

St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS)

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Blessed saints in Christ sojourning in Greenwood,

On behalf of himself, Silas and Timothy, the Apostle Paul writes to his brethren in Thessalonica, We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3).

Such is the sentiment of your brethren in Christ gathered at St Peter's - Indianapolis. We remember you always in our prayers, both within the Divine Service and our family devotions. We are in *Concordia* - of one heart in Christ. For your work, by God's grace, through His Word and Spirit, as a faithful, confessional congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church is evident to all. Your labor of love to call a faithful under-shepherd in Christ to feed you on His wholesome Word and administer to you His blessed Sacraments is not only commendable, but is an excellent example to your sister congregations who are likewise working toward this goal.

Do not be discouraged, dear Christians, at the return of your recent Divine Call to Pr Schlie. Be steadfast and immovable, abounding in the work of the Lord, *knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain* (1 Corinthians 15:58). For Christ is Lord of His Church and is Himself her Head. He has not abandoned you; nor will He neglect to provide you with a faithful Pastor to preach His Word with power. He will not leave you as orphans. Do not lose heart.

In the meantime, we rejoice at the endurance of Pr Fangmeyer and pray for his continued health and stamina. He is a blessing to me, even as he is to you in Christ.

May our Lord grant strength your fast and heart to your repentance, that we may arrive at Easter and keep the Paschal Feast in sincerity and truth.

Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing,
A cheerful trust maintain;
For God, the source of ev'ry thing,
Your portion shall remain (LSB 737:1)

You unworthy servant,

Pr Seth A Mierow