



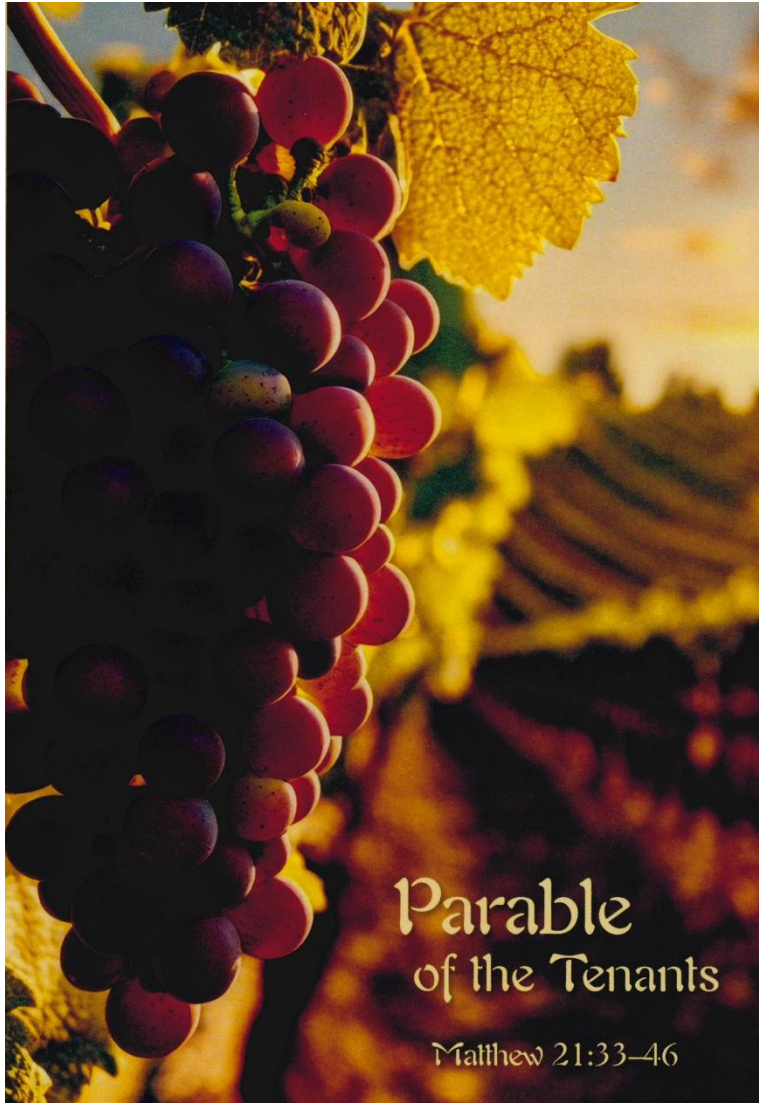
Reach out to all

Embrace His Gifts

Announce His coming

Commit to Christian Living

Honor His Word



Parable
of the Tenants

Matthew 21:33-46

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Sunday, October 4, 2026

Opening Hymn: # 912 - "Christ Is Our Cornerstone"

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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.



19^h Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7: I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. ³ “How you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? ⁵ Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” ⁷ The vineyard of the Lord Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Epistle-Philippians 3:4-14 though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. ⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in [\[a\]](#) Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Matthew-21:23-27: ³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. ³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. ³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes’”? ⁴³ “Therefore, I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.” ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

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: # 827 - "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling"

Sermon: "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH" Habakkuk 2:4



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 our leaders, and for all of your concerns. Pray for all your concerns.

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: "Built on the Rock"

Benediction

Closing Hymn: # 783 - "Take My Life and Let It Be"

SERMON REVIEW FOR SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

"The Just Shall Live by Faith!" Habakkuk 2:4

Introduction: Both OT & NT have L_____ and G_____. G_____ and Good W_____.

I. Note the sequence of God's unfolding plan

A. God justifies the S_____ through the work of Christ.

B. Then, through faith, we appropriate His R_____ into our life

C. Crucial for understanding the Doctrine of

P_____

(One of the most often confused teaching in Scripture)

1. In E_____ God determined to have His people.

2. In T_____ it is determined WHO on basis of faith in Christ.

D. This Divine Truth designed to C_____ (not frighten)

-In our moment of death we know, through Christ, we are God's for eternity!

II. The very faith God R_____, He works in us through the Holy Spirit. Faith is always God's G_____!

A. Catechism, page 323 Third Article Explanation

B. "God wants ALL to be S_____"

He is not to be seen as a fearful monster, fatalist or jokester

C. He sent Jesus Christ to free us from our

B_____

D. Therefore, let us A____ like free Christian men and women in Christ!

ADULT BIBLE CLASS meets today downstairs in Zimmerman Hall.



Sunday School & Jr. Bible Class will meet on Sept Oct 4th & 18th, Nov 1st, 15th & 29th.

Today is LWML Sunday



We will be collecting coins and currency for our mites on this Sunday for our mites collection to the Michigan District. These monies are used to fulfill mission grants. The Ladies will be going from pew to pew shaking the tins for your donations.

LWML/Ladies Aid will meet on October 13th at 10:00am.

Three Rivers Area Mentoring Coat Drive



Starting September 30th TRAM will be collecting new or gently used coats for all sizes. (adult & children). They are also collecting hats, gloves, mittens and boots. There will be a box in the Narthex for these donations. Now may be a good time to go through your closets!

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



October - Lutheran World Relief

Empowered by God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ, Lutheran World Relief envisions a world in which each person and every generation lives in justice, dignity, and peace. Lutheran World Relief works with partners in 50 countries to help people grow food, improve health, strengthen communities, end conflict, build livelihoods and recover from disasters. With people in the U.S., we work for justice for those we serve.

In the event you are unable to attend church you can go to our website: <https://www.stpeterstr.org> Click on the Pastor's sermon to listen or navigate to the services page under the Worship tab to see our recent bulletins and other Sermons.

You can watch a 30 minute LCMS service on Television locally. The program is entitled WORSHIP ANEW and can be heard locally on the following stations.

Sunday @ 11:30 am on all stations
Dish Broadcast Channel 49
Dishnet Channel 7537
Direct TV Channel 377
Spectrum Cable Channel 2
Comcast Cable Channel 26

If you want to share the Good News of Jesus with someone who does not attend church please pass this information to them.

