

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 2023 – 8:45 AM

Gathering

Alleluia! Christ Has Risen! The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.



Prepare now to give thanks to God: Place an envelope in the offering plate on the way to Communion *or* use the QR code *or* download the Vanco Mobile app on your smart phone. Search on "York" and choose St Peter's Lutheran. It's easy! Give thanks generously for God's abundant grace.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Confession & Forgiveness

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Lord Jesus, you look on us with compassion and seek us when we are lost. Lord, have mercy. **C: Forgive our straying from your path and help us to forgive others. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have mercy on all who need healing and comfort. Christ, have mercy. **C: Forgive us when we forget to turn to you in our troubles. Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you plead for sinners at the throne of judgment. Lord, have mercy. **C: Forgive us when we try to defend ourselves instead of trusting you. Lord, have mercy.**

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Apostolic Greeting

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.**

Hymn
Of Praise
#713
ELW

O God of Every Nation

1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind-ness to your way,
when hope and cour-age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray, Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading — *Isaiah 45:1-7*

A reading from Isaiah

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the

God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96:1-10

¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

**²Sing to the LORD and bless his name;
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

³Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

**⁶Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his name; bring offerings and come in to his courts.

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

**¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!
He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;**

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from 1 Thessalonians

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators

of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

The cantor will sing the alleluia once alone and then the congregation repeats it.

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Alleluia. Shine like stars ¹ in the world, * holding fast to the ¹ word of life. *Alleluia.* (Phil. 2:15, 16)

Holy Gospel — Matthew 22:15-22

The Gospel According to St. Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said,

"Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Message

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

**Hymn
Of the
Day**
#580
ELW

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Apostles' Creed

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of the Church

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray to the Father for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

Faithful God, pour out your Spirit to animate your church throughout the world and bind believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Remind us that all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead us astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Make us aware of how the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Grant all people to acknowledge your rule and authority over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants in our world. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Enfold in your loving arms all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering, especially those we name now... [*pause*]. Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, so that they may know your joy. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Accept our thanks for the witness of the saints of every age who have sung your praise and shared your word. Grant us grace to follow Christ, so that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Peace

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, God does not hold our sins against us. This is true peace. Like Jesus with his disciples, the pastor shares the word of reconciliation from God to us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

We share Christ's forgiving and reconciling love with one another, binding ourselves to one another as community. As we are at peace with God, so we are also at peace with one another.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING – WE RETURN THANKS TO GOD AND SUPPORT GOSPEL MINISTRY



Please prepare your offering in an envelope to place in the offering plate when you are dismissed for Communion **Or** use the QR code or download the Vanco Mobile app on your phone. You may also mail your offering to the church office or give through our website www.stpeterslutheranyork.com Also be sure you have filled out the attendance card.

Everything we are and have belongs to God and is entrusted to us for God's glory. We are committed to sharing God's resources so that we can be a vital center for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and help others locally and around the world.

The Great Thanksgiving – The Eucharistic Meal

As the baptized children of God, we are invited by God to share the heavenly banquet. Jesus seats us at his table where we are delivered from sin, death, and evil by his body and blood from his death on the cross. In this meal, Jesus forgives our sins, granting us life and salvation. He is truly present here and reveals himself to us in the breaking of bread. When we share Jesus' meal, we receive the Holy Spirit to live in hope and joy.

The ministers make ready the bread and wine

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

Dialogue

The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through 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. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast. **C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. **C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

Fraction — The Breaking of the Bread

The Body of Christ is broken as he was broken for us in the Passover, in the loaves, and on the cross. He gives himself to us as he fed the multitudes. Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb who gave himself to deliver all people from slavery to sin and He is the heavenly Bridegroom who welcomes the Church as His beautiful bride.

Happy are those who are called to the marriage feast of the Lamb.

C: Blessed be God forever.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

The pastor will commune. Then she will commune those with infirmities in the pew. Then the congregation. Place your offering in the offering box and then take an empty cup. Receive the Body of Christ in your open palm from the pastor and then proceed to the assisting minister to receive the Blood of Christ. Return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your emptied cup into the bowl of water. Give thanks to God for such grace!

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say...

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond...

C: Amen.

