 and they will be gone until July 23. If you have need of pastoral care during this time, please call one of our elders or Pastor Schultz from Trinity Lutheran, 406-452-2121.

Office Hours for Holiday

The church office will be OPEN Monday through Wednesday, July 1 and 2 from 9 AM to 1 PM and CLOSED on **Thursday, July 3.**



Vacation Bible School dates have been set for **June 16-20, 2025** from **9 AM to 12 noon**.

“Five Words of Understanding” on the ICHTHUS

The fish has been a symbol of the Christian Church since the beginning. Why?

It is because in Greek, each letter in the word for fish (ICHTHUS) stands for a name or title of our Lord.

I is for Jesus (Iesos)
CH is for Christ (Christos)
TH is for God’s (Theou)
U is for Son (Uios)
S is for Savior (Soter)

In VBS this year, the children will be learning about each of these names, Jesus, Christ, God’s Son, and Savior. Bring your child or grandchild to learn these important truths through daily prayer, lessons, and crafts. Come and join us!! If you would like to help in any way, please contact Linda Aguiar at 406-402-9521



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(1 June 2025)

Acts 1:12–26, Revelation 22:1–6 (7–11) 12–20, John 17:20–26

Jesus Is with Us in His Holy Christian Church

On the night when He was betrayed, Jesus interceded for His Church — for His apostles and all who believe in Him through their word — that all of His disciples “may become perfectly one” in the Father and the Son (John 17:21–23). For Jesus became flesh and dwells among us in order to reveal the Father and His name, to share with us the glory of His righteousness, and to bring us to the Father in Himself. As the Father loved the Son from “before the foundation of the world” (John 17:24), so He loves the whole world (John 17:23, 26). Through the apostolic witness to the Baptism, cross and resurrection of Jesus (Acts 1:21–22), the Lord gathers His disciples throughout the world “with one accord” as one body in Christ (Acts 1:14). And so with one voice and by one Spirit, His Bride prays, “Come” (Rev. 22:17). And He comes to us. He gives us “the water of life without price” to wash our robes and quench our thirst (Rev. 22:17); He feeds us from “the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit” (Rev. 22:2).

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

(8 June 2025)

Genesis 11:1–9, Acts 2:1–21, John 14:23–31

The Holy Spirit Gives Peace

Following the flood, Noah’s descendants failed to spread out and fill the earth as God had spoken. Rather, they exalted themselves; with “one language and the same words” (Gen. 11:1), they spoke proudly and arrogantly. The Lord humbled them by confusing “the language of all the earth,” dividing and dispersing the people (Gen. 11:9). That dispersal was reversed on Pentecost Day (the 50th day of Easter), when God caused the one Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to be preached in a multitude of languages. “At this sound the multitude came together” (Acts 2:6), for the preaching of Christ is the primary work of the Holy Spirit, whereby He gathers people from all nations into one Church. The Holy Spirit teaches and brings to our remembrance the words of Jesus, which are the words of the Father who sent Him. These words bestow forgiveness and peace to those who keep and hold on to them in love for Jesus. “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid” (John 14:27).

THE HOLY TRINITY

(15 June 2025)

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31, Acts 2:14a, 22–36, John 8:48–59

The Triune God Reveals Himself in Christ Jesus

The divine Word of the Father also is the holy wisdom who “was beside him, like a master workman,” who “was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always” (Prov. 8:30). This Word became flesh and suffered death in order to bestow life by the preaching of His Gospel “to the children of man” (Prov. 8:4). He honors the Father, and the Father glorifies Him by raising Him from the dead, so that all who keep His Word “will never see death” (John 8:51). Long ago, “father Abraham rejoiced” in the day of Christ, for “he saw it and was glad” (John 8:56). Though Christ was “crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men,” “God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death” (Acts 2:23, 24). As He “received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:33), so it is by and through the Son that God the Father pours out the Holy Spirit upon His Church.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 7C)

(22 June 2025)

Isaiah 65:1–9, Galatians 3:23–4:7, Luke 8:26–39

Jesus Brings Release from the Bonds of Sin, Death and the Devil

The Lord finds those who did not seek Him or ask for Him. He spreads out His hands “to a rebellious people” (Is. 65:2) and calls them to be His people and to dwell in peace upon His holy mountain (Is. 65:9). For wherever Jesus Christ enters in, Satan is cast out. Those who were enslaved and driven mad by the assaults and accusations of the devil are set free by the Word of Christ. He drowns and destroys the old Adam in us with the waters of Holy Baptism and thereby brings us out of death into life. No longer naked in our shame, living “among the tombs” (Luke 8:27), we are brought into the Lord’s house, fully clothed by Christ; He has come in “the fullness of time” (Gal. 4:4) to fulfill the Law on our behalf and to redeem us from its every accusation. Therefore, having been justified by His grace through faith in His Gospel, “you are no longer a slave, but a son” (Gal. 4:7).

