



# ST. PETER'S CHURCH

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## Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost + August 29, 2021

**WELCOME to St. Peter's Church.** *We are glad you are here!* The clergy and laity welcome all joining us for worship this morning in the Name of Christ. If you are new to our parish, please introduce yourself to the clergy and sign our guest book and give us a chance to get to know you. Please, join us in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table. Come forward to the communion rail, stand or kneel to receive the bread in your hand. If you wish to receive only a blessing, cross your hands over your heart and the Priest will bless you.

**Mission Statement:** We are an inclusive, forward-looking Episcopal parish that seeks to grow in Christ through worship, education and fellowship, serves Christ by ministering to local and global communities and shares Christ in following His command to "Love one another as I have loved you." **Vision Statement:** Our vision at St. Peter's is to be an inclusive, vibrant Christian community honoring our Episcopal heritage by achieving excellence in worship, mission, education and fellowship.

### Our Guest Organist this morning is Fred Astmann

#### + We Gather In God's Presence +

[Silence for prayer and preparation] [\* indicates all standing - + indicates all kneeling - \*\*indicates all sitting]

Prelude *Psalm 19 – The Heavens Declare* Benedetto Marcello

\*Hymn 423 *Immortal, invisible, God only wise* St. Denio

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. Collect of the Day **Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### + We Listen To The Word Of God +

\*\*First Reading – Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

\*\*Psalm 15

<sup>1</sup> Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup> Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.

<sup>3</sup> There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

<sup>4</sup> In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the Lord.

<sup>5</sup> He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.

<sup>6</sup> He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

<sup>7</sup> Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

\*\*Second Reading – James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

\*Hymn 362      *Holy, holy, holy!*

Nicea

\*The Gospel - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

*[following the reading]*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ..**

Sermon      *Fr. Sam*

*[Following the sermon, please observe a few moments of silence]*

\*The 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.***

**+ We Ask God To Listen To Our Prayers +**

+Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world, we pray for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Daniel, our Bishop; Rodney, our Assisting Bishop; for this gathering; for all ministers, especially Sam our Rector; for David, our retired priest; Joseph, our Deacon; the Vestry; the congregation; and all those who participate in the ministries of the church. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for our world leaders, especially Joseph, the President of our Country, Tom, the Governor of our Commonwealth; Antonio, the Secretary General of the United Nations and the men and women who are serving in our armed forces. We pray that they may work together to achieve justice and peace in the world. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Pray for all who struggle for freedom and wholeness around the world especially for the migrants and victims of human trafficking, and those who are fleeing violence, religious persecution and ethnic cleansing. Pray for our work in God's mission both in our neighborhood and in El Salvador with Cristosal Foundation. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We ask your blessing especially for Bea Quaintance and Andrea Archer who celebrate birthdays this week; John and Anne Andrews; David and Shelly Brennfleck who celebrate wedding anniversaries this week. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We remember especially: **John, Pat, Harland, Peter, Laura, Shawn, Joan, Vernet, Greg, Lane, Anna, Joyce, Karen, Bob, Dolores, Jenn, Ralph and Clyde.** (You may add the names of the people who weigh in your heart at this time.) Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died especially Margaret Brannan. (you may add names of people close to you who have died recently.) that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** [The celebrant adds a concluding collect]

\*Confession and Absolution Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. **Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

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

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory *Wedding Song*

Kenny G

Hymn 380 vs. 3 **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

#### + We Share Holy Communion +

\*The Great Thanksgiving [The people remain standing.]

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
Lord's Prayer **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Christ our Passover **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayer of humble access: **We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

+The Communion of the People Hymn 707 *Take my life and let it be* Hollingside

+Post Communion Prayer Let us pray. **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**+ God Sends Us To Love and Serve Each Other +**

+The Blessing

\*\*Announcements

\* Hymn 344 *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing* Sicilian Mariners

\*Dismissal

Postlude *Grande Choer Dialogue* Eugene Gigout

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**Intercessions This Week - Please pray:** • For those who are sick, or in any other adversity, John Burkhardt, Pat Howse, Harland Johnson, Peter Fifer, Laura, Shawn, Joan Grunwell, Vernet Spence-Brown, Greg Schiele, Lane Schultz, Anna Sullivan, Joyce Paster, Karen Greene, Bob Pearce, Dolores Colores, Jenn, Ralph and Clyde. • For the men and women who are serving in our armed forces. • For those with whom we give thanks especially, for Bea Quaintance and Andrea Archer Young who celebrate birthdays this week; John and Anne Andrews; David and Shelly Brennfleck who celebrate wedding anniversaries this week. • For all who have died, especially Margaret Brannan.

**People at St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

**The Bishop:** The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutierrez **Rector:** The Rev. Fr. Samuel Ndungu: 302-252-8152 kirabisam@gmail.com

**Retired Clergy:** The Rev. David Hyatt

**Deacon:** The Rev. Joseph Dietz: JoesFrames@Comcast.net; Liaison to Vestry: Fellowship, Adult Forum, Worship Committee

**Liturgical Coordinator:** Marty Bloem: mabloem@verizon.net

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| <b>Vestry:</b>     | <b>Liaison Position:</b>                               | <b>Contact Information:</b>     |              |
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