

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

Portions of the liturgy are from Sundaysandseasons.com, copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Prayers of the Church, copyright 2023 Lutheran Core. Sermon, copyright 2023 Jared Stillions or other listed preacher. Used by permission. All other material not covered by other copyright is copyright 2023 St. Peter Lutheran Church of Hallettsville, Texas. Reprinted by permission under one or more of the following licenses: Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB140201, One License A-727829, CCLI 11158184. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-727829 and/or CCLI with license 11158184. No reproduction allowed without permission.

Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

Hearing assistance is available near the usher's table. See an usher for help.

St. Peter worship services are recorded and broadcasted.

When you enter a St. Peter Lutheran Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Such photographs and audio/visual recordings may be used by St. Peter for any reason. By entering the service/event premises, you consent to, photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction you waive all rights you may have to any claims for payment or royalties or inspection.

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

#820

“O Savior, Precious Savior”

✠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.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thought of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our 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 forgive you- who believe and repent- 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”

p. 148 Luke 2:14



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



B 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... O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: MATTHEW 16:16

You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

We sit FIRST READING: ISAIAH 51:1-6

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your love and faithfulness;**

³for you have glorified your name
and your word above all things.

**⁴When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.**

⁵All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

**⁶They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.**

⁷Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly;
he perceives the haughty from afar.

**⁸Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.**

⁹The LORD will make good his purpose for me;

O LORD, your love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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 16:13-20

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

We sit. SERMON

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Extra-Ordinary Life
The One & the Many

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 Church

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their need.

A brief silence is kept.

Heavenly Father, thank you for our namesake, St. Peter! He was so very human, and yet you gave him faith to confess Jesus as your Son and Messiah. As you used him, please use us, too, to do your work of forgiving, confessing, and proclaiming Jesus as Lord to the world.

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

Establish the Church upon the solid rock of Christ, and on the faithful witness of your apostles. Make the Church truly the one body of Christ upon this earth. Do not let the gates of hell prevail against its faithful proclamation and teaching. By your Holy Spirit, make it wise, gracious, and steadfast in rightly forgiving and retaining sin. Use it to bring many to faith in Jesus their Savior.

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

Keep safe your servants who are persecuted for naming Jesus as Christ and God. Visit them with your righteousness and draw near with your salvation. Let our words and deeds never tarnish their witness. We also pray for missionaries, seminarians, and theologians entrusted with proclaiming your word.

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

Transform this congregation to your good, acceptable, and perfect will. Help us to not think too highly of ourselves, but with sober judgment to use our talents according to the grace you have given each of us. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus; to support Solid Rock our Mission in Action; and that you send us adults for baptism. Build up the body of your beloved Son among us through sound preaching and teaching, generous giving, cheerful service, and loving kindness.

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

Bless all those who have instructed and shaped our faith – parents, grandparents, pastors, Sunday School teachers, and everyone whose love for Jesus shines brightly in word and deed. Thank you for the saints whose confession of Jesus as Lord has been a blessing to others, and has formed the unseen foundation of our own faith. Use us to encourage, instruct and guide others in lives of discipleship and service, to your glory and for the building up of your people.

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

Teach the world's rulers listen to you, the giver of justice and the author of salvation. Transform their decisions and deeds to your righteous will, so that they care for the lowly and give hope to all who cry out to you. Heal the divisions that fracture families, communities, and nations; and help us to live at peace with our neighbors.

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

Bless all who risk their lives to protect, defend, and rescue others. Give them valor, loyalty, wisdom, and competence. Help them to act according to your will and for the benefit of your people. Heal their wounds; reunite them swiftly with loved ones; and crown their labors with the blessing of your peace.

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

Graciously answer the prayers of all who call upon you for help, including: {List}. Keep them safe in the midst of suffering and sorrow. Increase their strength and faith. Let them see the light of your salvation.

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

Gracious Father, your love endures forever. We commend our beloved dead into your care and pray for families of {List}. In your mercy, draw near and make good your purpose for us. Keep us steadfast in faith, bold in witness, generous in sharing, cheerful in helping, gentle in exhorting, frequent in forgiving, and constant in thankfulness to you, our rock, and our salvation. Lead us into presence of Christ our Lord. Give to us, and to all whom he has redeemed, eternal joy and gladness; thanksgiving and the voice of song.

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

Hear our prayer, O Father, and grant all that glorifies you and builds up your people. This we ask for Jesus' sake. **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 the words "Peace be with you."

We sit. 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 on our website stpeterhallettsville.org/giving or by scanning this code.

We stand #184

“Let the Vineyards”

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

♩ 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.

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

♪ 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.

We sit. INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. **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 HYMN

"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.

We stand POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER
May the true body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

“Lord Now You Let Your Servant”

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... Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through 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.**

Closing Hymn

#543

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

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.

ENTRANCE HYMN (ELW) *O Savior, Precious Savior* (ELW 820)

Words by John E. Bode (d.1874) Music by Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen (1693)

1 O Savior, precious Savior,
whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor,
all other names above:
we worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our holy Lord and King.

2 O bringer of salvation,
who wondrously hast wrought,
thyself the revelation
of love beyond our thought:
we worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our gracious Lord and King.

3 In thee all fullness dwelleth,
all grace and pow'r divine;
the glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is thine.
We worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our glorious Lord and King.

4 Oh, grant the consummation
of this our song above,
in endless adoration
and everlasting love;
then shall we praise and bless thee
where perfect praises ring,
and evermore confess thee,
our Savior and our King!

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW) *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW 654)

Words by Samuel J. Stone (d. 1900) Music by Samuel S. Wesley (d. 1876)

1 The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

4 Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.

CLOSING HYMN (ELW) *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (ELW 543)

Words by Jaroslav J. Vajda (d. 2008) Music Welsh Traditional, arr. RV Williams (d.1958)

1 "Go, my children, with my blessing,
never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own."

2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure."

3 "Go, my children, fed and nourished,
closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving,
joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free."