

Nativity Evangelical Lutheran Church

“Our 92nd Year”

June 29, 2025



Welcome to Nativity Lutheran Church; please take a moment to fill out the visitor cards found in the pews. Prayer request can be filled out on the reverse side of the visitor card; you may place the card in the offering box or give them to Pastor Kuhl. The service today includes Holy Communion and all who desire to receive what our Lord offers in this meal, his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to partake. For your convenience, restrooms are located in Goetz Hall on the lower level; the staircases in the church building narthex access them. There is a semi handicapped, unisex restroom located through the left front door of the sanctuary.

Peter and Paul Apostles

Guest Presiding Minister: The Rev. Dean A. Willich

Lector/Reader: Arlene Renard

Minister of Music: Dennis Jon Wolfgang

Today we celebrate two great figures of the early church, Peter and Paul, who represent the spread of the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles and, according to tradition, were martyred on this date. The witness of Peter and Paul inspires us as we seek ways to faithfully proclaim the gospel in our contemporary context.

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Prelude

Trumpet Tune on FESTAL SONG – Dennis Janzer

“For All Your Saints, O Lord”

WESTMINSTER ABBEY – setting by Mahlon Balderston

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

WESTMINSTER ABBEY – setting by Harold Rutz

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

Gavotte in B Flat – George Frideric Handel

Arranged by Homer Whitford

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

**Please stand if able.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

Processional Hymn

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation – ELW No. 645

Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Apostolic Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie – ELW page 147

Hymn of Praise – ELW page 149

“This is the feast of victory for our God.”

Prayer of the Day - “Today’s Readings” Insert

Please respond Amen.

**Please be seated for the Readings*

First Reading

Acts 12:1-11 - “Today’s Readings” Insert

King Herod had James killed and had Peter put in prison, under heavy guard. In what Peter first believes is only a vision, an angel leads him past unseeing guards, out of the prison, and to freedom.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Psalmody

Psalm 87:1-3, 5-7- “Today’s Readings” Insert

Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of our God.

(Psalm 87:3)

Please join in chanting together.

Epistle Reading

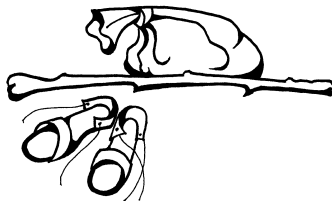
II Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18 - “Today’s Readings” Insert

Paul has faithfully persevered in the mission the Lord had given to him. Near life’s end he rests in the promise of eternal life, confident that the Lord who has rescued him in the past will bring him into the heavenly kingdom.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Gospel Acclamation – ELW page 151

*“Alleluia.” - *Please stand if able.*

Gospel Verse Proclaimed by the Cantor:

*Alleluia. This Jesus / God raised up, * and of that all of / us are witnesses. Alleluia. (I Samuel 2:8))*

Gospel Reading

The Gospel is announced: John 21:15-19

Response: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus invites Simon Peter to declare his love for him three times, in a manner reminiscent of the three times that Peter earlier denied Christ. Jesus commissions him to feed his sheep and predicts that he will die as a martyr for God.

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R: The Gospel of the Lord.

Concluding Response: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Dean Willich

Hymn of the Day

Faith of Our Fathers – ELW No. 812

Tune: ST. CATHERINE

Please stand for the final verse.

Profession of Faith

Nicene Creed – ELW page 104

Prayers of the People

P: God of Grace

C: hear our prayer.

Sharing of Peace

Offering Response

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord – ELW No. 184

You may place your offerings, visitor cards and prayer request cards in the white church found in the narthex of the church either before or after our worship service.

Offering Prayer

**Please stand if able.*

P: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The Meal/Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface – ELW page 152

Holy, Holy, Holy – ELW page 153

Eucharistic Prayer XI

Lord's Prayer – ELW page 154

Lamb of God – ELW page 154

Invitation To Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Distribution

**Please be seated.*

*All are Welcome to receive the Lord's Meal at His table.
Please come forward to the Communion Rail.*

Communion Music

Trio on ST. CATHERINE – David S. Harris
“Faith of Our Fathers”

Post Communion Canticle – ELW No. 207

“Thankful hearts and voices raise;”

**Please stand if able.*

Prayer after Communion

P: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Recessional Hymn

For All Your Saints, O Lord – ELW No. 427

Tune: FESTAL SONG

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

March from Two Oratorios (*Occasional & Jephtha*)

George Frideric Handel/arr. Homer Whitford

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Nativity's Leadership

Rev. Dr. Steven C. Kuhl - Pastor

Dennis Jon Wolfgang – Director of Music/Organist

James Ribnek, III – President

Dr. Robert Saur – Vice President

Jill Mickelson – Treasurer

Nicole DeBack – Secretary

Church Council Members at Large

Sandra Larson, Dennis Jon Wolfgang

Prayer Concerns and Announcements

As a Community we pray: For those with immediate needs of healing and strength: Gary Brautigam, Marvelyn Cockroft, Gary Hanson, Cheryl Isotalo, Maureen Jones, James Larson, Sarah O'Brien, Marion Saur, Maureen Sopa, and Jennifer Wigand. If you know of individuals that need to be added to or taken off the list please let any Council Member know. **No Birthdays this Week**

Pastor Steve is gone this Sunday; he is be officiating at the wedding ceremony of his niece.

