

15th Sunday after Pentecost



St Peter's Lutheran Church
September 10, 2023

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 10, 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.

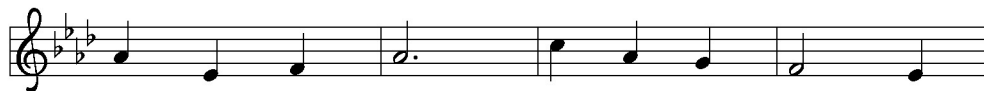
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ 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
#558
Green

Earth and All Stars!



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray, O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, 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 — *Ezekiel 33:7-11*

A reading from Ezekiel

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wick-

ed shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Psalm 119:33-40

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way ¹ of your statutes, and I shall keep it ¹ to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall ¹ keep your law; I shall keep it with ¹ all my heart.**

³⁵Make me go in the path of ¹ your commandments, for that is ¹ my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to ¹ your decrees and not to ¹ unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from watching ¹ what is worthless; give me life ¹ in your ways.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise ¹ to your servant, which you make to ¹ those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach ¹ which I dread, because your judg- ¹ ments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for ¹ your commandments; in your righteousness pre- ¹ serve my life.**

Second Reading — *Romans 13:8-14*

A reading from Romans

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You

shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as your-

self.”¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.

For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of

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. In Christ God was reconciling the world¹ to himself,^{*} entrusting the message of reconcilia-¹tion to us. *Alleluia.* [2 Cor. 5:19]

Holy Gospel — Matthew 18:15-20

The Gospel According to St. Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus says:]¹⁵ “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to

the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

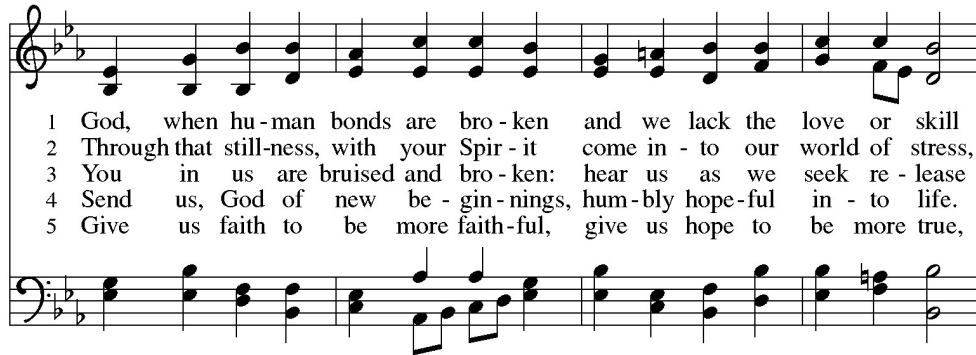
The Message

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**
#735
Blue

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889
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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.

Hold us accountable, Lord of heaven and earth. Show your church where repentance is needed and lead us in paths of intentional compassion and listening. Help us extend hands of reconciliation and care, especially in relationships with other Christians. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

Reveal your miracles to us and move us to cherish you as we behold the wonders of creation. Renew the seas and the soil, the forests and the creatures that live in them. Turn us to ways of living that contribute to Earth's thriving. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Inspire us to lead with honor and guide judges and legislators, police, and government officials to create and uphold just laws. Move us to treat all people with dignity and guide our conversations with one another. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Help us comfort those who suffer and reassure any who are harmed by the wicked acts of others. Bring peace to all who are vulnerable, frightened, despairing, or sick, especially those we name now.... [*brief pause*]. Guard their waking and their sleeping. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

Challenge and encourage your people to value the vocation to which each is called. By your Holy Spirit, guide all who are discerning new possibilities or changing employment or schools. In all our diverse callings, teach us to love our neighbors above all else. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Be our hope, O God, and accept our thanks for your saints who died in faith. May their trust in your promise be our protection and our hope. Merciful God, **C: receive 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—our selves, 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. ☩ And al - so with you.
 ☩ Lift up your hearts. ☩ 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.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

#549
Green

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven



- 1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
- 2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis - tress.
- 3 Tend - er - ly he shields and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
- 4 An - gels help us to a - dore him, who be - hold him face to face.



Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing.
Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
In his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
Sun and moon bow down be - fore him; all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

Dismissal

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

Postlude

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MEMBERS & FRIENDS



Susan Becker—Tom Bruson—Evelin Burgos—Janice Cromer—Rich Davis—Don Gise—Shelva Gise—Bruce Harget—Cheryl Hibner—Samantha—Hilker—Ken 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—Toni Schrieber—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—the family & friends of Gloria Aughenbaugh.

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

Oktoberfest — Saturday, September 30 — 12:00-2:00 PM

Rain or Shine! Bring your own lawn chairs.

—Live Music from the Dockenspielers—ZED Fries—Desserts—

Mark your calendars.

Blessing of the Animals — Sunday, October 1, 1:00 PM

At St. Peter's Lutheran — Bring your pet (or a photo of your pet)

The Bulletins are given to the glory of God

In memory of Ruth A. Roderick, by her granddaughter, Annette Roderick.

A Tribute Gift to the Memorial Fund was given to the glory of God

In memory of Jennifer Olson, by Tom & Gloria Wachter.



December 27, 1927 — August 26, 2023

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life, **Gloria Aughenbaugh Knobloch** was commended to the Lord at a memorial service on September 8 at Heffner Funeral Chapel & Crematory. Burial was at Prospect Hill Cemetery. Gloria was the wife of the late Harris E. Augenbach & the late J. Philip Knobloch, Jr. She was the daughter of the late George & Estella Williams; the mother of the late Pamela Nester; sister of the late Paul & Robert Williams; three grandchildren, four great grandchildren; two stepsons, five step grandchildren.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

OFFERING

General \$ 2,729.53

Memorial Fund \$ 25.00

HVAC \$ 145.00

Mission Support \$ 10.00

Masonry \$ 120.00

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!

We belong to:

- ◆ The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
- ◆ The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
- ◆ The Lower Susquehanna Synod—Bishop James Dunlop.
- ◆ The York Conference—The Rev. Stanley Reep, Dean
Trinity, Wrightsville; St. James, Hellam; St. Mark, York; Advent, York; Christ, York; Union, York; St. Matthew, York; St. Jacob, York New Salem; Shiloh; Trinity, York; Grace, York; Zion, York; St. Peter's, York; St. Paul, York; Luther Memorial, York; Christ, Spry; St. James, York
- ◆ We are companions with the Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania and sister congregation to Iyunga Parish. Bishop /Rev. Geoffrey Mwakihaba.
- ◆ We are partners with Christ Lutheran Church, Manchester, PA

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 thru Thursday
8:00 AM — 1:00 PM

Friday
OFFICE CLOSED