

And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."



We believe that God has called us to...

**Reach Out to All
Embrace His Gifts
Announce His Coming
Commit to Christian Living**

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Pastor Ron Moritz Deacon Ed Smallcombe

Communion Sunday
Sunday, October 18, 2020

Communion will be offered on the first and third Sundays of the month

Our service begins at 9:15 a.m. We will conduct a worship service inside and outside simultaneously by using our FM transmitter . If you choose to remain in the parking lot please tune your radio to Station 87.9 FM in your vehicle.

Our 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service has been cancelled, in lieu of starting Adult Bible Class October 11th.

FYI: Michigan's current order has been extended until October 27th regarding wearing masks and social distancing.

IF ENTERING THE CHURCH: *(Due to social distancing please read below)*

1. If you choose to enter the church for worship service please wear your mask apply sanitizer to your hands, so you can sign in.
2. Please use the center aisle to enter the sanctuary.
3. Do not sit in the pews marked off-limits with a thin red rope. No more then two people should sit in a pew unless they are living in the same household.
4. We will dismiss from the rear pews first. Exit using the side aisles. Do not exit the pews using the center aisle unless you are handicapped.

Let's continue to Stay Safe . Thank you for your cooperation!

Order of Service

Opening Hymn—Thine Forever, God of Love

Collect for the Day: O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Scripture Readings for the Day:

First Reading: Old Testament Isaiah 45:1–7

1Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: 2“I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, 3I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. 4For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. 5I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, 6that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. 7I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all these things.”



Second Reading: Epistle 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

1Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, 3remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. -

6And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, 7so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. 9For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come. the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, 7so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. 9For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come. mendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. 10 I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity.

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

15Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. 16And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. 17Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” 18But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? 19Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. 20And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” 21They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” 22When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Sermon: "Whose Picture is on Your Coins?"

Matthew 22:15-21

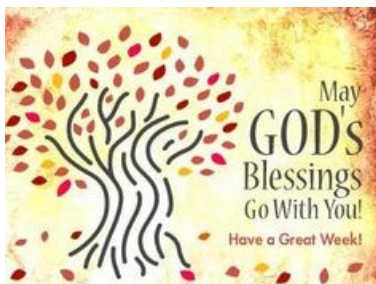
Lord's Prayer

Communion

Prayers: Pray for our country, for those that are sick, for those in need, for our home-bound, for wisdom for our leaders in this time of the virus, for the firefighters and those dealing with the fires on the west coast, and for all of your concerns.



Closing Hymn: #711 "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"



Today's Sermon Review.

"Whose Picture is on Your Coins?" Matthew 22:15-21

Introduction: A tale of two 'Martins'

It's not what you have, but the attitude with which you U_____ it!

I. In today's Gospel, Jesus penetrates deeply into our

- H_____
- A. The setting: A head-on collision between Jesus and -
1. "Disciples of Pharisees" - dedicated to defying Rome.
 2. "The Herodians" - dedicated to supporting Rome.
 3. An unholy alliance to T_____ Jesus.
- B. The Question: introduced by shallow F_____
1. 'Who owns the coin?'
 2. Jesus' response unmasks I_____
 3. A forbidden 'graven image'
 4. God's Law broken for financial gain
- C. The Issue
1. They served neither Caesar (hated taxes) nor God (ignored Law)
 2. Hearts fill with S_____ - S_____

II. The Application to God's People

- A. Text is NOT a church/state issue, or Caesar/God issue
- B. It's designed not to C_____, but to make us Un-C_____
- C. Our attitude toward S_____:

"WHOSE PICTURE IS ON OUR COINS?"

- D. Avoid Extremes of:
1. W_____ (indulgence) 'spend it all on ME'
 2. H_____ Wealth is my S_____, not God!
- E. Put GOD'S picture on E_____
1. Reaffirm His L_____
 2. Let His Word govern our use.

Which 'Martin' is our model? The ones who serve self only, or the one who used all things to serve God.

Answers to last week's Sermon Review: (10/11/20) Banquet, Invitation, Advance, Expected, Insult, Love, Regret, Garments, Forgive, Terms, Rejection, Eternity

Opening Hymn: Thine Forever, God of Love

Thine forever, God of love!
Hear us from Thy throne above;
Thine forever may we be
Here and in eternity!

Thine forever! Oh, how blest
They who find in Thee their rest!
Savior, guardian, heav'nly friend,
O defend us to the end!

Thine forever, Lord of Life!
Shield us through our earthly strife.
Thou, the life, the truth, the way,
Guide us to the realms of day.

Thine forever! Shepherd, keep
These Thy frail and trembling sheep;
Safe alone beneath Thy care,
Let us all Thy goodness share.

Thine forever! Thou our guide,
All our wants by Thee supplied,
All our sins by Thee forgiv'n;
Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text & tunes in Public domain

Theses songs are on the website thanks to the Hymnal Project



Let's keep in contact with others not
able to attend worship. They miss
us and we miss them.

Closing hymn: Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
- 2 We are Yours; in love befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
- 3 You have promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
- 4 Early let us seek Your favor,
Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP

FYI - ST. PETER'S NEW MAILING ADDRESS:



P.O. BOX 327, Three Rivers, MI 49093

Please begin to use our post office box for all incoming mail. We have discovered it is safer to use our P.O. Box number. Thanks

Today, Sunday, October 18 **Adult Bible Study & Sunday School will be at 10:15 AM.** The adult class will be in Zimmerman Hall. The larger room allows us to social distance.

Sunday School will meet in the worship room with Social Distancing. On October 25 there will be no Sunday School due to the Voters' meeting.

We will add Holy Communion to our Reformation Service on October 25.

The Council Meeting on September 21 agreed on the following worship services*

Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 26 at 6:00 PM

Wed. December 2 Advent communion services at 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM (Brown bag lunch being considered after the 11:00 AM service)

Wed's., December 9 & 16 Advent services at 11:00 AM only (Brown bag lunches TBD)

Thurs., December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service at 4:00 PM (NO Christmas Day service this year.)

***All services will be transmitted to our car radios as we do on Sundays.**



Voters Meeting

On Sunday, October 25 our next Voters Assembly

will be held in the sanctuary immediately after service. Those in their cars may simply keep their radio tuned to 87.9 FM to hear the discussion.

Voting ballots for action items will be distributed & collected inside and out. While the October 19 Council meeting will finalize the agenda we do anticipate voting on the following:

1. We agree to allow current elected officers to continue to serve through 2021 (with new elections after Covid restrictions are removed – those interested in being an officer, trustee or elder for the coming term, please contact Jan in the church office.)
2. Adoption of the 2021 Mission & Ministry Budget (anticipated to be similar to 2020).

FYI: St. Peters is in our 125th year of ministry.

This 125th anniversary year culminates on May 31 (the date in 1896 when our first constitution was adopted). Appropriate anniversary events for 2021 will be considered early in the new year.



REMINDER:

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 1, 2020

On Oct. 31, before going to sleep, turn your clock back an hour.

