

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost | Lectionary 16

July 19, 2020

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

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PRELUDE & BELLS *We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.*

WELCOME *congregation responds* **and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

We stand OPENING HYMN

#842

"O Worship the King"

✠BRIEF RITE FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS✠

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

Most merciful God... **we confess that we are born captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

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 declare to you- who believe and repent- the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

✠HOLY COMMUNION✠

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Glory to God in the Highest”

2 Corinthians 13:13

p. 148 Luke 2:14



☐ Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



☑ Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

WORD

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: ISAIAH 55:11

My word shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

We sit FIRST READING: ISAIAH 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 86:11-17

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
knit my heart to you that I may fear your name.

**¹²I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the nethermost pit.

**¹⁴The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

**¹⁶Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

We stand. GOSPEL VERSE: John 6:68

p151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

#653

“Spread, Oh Spread, Almighty Word”

We sit. SERMON

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

God Grows His Church:

You Are a Good Seed

We stand. PROFESSION OF FAITH Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the + resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*means whole, entire Christian

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us lift our hearts, hands, and voices in prayer to God on behalf of all people.
A brief silence is kept.

Holy Father, thank you for stating what we constantly ignore or forget: that every one of us is a weedy field! Thank you for giving us Jesus' strong, wise words to stand against the "cancel culture" that seeks only to uproot and destroy. Thank you for his patient, grace-filled tending, that alone can "cancel" our sins and heal our flawed lives and broken hearts. Thank you for your promise to gather us in, from every race, kindred, tribe and nation, as your treasured, holy, precious, and redeemed people.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the first and the last; beside you there is no god. Give your Church the faith and courage to proclaim that in Jesus, crucified and raised from the dead for the forgiveness of sins unto eternal life, you have revealed your nature and your heart to the whole world.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Come to the aid of all who suffer abuse, scorn, and deadly violence because they name a crucified Jewish carpenter as the one, true and only God. Grant that their faithful witness and grace under fire should bear radiant witness to that precious truth.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We look at our congregation, and into our own hearts. We confess that we are fields sown with weeds as well as wheat. Forgive us. Deal mercifully with us. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus, and to support Solid Rock our mission in action. By the grace of your Spirit, help us to bear one another's faults with patience and gentleness. Remind us that you alone will make us pure, holy, and good, by conforming us to your dear Son.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our enemies – especially those who hate us because of our faith in Jesus. We pray for all who deny and despise him. We pray for all who do not know him, or who only know a shriveled, distorted image of him. Soften their hearts; enlighten their minds; and fill them with your Spirit, so they may repent and believe in the Good News.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We know there are no perfect rulers or programs – only sinful people in a fallen and death-shadowed world. Therefore, we groan in travail, pleading that you would free us from bondage and futility. We cry out for redemption and righteousness; for healing and wholeness; and for your Sabbath rest, your Shalom. Until then, make us humble, gentle, and wise; and heal the evil we have caused.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son's parable counseled letting weeds and wheat grow together. Yet for the sake of your people, we must stem the spread of deadly weeds: violence, injustice, and hatred. Therefore, we plead on behalf of those in the military, police, security, intelligence, and first response. Give them wisdom, integrity, and honor, so that by their labors, those they serve may have a measure of justice and safety.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sickness, sorrow, and adversity take root in every life. We cannot uproot them all, yet we know you desire abundant life for your servants. And so, we are bold to pray for everyone who suffers, and especially for: {List}. Speedily grant them health, hope and comfort; and in the fullness of time, complete in them and in us all, the full and perfect healing that you have promised in Christ Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you, heavenly Father, for those who have gone before us and are at rest in you. We pray for one another, especially those whose grief runs deep. We pray for the families of {List} Teach us to pray confidently, knowing that you have made us your children. Teach us to care and share, encourage and challenge, comfort and forgive, knowing that you will prosper your handiwork. And gather us to yourself as your rich and fruitful harvest in Christ Jesus, so that with all your forgiven sinners, we may abide with you forever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive and graciously answer our prayer, heavenly Father, for the sake of your dear Son; and by the power of your Holy Spirit, give us the strength and will to accomplish whatever you call us to do. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also, with you.**

We briefly greet those in our row with a handshake and the words "Peace be with you."

OFFERING, OFFERTORY SONG & PRAYER- *Giving back to God*



First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering.

Your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts.

Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available by scanning this code & on our website

stpeterhallettsville.org/giving

We stand #184

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord”

Isaiah 5:1, Psalm 23:5, others

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, king of the universe. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary . . . and join their unending hymn:

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

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy . . .

