



# ST. PETER'S CHURCH

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## Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost + September 5, 2021

**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.

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

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

Prelude

\*Hymn 567 *Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old*

St. Matthew

Officiant Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

Officiant 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.**

Officiant 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.**

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Officiant Lord open our lips.

**People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

\*\*Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

\*\*Psalm 146

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! \*

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

<sup>2</sup> Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.

<sup>3</sup> When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

<sup>4</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

<sup>5</sup> Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

<sup>6</sup> Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

<sup>8</sup> The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; \*

he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>9</sup> The Lord shall reign for ever, \*

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

\*\*James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

\*\*Mark 7:24-37

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

Sermon Deacon Joseph Dietz

The Apostles' Creed

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 to the dead.

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.

Offertory *His Sheep May Safely Graze*

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.***

J.S. Bach

## Announcements

Officiant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

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.***

Collect of the Day ***Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

**The General Thanksgiving** *[Officiant and People]*

***Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.***

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

Deacon May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

\* Hymn 493 *O for a thousand tongues to sing*

Azmon

**Good News from St. Peter's Food Pantry** – The pantry has started back in a semi-normal way and would like to stock up on "non-essential luxuries", **SMALL Packages please** - salt, pepper, baking products such as flour, sugar, cake mixes.

***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, Beverly Burkhardt, Finn Sutter, Glenn Murray, Vincent Giancaterino, Fred Park, Minita Hivale, Christopher Wilson, Megan Wilson who celebrate birthday's this week; for David and Lisa Scott who celebrate a wedding anniversary this week. • **For** all who have died, especially, Harry G. Wilkinson, Lucy Spera and Frances Pongras.

### **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

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**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

**Music Director:** Derek Maninfior: derekmaninfior90@gmail.com

**Parish Secretary:** Judith Dougherty: saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com

#### **Vestry:**

Lynn Boukalik  
Shelly Brennfleck  
Vernon Feather  
Leo Guen  
Diane Hope  
Todd Jackson  
Frank Rothenberger  
Danielle Smith  
Mary Jo Wells  
Mona Chylack

#### **Liaison Position:**

Communication, Social Media  
Mission Committee  
Property Committee  
Communication, Website, Music, Gardens  
Senior Warden, New Member Ministry  
Pantry  
Accounting Warden, Stewardship Committee  
Children's Faith Formation  
Junior Warden, Children's Faith Formation, Youth Group  
Clerk of the Vestry

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