

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

Welcome to All in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord!

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

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

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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

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.**

**Canticle
Of
Praise**
#745
Blue

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
4 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.

so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. . . O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

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

First Reading — Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also

wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

Psalm 103:8-13

⁸LORD, you are full of compas-¹sion and mercy,
 slow to anger and abounding in¹ steadfast love;
⁹**you will not al-¹ways accuse us,
 nor will you keep your an-¹ger forever.**
¹⁰You have not dealt with us according¹ to our sins,
 nor repaid us according to¹ our iniquities.
¹¹**For as the heavens are high a-¹bove the earth,
 so great is your steadfast love for¹ those who fear you.**
¹²As far as the east is¹ from the west,
 so far have you removed our transgres-¹sions from us.
¹³**As a father has compassion¹ for his children,
 so you have compassion for those who fear¹ you, O LORD.**

Second Reading — Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Romans

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrel-
 ing over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only
 vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and
 those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has
 welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?
 It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
 for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵Some judge one day to be better
 than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully con-
 vinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor
 of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give
 thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and
 give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to our-
 selves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so
 then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this
 end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead
 and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or
 you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand be-
 fore the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord,
 every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

P: 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. We have an advocate, Jesus ' Christ the righteous;*
your sins are forgiven on account ' of his name. *Alleluia.* (1 John 2:1, 12)

Holy Gospel — *Matthew 18:21-35*

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay

his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

The Message

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

**Hymn
of the
Day**
#307
Green

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers’ debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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

P: 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.

P: Almighty God, strengthen your church in all the world. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations to uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Assist all who are recovering from natural disasters. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

P: Equip those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Be present with those who face illness of any kind; provide for those strained financially; give patience and courage to all who live with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or who are afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy. We pray especially for those we name now.... *[brief pause]*. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation to those who have no community of faith. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Accept our thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world like Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, whom we commemorate today. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: 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, pastor shares the word of reconciliation from God to us.

P: 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.

Thanksgiving We respond to God's abundant grace and mercy

Support God's Mission

Offering *Please consider making your thank offering to God ...*

By Mail to St. Peter's Lutheran Church 947 N. George St. York PA

Or SCAN HERE >



Or ONLINE at www.StPetersLutheranYork.com.

In the **Purple** box, Click **Donate** button to set up a one-time or recurring donation.

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Thanksgiving For the Word

P: Righteous and loving heavenly Father, we give thanks to you that you light our way through life with the teachings of your Son, Jesus, your Word alive among us. Give us the focus we need to pay attention to you, call us back to you when we stray from your ways, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring the full harvest of believers to share your feast. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us how to pray.

**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.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Benediction

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

**Closing
Hymn**
#196
Green

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
Text © Oxford University Press.

Dismissal

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

Postlude

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MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Susan Becker—Tom Bruslan—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—Nancy Stough Miller—Toni Schreiber—Emma Smyser—Nicole Smyser—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—John Lehr—Jean Leiphart—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. More info will be coming soon.

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

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



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 10, 2023

OFFERING

General \$ 1,485.00

Masonry \$ 10.00

HVAC \$ 105.00

Capital Improvement \$ 30.00

God's Has a Mission!

As disciples and stewards of Jesus Christ, we, the members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church are committed to the preaching and 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 partners with the Iyunga Parish in Tanzania, Pastor Jimmy Mwakomile, and the Konde Diocese, Bishop Edward Mwaikali

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

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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