In the night in which he was betrayed, . . . Do this for the remembrance of me.

All honor and glory are yours . . . now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Even though you are physically absent from our celebration of the mystery of our Lord's Body and Blood, you are encouraged to concentrate, reflect, and meditate on the blessing he bestows upon us, to cultivate in your heart, mind, and spirit an earnest desire for the sacrament in which we are promised that with the bread and wine his body and blood are given and shed FOR YOU for the forgiveness of your sins. We pray that the day of our reunion will be soon. Come to the Banquet for all is now ready. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and who believe the Lord's words "This is my body given for you" and "This is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins" may receive Communion. Young children, not yet receiving Communion, may receive a blessing.

(Matt 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:19ff, 1 Cor. 11:24ff)

Communion administration occurs in a continuous fashion at the Communion rail. The ushers will guide you to the rail. To receive the elements, extend your hand, palm up, to the ministers. White grape juice is available in the center of the trays. For those unable to consume either bread or wine, the Church affirms the Lord's full presence in each element alone. Once you have received the elements, return to your seat by the side aisles. If you do not desire to receive Holy Communion, you may remain seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

p154 John 1:29



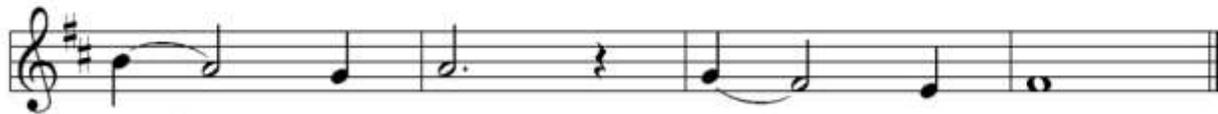
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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, grant us peace.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER

May the body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

“Lord, Now You Let”

Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
 na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
 and will be for - ev - er. A - men

Let us pray... we give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing powers of this gift of life. In your mercy strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**
Silence is kept for reflection.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

We stand. CLOSING HYMN
 #550

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 North Promenade, Hallettsville, Texas 77964
(361) 798-2808 www.stpeterhallettsville.org

Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church"
by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

July Personal Care Item: large sturdy comb

Adult Education today in person

If you have prayer requests, you may email or call the office and leave a message.

If you know a member or members that have been unable to come to in-person church services, if they would like a Home Communion, please call to set up an appointment with Pastor or one of the Communion Team Members.

St Peter Blood Drive will be on Sunday, August 2nd from 8:15 am – 12:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Once again you will need to **make an appointment.** Donors will be given the opportunity to have their blood tested for Covid 19 antibodies for free.

SAVE THE DATE: Directory pictures will be on **Sunday, August 30th and Sept 20th @ 10:00 am to 1:00 pm & 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.** There will be no sign up. Just come at the designated time and they will get you in and out.

SAVE THE DATE: The Great Outdoors Service on **Sunday, Sept. 20th.** More details coming soon!

St. Peter Church Council Highlights July 13, 2020

- Looking at other options for Fall Carnival & Rally Day.
- Approved renewal & combining of CD's.
- Discussed setting up an appointment for Pastor to administer home communion.
- Approved scholarships of \$500 each to Emily Evans & Aurora Furnace.
- 27 units of blood were given at last blood drive; next one will be August 2nd

Opening Hymn *Oh, Worship the King (#842)*

Words by Robert Grant; Music by William Croft

1 Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above.
Oh, gratefully sing God's power and love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

2 The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

3 Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

4 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

5 O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn you above,
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to your praise.

Hymn of the Day: *Where True Charity and Love Abide (#653)*

Words by Latin, 9th Century; Music by Plainsong mode VI

1 Spread, oh, spread, almighty Word,
spread the reign of God the Lord.
Send forth our Creator's call,
heaven's gifts extend to all.

2 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,
who, to save our human race
and to pay rebellion's price,
gave himself as sacrifice.

3 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n
now to guide us on to heav'n,
strong and holy, just and true,
working both to will and do.

4 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
rouse to action heart and mind;
let the gath'ring nations all
see your light and heed your call.

Closing Hymn *On What Has Now Been Sown (#550)*

Words by John Newton, Music by John Darwall

**1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,
as snow from the heavens refreshing the land.**

**Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.**

**We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;
we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.**

**We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.**

**2 As grain that is scattered your word has been sown
on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand.**

**Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.**

**We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;
we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.**

**We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.**

**2 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,
awaking and warming and healing our land.**

**Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow
and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.**

**We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;
we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil.**

**We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield,
for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.**