

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May

Altar Committee: Melissa Brendel

Communion Committee: Sharon Martin, Mary Nitzsche, Melody Ruhbusch
Nicola Giordano

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Mark Schneider

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Philip Gehlbach

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Tom Aidich

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, August 23rd – 103 (7:45); 123 (10:30); 83 (Bible Class)

Wednesday, August 26th – 26

Thursday, August 27th – Chapel Matins – 31

Altar Flowers: Given anonymously in thanksgiving for God's many gifts

Scan to donate:



Last Week's Plate Offering

General fund:	\$ 5,147.00
Capital Improvement fund:	\$ 100.00
Sacred Appointments Fund	\$ 100.00
Goehner Scholarship Fund:	\$ 250.00
International Mission Fund:	\$ 3.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 25.00
	\$ 5,625.00

TOTAL PLATE OFFERINGS GIVEN IN AUGUST 2026:

General funds received in August:	\$ 33,229.00
Capital Improvement funds received in August:	\$ 100.00
Sacred Appointments Fund received in August:	\$ 150.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in August:	\$ 500.00
International Mission funds received in August:	\$ 28.00
Mercy funds received in August:	\$ 125.00
	\$ 34,132.00

Needed for general ministry for 2026-27: \$594,500

Received fiscal year-to-date from all sources: \$86,056 (14%)

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

THEME: Jesus said, "Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me!"

The man who made the faithful confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, is also the same man who followed up his confession of faith with a fervent objection to Jesus' prediction that He must go to the cross and suffer. The cross and suffering of Christ is the center of the true confession that Peter had previously made and yet, he says, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" The example of Peter's schizophrenic confession of faith teaches us an important lesson about ourselves as Christians. The Christian is both a believer and an unbeliever simultaneously. Our Old Adam of unbelief and rebellion against God is always fighting against the New Man of faith in Christ. These two conflicting natures are at war with each other. This is central to understanding what it means "to deny ourselves, and take up our cross, and follow Him." Peter's Old Adam, like the Old Adam in all of us, could not be reformed, he had to die! That's why Jesus speaks to Peter in the way that He does: "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense (or stumbling block) to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men." The true confession of faith always turns away from the sinful, self-centered self with its flawed and self-serving human reason and clings to the selfless love of God in Christ alone, which moved Him to lay down His life for us.

Guests—Welcome to our Divine Service! We are pleased that you are with us. If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you. Before you leave this morning, please sign our guest register in the narthex.

Installation of New Board Members will take place during the Divine Services this morning.

Recently elected board members include:

Board of Elders – Lance Carus, Philip Gehlbach, Keith Gierach, Joseph Schneider

Board of Education – John Bender, Tyler Haga, Erik Krueger

Board of Properties – Nate Duessler, George Kaminski

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

W240 N6145 Maple Avenue, P.O. Box 123, Sussex, WI 53089

Office: (262) 246-3200

The Rev. Peter C. Bender, Senior Pastor — (262) 370-1189

The Rev. Gary V. Gehlbach, Asst. Pastor — (262) 325-3032

Divine Service: Sunday – 7:45 and 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday – 6:30 p.m.

Bible Class and Sunday School: Sunday – 9:15 a.m.



WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD’S WORD — “*Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it*” (Luke 11:28). Each week the faithful gather to receive the Word of their Lord.

THIS WEEK:

- **Private Confession and Absolution:** *Sundays 6:30 to 7:00 a.m. or by appointment, by calling or texting Pastor Bender at 262-370-1189*
- **Sunday:** **Divine Service at 7:45 & 10:30 a.m.**
Bible Class at 9:15 a.m. — Pentecost 14 Propers
- **Mon-Friday:** **Daily Chapel at 8:00 am**
- **Wednesday:** **Homeschool Catechesis at 4:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday:** **Divine Service at 6:30 — Pentecost 14**
- **Thursday:** **Matins with Communion at 8:00 a.m.**
Coffee Break Bible Study at 9:00 a.m.

Coffee Break Bible Study resumes this week. Join us Thursday mornings at 9:00 to study the book of Acts. In September, we will meet on the 3rd, 10th, and 24th.

The Lutheran Day School: Its Theological Foundation and Practice (part 2) A study of the Three Estates—Family, Church, and State will be the focus of our Sunday Bible Class on September 20, 27 and October 4.