Welcome to Nativity: All are welcome to join the people of God at Nativity for worship every Sunday Morning at 11 AM. The service always includes Holy Communion and all who desire to receive what our Lord offers in this meal, his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to partake. Nativity embraces the beauty and fullness of the Lutheran worship tradition as it has been adapted over time. In the spirit of St. Augustine who said "those who sing, pray twice," music and singing are important ingredients in our worship. Most parts of the liturgy are sung, including the chanting of the psalm, and a

rich blend of the church's hymnody is used to amplify the gospel message for the day as presented in the Scriptures read and the sermon proclaimed. If you have any questions about what we believe or why we worship as we do, please ask. There is nothing more pleasing to God and us than an inquisitive mind.

The date of the next **Nativity Church Council** meeting is today Sunday, **June 29th**, following our worship service; all members of Nativity are invited to attend Church Council meetings.

Stewardship/Offerings: We are always grateful for everyone's financial support, no matter how large or small the gift. If you cannot attend worship in person, you may mail your offerings and donations to the church at any time. The mailing address is on the back of this bulletin. Have you remembered Nativity Lutheran Church in your estate planning?

Nativity Lutheran Church is **pet friendly**; you are invited to bring your leashed service of companion animal to all Nativity Worship Services of Events.

This Week's Calendar

Location Key: "S"=Sanctuary, "G"=Goetz Fellowship Hall, "UC"=Upper Meeting/Conference Room, "C"=Children's Area

TODAY:	6/29	Peter and Paul Apostles 11:00 AM "S" Nativity Worship Service with Communion
Tuesday:	7/1	12:00 PM "G" S.A. 12-step
Wednesday:	7/2	9:00 AM "UC" Quilters 8:00 PM A.A. Al-Anon
Friday:	7/4	12:00 PM "G" S.A. 12-step

Saturday	7/5	8:30 AM “S” No Organ Lesson
Sunday:	7/6	Pentecost IV 11:00 AM “S” Nativity Worship With Communion <i>Special Liturgy and Music Celebrating Our National Holiday</i>

Next Sunday’s Readings – Pentecost IV
Isaiah 66:10-14, Psalm 66:1-9, Galatians [1-6] 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Commemorations this Week

Commemorations: When we are baptized, we are baptized into the body of Christ. We understand this body to be the communion of saints, a diverse witness of men and women across time and space. Throughout its history, the church has sought to lift up Christians who have been unique, exemplary people of faith. As we remember such Christians, we remember them in the context of remembering Christ. It is not that these people are perfect, as we are all both saint and sinner. Yet their lives point to how God’s “extraordinary grace (works) in ordinary people”. “The saints are to be remembered so that we may strengthen our faith when we see how they experienced grace and how they were helped by faith” (Augsburg Confession).

Sunday, June 29th, Peter and Paul, Apostles: These two are an odd couple of biblical witnesses to be brought together in one commemoration. It appears that Peter would have gladly served as the editor of Paul’s letters: in a letter attributed to him, Peter says that some things in Paul’s letters are hard to understand. Paul’s criticism of Peter is more blunt. In Galatians he points out ways that Peter was wrong. One of the things that unites Peter and Paul is the tradition that says they were martyred together on this date

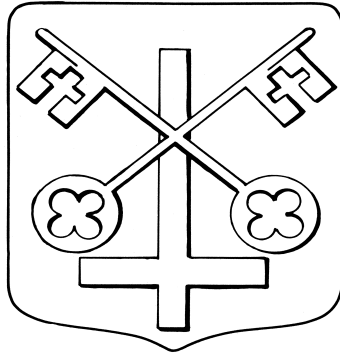
in 67 or 68. What unites them more closely is their common confession of Jesus Christ. Together Peter and Paul lay a foundation and build the framework for our lives of faith through their proclamation of Jesus Christ.

Tuesday, July 1st, Catherine Winkworth, died 1878; John Mason Neale, died 1866; hymn translators: Neale was an English priest associated with the movement for church renewal at Cambridge. Winkworth lived most of her life in Manchester, where she was involved in promoting women's rights. These two hymnwriters translated many hymn tests into English. Catherine devoted herself to the translation of German hymns, nineteen of which are included in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*; the fourteen hymn translations of John Mason Neale in the collection represent his specialization in ancient Latin and Greek hymns.

Thursday, July 3rd – Thomas, Apostle: Thomas is perhaps best remembered as “Doubting Thomas.” But alongside this doubt, the Gospel of John shows Thomas as fiercely loyal: “Let us go, that we may die with him” (John 11:16). And John's gospel shows Thomas moving from doubt to deep faith. Thomas makes one of the strongest confessions of faith in the New Testament, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28). From this confession of faith, ancient stories tell of Thomas's missionary work to India, where Christian communities were flourishing a thousand years before the arrival of sixteenth-century missionaries.

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*Our Sunday Bulletin is uploaded to our Website on
Saturdays.*



The ancient symbols for St. Peter and St. Paul.

Nativity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Traditional Worship Service

Sundays at 11:00 AM

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Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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Goetz Fellowship Hall: 414-988-2622

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Member: Bluemound Heights Neighborhood Association