

17th Sunday after Pentecost



St Peter's Lutheran Church
September 24, 2023

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 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
[Patmos]

Take My Life, That I May Be

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
 Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray, Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, 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 — *Jonah 3:10–4:11*

A reading from Jonah

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Nineveh] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God

changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. ⁴¹But this was very displeasing to

Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn

came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

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

Psalm 145:1-8

¹I will exalt you, O ¹God my King, and bless your name fore- ¹er and ever.

²Every day ¹ will I bless you and praise your name fore- ¹er and ever.

³Great is the LORD and greatly ¹ to be praised; there is no end ¹ to his greatness.

⁴One generation shall praise your works ¹ to another and shall de- ¹clare your power.

⁵I will ponder the glorious splendor ¹ of your majesty and all your ¹ marvelous works.

⁶They shall speak of the might of your ¹ wondrous acts, and I will tell ¹ of your greatness.

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing of your ¹ righteous deeds.

⁸The LORD is gracious and full ¹ of compassion, slow to anger and ¹ of great kindness.

Second Reading — *Philippians 1:21-30*

A reading from Philippians

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.

²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer.

²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in

faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but

of your salvation. And this is God's doing.

²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suf-

fering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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. Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel. *Alleluia.* (Phil. 1:27)

Holy Gospel — *Matthew 20:1-16*

The Gospel According to St. Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he

went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but

each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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**
#290
Green

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in his jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the e - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
If our love were but more sim - ple, we should take him at his word;



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the head.
and our lives would be all sun - shine in the sweet - ness of our Lord.

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.

Gracious and merciful God, teach your church to invite and welcome all people. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Help your church to choose compassion over judgment. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Remind us that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcers. Give them courage and strength to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Direct your people who are tempted by evil. Protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen those who are imprisoned. Encourage those who are in despair or pain of any kind, especially those we name before you now.....*[pause]*. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Grant us grace to boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we exercise in service to our neighbors and to the church. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Accept our thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven, especially those most dear to us who rest in you. Unite us with them in spirit and hold us firm as we labor in this life in hope for the life to come. 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.

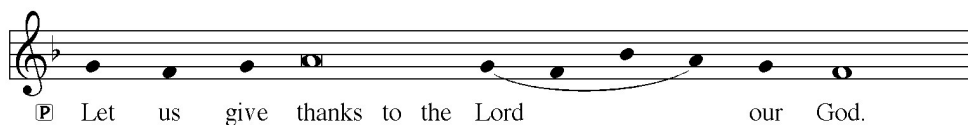
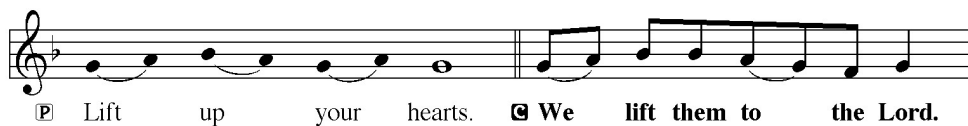
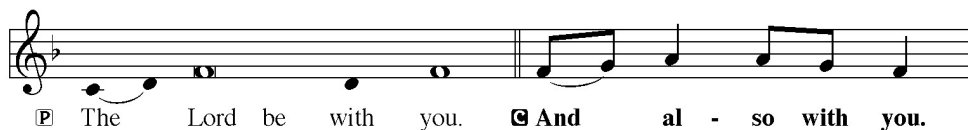
The ministers make ready the bread and wine.

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





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



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

#397
Green

O Zion, Haste

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
3 Give of your own to bear the mes - sage glo - rious,
4 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is light;
 that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
 give of your wealth to speed them on their way,
 make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;

that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
 pour out your soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious,
 let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,

one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
 and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
 and haste the com - ing of the glo - rious day.
 through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.

Refrain

Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,

tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

Dismissal

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

Postlude**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 Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God

In memory of *Annie E. Rohrbaugh*, by her granddaughter, Annette Roderick.

MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Susan Becker—Tom Brusan—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—Michael Noll—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

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023**OFFERING**

General \$ 6,502.00

HVAC \$ 179.46

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