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 8C)

(29 June 2025)

1 Kings 19:9b–21, Galatians 5:1, 13–25, Luke 9:51–62

Christ’s Messengers Proclaim His Kingdom

When the prophet Elijah became discouraged and despaired of his life, “the word of the LORD came to him” (1 Kings 19:9b) and stood him “on the mount before the LORD” (1 Kings 19:11). The Lord made Himself known to the prophet — not in the impressive power of gale force winds, or in an earthquake, or in the fire, but in “the sound of a low whisper” (1 Kings 19:12). Today God reveals Himself to us through the frail preaching of the Gospel. The Son of Man sends “messengers ahead of him ... to make preparations for him” (Luke 9:52). Putting their hand to that plow of preaching, they “go and proclaim the kingdom of God,” and they do not look back (Luke 9:60, 62). What they preach is not the power of the Law with its “yoke of slavery,” but the power of God unto salvation through the Gospel of forgiveness, by which “Christ has set us free” (Gal. 5:1).

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 9c)

(6 July 2025)

Isaiah 66:10–14, Galatians 6:1–10, 14–18, Luke 10:1–20

The Lord Grants Peace and Life to His Church

The Lord restores Jerusalem, His Church, because she is the mother of His children, whom He comforts “as one whom his mother comforts” (Is. 66:13). We are “satisfied from her consoling breast” with the pure milk of the Word, and we “drink deeply with delight from her glorious abundance” (Is. 66:11). The messengers of Christ bestow such gifts upon His Church. For He sends them out “as lambs in the midst of wolves” (Luke 10:3), bearing in their bodies the sacrifice of His cross, by which “the kingdom of God has come near” (Luke 10:9, 11). Wherever He enters in with this Gospel, Satan is cast out and falls “like lightning from heaven” (Luke 10:18). Thus, we do not “boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Gal. 6:14). Rejoicing in this Gospel, we “bear one another’s burdens” in love, according to “the law of Christ” (Gal. 6:2).

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 10C)

(13 July 2025)

Leviticus (18:1–5) 19:9–18, Colossians 1:1–14, Luke 10:25–37

Jesus Is Our Good Samaritan

The Law commands that “you shall love the Lord your God” with all your heart, soul, mind and strength (Luke 10:27), and that you shall “love your neighbor as yourself” (Lev. 19:18). Love fulfills the Law because love does no harm to the neighbor. Christ Jesus is the Good Samaritan, who with divine compassion saves you from all evil. He takes your sin and death upon Himself and bears these in His body to the cross. He binds up your wounds with the healing balm of His Gospel, and He brings you into His Church, where He takes care of you at His own expense (Luke 10:34–35). By such mercy, He proves “to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers” (Luke 10:36). Therefore, “you go, and do likewise” (Luke 10:37). By “your faith in Christ Jesus” and “because of the hope laid up for you in heaven” (Col. 1:4–5), you have the same love for others as the Lord Jesus has for you.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 11C)

(20 July 2025)

Genesis 18:1–10a (10b–14), Colossians 1:21–29, Luke 10:38–42

The Word of Christ Is the One Thing Needed

“The LORD appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre” (Gen. 18:1) and received his hospitality. But Abraham received the gracious promise of a son. Though Abraham and Sarah were very old, nothing is “too hard for the LORD” (Gen. 18:14). His Word appointed the time and fulfilled the promise. In the same way, the Lord Jesus “entered a village” and received Martha’s hospitality (Luke 10:38). “Martha was distracted with much serving” because she was “anxious and troubled about many things” (Luke 10:40–41), but her sister, Mary, “sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his teaching” (Luke 10:39). The service of love is no sin, but “one thing is necessary” for both faith and love — the Word of Christ (Luke 10:42). Thus, the ministers of Christ are sent “to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints” (Col. 1:25–26).

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 12C)

(27 July 2025)

Genesis 18:(17–19) 20–33, Colossians 2:6–15 (16–19), Luke 11:1–13

The Prayer of the Church Is the Voice of Faith

Jesus catechizes His disciples in the way of faith by teaching them how to pray. He promises us: “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you” (Luke 11:9). If earthly fathers know how to give good gifts to their children, “how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him” (Luke 11:13). Thus, father Abraham was bold in his prayer because he believed the gracious promise of the Lord, that he would “surely become a great and mighty nation” (Gen. 18:18). When we pray in Jesus’ name, we also hold “fast to the Head” (Col. 2:19), “rooted and built up in him and established in the faith” (Col. 2:6–7).