Sunday Morning Bible Class: Didache and the Augsburg Confession, will run October 11 through May. This adult catechesis class will link together an in-depth study of *Lutheran Catechesis* with an in-depth study of the Augsburg Confession, the seminal confessional document of the evangelical Lutheran Church.

Every Adult! Prepare for Didache and the Augsburg Confession. Beginning on October 11, we will begin an extensive study in Bible Class of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. See the table in the narthex with sample copies of *Lutheran Catechesis*, *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, *Lutheran Book of Prayer*, and *Lutheran Service Book*. These resources will be used throughout the year in Bible Class. We are able to offer these books at a discount, and prices are listed on the order sign-up sheet at the table. Join the congregation in studying the treasure of Lutheran Theology in Bible Class, and make these resources part of your home devotional life as well. Please order by September 20 and pick up your books Oct 4.

Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions is also available online, in a mobile-friendly format for free at bookofconcord.cph.org.

The first YOUTH GROUP of the new school year will meet on Sept 13 after the 10:30 service. Pastor Bender will begin catechesis on Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. For this first session of the year, please bring your own lunches.

Bible Class for the Whole Family During the summer, children should attend Bible Class with their parents. This is a wonderful way to stimulate discussion in the faith at home. Throughout the summer we take a deeper look at each week’s appointed Sunday readings. Also, please continue to use the online Family Prayer lessons under the Family Prayer tab on our website with your family at home over the summer hiatus.

Sunday School is for the whole family! Lessons are posted under the Family Prayer tab on our website for your family to meditate upon during the week. There are printable lessons with related artwork as well as recordings by Pastor Bender to help guide the study. The lesson this week is *The Boy Jesus in the Temple — Luke 2:40-52*.

Book of Proverbs Bible Study...The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon recently started a study on the Book of Proverbs 21–31.

NEWS AND NOTES

The office will be closed on September 7 for Labor Day.

Congregational Assembly meets Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. Agendas are available in the Narthex.

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 8/23/2026

Number of families participating: 7 (in-person) + 6 (online)

Attendance: 250

Gross sales: \$1,775.00 Profit earned this week \$49.56

Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$1,100.62

Profit paid to the Academy: \$492.87

If you would like to sign up on the RaiseRight app, please contact Julie Goltermann or the church office to get the enrollment code.

\$100 Pick ’n Save gift cards remain unavailable, but extra \$50 Pick ’n Save cards are stocked for cash & carry orders.

There is 1 \$100 Kohls gift card available. We would like to sell it, and then we will only carry \$25 cards on hand.

Sunday Order of Service
The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

Divine Service Setting Two
Lutheran Service Book p. 167

Please follow the order of service printed in the hymnal beginning on page 167. The propers for the day (readings, hymns) are listed below.

Hymn of Invocation **724**
“If God Himself Be for Me”
Stanzas 1–5
Soloist sings stanza 2

Introit *sung responsively with the soloist*

Antiphon *Psalm 37:4*
Delight yourself | in the LORD,*
and he will give you the desires | of your heart.

Psalm *Psalm 37:5-7*

**Commit your way | to the LORD;*
trust in Him, and | He will act.**

He will bring forth your righteousness | as the light,*
and your justice as the | noonday.

**Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for Him;*
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil de- | vices!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son *
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

(Antiphon is repeated)

Old Testament Reading **Jeremiah 15:15-21**
The Word of the Lord was the joy of Jesus’ heart.

Psalm 26 *(antiphon v. 8) Soloist sings the antiphon and the odd verses.
Congregation sings the even verses.*

Epistle **Romans 12:9-21**
The love of Christ moves us in love and service.

Alleluia – Verse *sung by the soloist*

Alleluia.

Whoever would save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.
Alleluia.

Holy Gospel **Matthew 16:21-28**
Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me

Nicene Creed *confessed after the Holy Gospel*

Hymn of the Day **531**
“Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus”

Installation of Board Members
(After the sermon in both services)

Common Proper Preface I

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: Holy, holy, holy...

Distribution Hymns

“Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You” **668**
“Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me” **756**
“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face” **631**

Hymn to Depart **724**
“If God Himself Be for Me”
Stanzas 6-10