Post Communion Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. **C: Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Benediction

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen**

**Sending
Hymn**
#415
Green

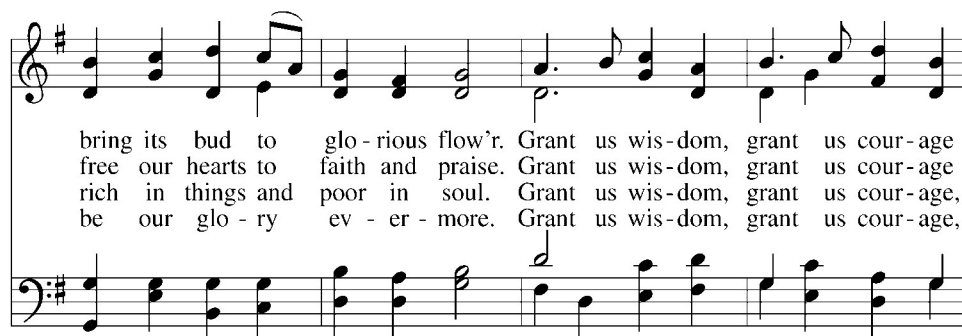
God of Grace and God of Glory



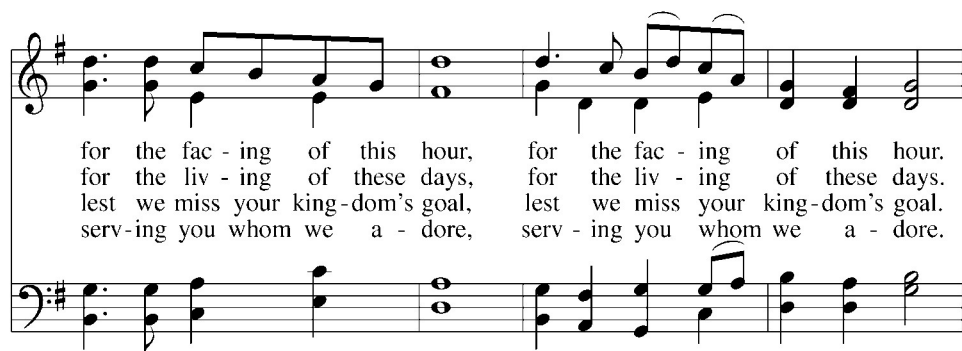
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Hand Bell Rehearsal — Thursdays, 6:30 PM — at St. Peter's Lutheran

Reformation Sunday — OCTOBER 29

All Saints Sunday — NOVEMBER 5

Annual Congregational Meeting — Sunday, NOVEMBER 19

"Hope Pursued" Women's Conference [Christ Lutheran Church, Manchester]
Saturday, NOVEMBER 4, [9:00 AM -12:00 PM]

The event will include several speakers with Pr Beth Schlegel giving the main sermon.
 COST: \$20 Brunch included. Forms to attend are located outside the sanctuary.
Return form to Christ, Manchester by November 1.

Announcement

The annual audit of the congregation's finances is underway. Please report any possible discrepancies with your individual giving statements to Fred Botterbusch.

OCTOBER 15, 2023**OFFERING**

General \$ 5,477.00

HVAC \$ 55.00

Masonry \$ 125.00

Capital Improvement \$ 125.00

Portions of this service are from sundaysandseasons.com.

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God Has a Mission!

As disciples and stewards of Jesus Christ, we, the members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church are committed to the preaching & teaching of the Word of God to all people. We will reach out to one another and to others, giving and receiving, in worship, fellowship, and witness to Jesus Christ!

MEMBERS & FRIENDS



Susan Becker—Tom Bruson—Evelin Burgos—Janice Cromer—Rich Davis—Don Gise—Shelva Gise—Bruce Harget—Cheryl Hibner—Samantha Hilker—Ken Humphreys—Marsha Humphreys—Lori Joseph—Shirley Lutz—Ron Malehorn—Fabian Marrero—Michele McFarland—Philip Michael—Brenda Croumer Miller—Charlie Neff—Rowan Neff—Scott Neff—Kathy Pugh—Dolores Rehmeyer—Betty Roach—Donna Roach—Emma Smyser—Nicole Smyser—Nancy Stough Miller—Mia Snyder—James Thompson—Vickie Toomey—Matthew Walters—Zach Weiland—Margaret Wiley—Dave Yates Lois Yates—Stephen Young.

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Donna Arnold—Norma Buck—Bill Everhart—Don Everhart—Helen Everhart—Doris Hoffacker Ken & Joyce Innerst—Carla & Mike Lehr—Jean Leiphart John Lehr—Joanne V. Martin—Marguerite Ness—Betty Roach—Lois Smith—Lois Snyder—Joyce Topper

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
947 North George Street, York PA 17404
8:45 AM—Worship Service

Church Staff

The Reverend Beth A. Schlegel, *STS* Pastor
Terri Schroll Secretary
Kristen Hartman—Susan Hartman Sextons

Our phone number is: 717-854-0589
Our Website is: <http://www.stpeterslutheranyork.org>
Our Email Address is: stpeterslutheran@verizon.net
Pastor Beth Schlegel: Phone #: 717-495-8894
Email: pastorschlegel@live.com

This Week CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday — Thursday
8:00 AM — 1:00 PM

Friday
OFFICE CLOSED