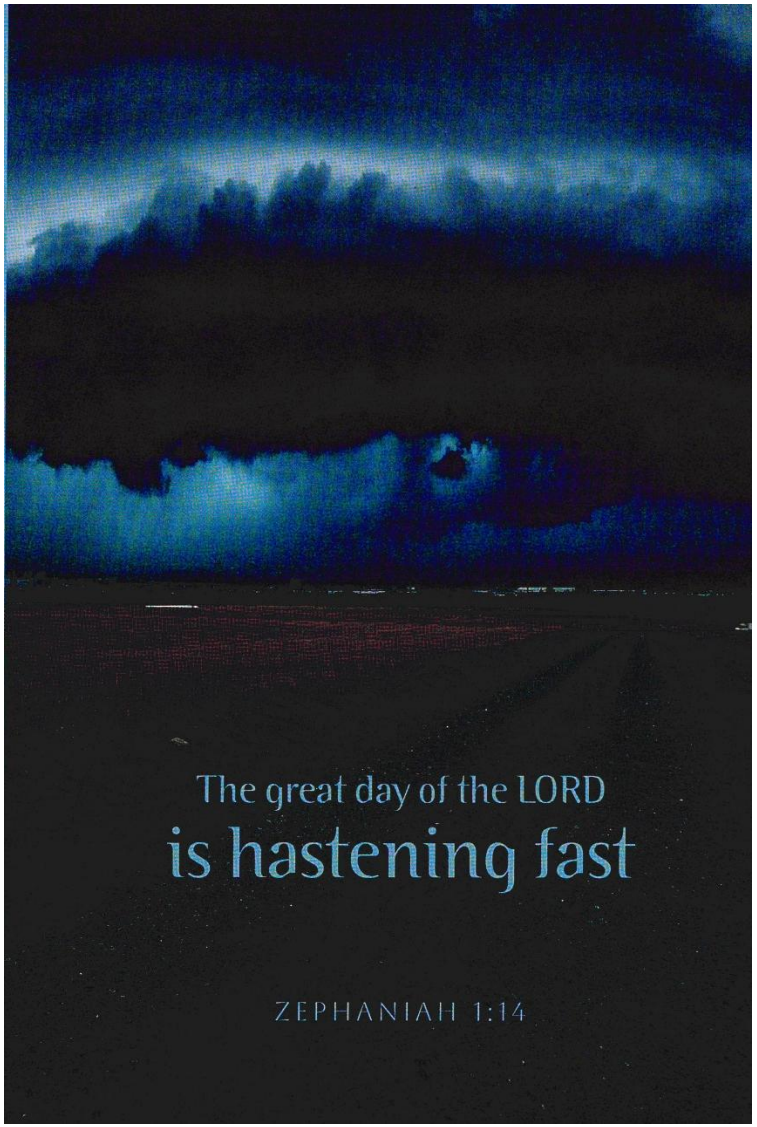
Reach out to all

Embrace His Gifts

Announce His coming

Commit to Christian Living

Honor His Word



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

PASTOR: RONALD C. MORITZ; DEACON: ED SMALLCOMBE;

Sunday November 15, 2026

Opening Hymn - "What is the World to Me"

P: Let us then confess our sins to God the Father

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.



25th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 5:18-24 Woe to you who long for the day of the Lord! Why do you long for the day of the Lord? That day will be darkness, not light. 19 It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him. 20 Will not the day of the Lord be darkness, not light—pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? 21 "I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. 22 Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. 23 Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. 24 But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Epistle-1 Thessalonians 4:13-18: 13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. 14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 15 According to the Lord's word, we tel you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Gospel: Matthew-2:1-13: After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi[a] from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." 3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: 6 "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'[7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." 9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

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 Hymn: Take My Life and Let it Be

Sermon: "Our Loved ones with the Lord" what we can and cannot say. 1 Thessalonoians 4:13-18

We remember in prayer those called by God to their heavenly home this church year



Pray for our country, for our military, for our healthcare workers & first responders, for those that are sick, for those in need, for those who have lost loved ones, for our home-bound, for wisdom for o. ur leaders, and for all of your concerns. Pray for all your concerns.

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: – "Lord Keep Us Steadfast inYour Word"

Benediction

SERMON REVIEW FOR November 8, 2026
Our Loved Ones With the Lord
1 Thessalonians 4;13-18

Introductions: Some things our mind cannot fully C_____ i.e. the interim between physical death and day of ____ resurrection. Difficult text to preach on-natural limitations of the human body..

I. Background into 1 Thessalonians

A. Historical setting
   1. Originally named "Thermai" for Hot S_____
   2. Crucial city for spread of the Gospel

B. Paul' Impact
   1; Good News! Strong congregation
   2. Bad News! Misconceptions regarding end of the world

C. Paul's two key words: H_____ & C_____

II. OUR Hope: not what we do (wishful thinking)
What we have (eternal life is secure)

A. The issue: Who gets to heaven first?
   Answer: We inherit Heaven at the S_____ T_____
   We will not precede those who have fallen asleep
   Also means they are not there yet.

B. Technical concerns
   1. With Christ emphasizes R_____(not "With me in Paradise promises nothing can separate us from Christ"
   2. T_____ & S_____ are only in this world. Where are they and ow long questions apply to the

Comfort is in God's Assurance, not our S_____
Say no less but also no more than Scripture says. On many issues – Silence is Luther's advise.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS meets downstairs in Zimmerman Hall.

JBC will meet Nov 29th & Dec 13th & 27th.

Ladies Aide will meet Dec 8 at 10 am

November - Rev. Jason Groth Belize Mission

Our Church Mission

The Rev. Jason Groth and his wife Emily, serve the Lord as career missionaries through The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in Belize. In this role, they help plant Lutheran churches and coordinate the operations of Camp Concordia in Belmopan, Belize.



The ground level door will be open on Sunday mornings for those who wish to avoid climbing the hill. Also shortly after service begins





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KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP

Next Sunday our guest preacher will be 4th year seminarian Sergui Trifa. After completing his vicarage in his home country of Romania he is now completing his pastoral training and will receive his first call in April. Sergui will also speak to our Bible Class about his past and future plans. All are welcome to join us.

On Sunday, November 29, 2026 we will be decorating the church and Narthex for the upcoming Christmas season. If you can please plan on staying after church and helping us to get our church ready for Christmas.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thanksgiving Eve service on November 25, 2026 at noon.



December 2nd, 9th & 16th will be Advent Devotions at noon



December 24th Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be at 4:00pm

