

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
Time After Pentecost
October 11, 2020
Service of Holy Communion**

PRELUDE

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

Faithful God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"We Are Called"

#720

1. **Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.
We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**
2. **Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in
Fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless so
hatred and blindness will be no more.
We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**
3. **Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as
sisters and brothers united in love.
We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**

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.

LITANY

Holy God, as we enter into the time of harvest, when the earth is yielding her abundance, we find ourselves in a harvest season unlike any other in recent memory.

Help us to give thanks even in the midst of hardship and uncertainty.

For all those who are ill with the coronavirus; for all who are stressed, anxious and fearful; and for us and our loved ones,

restore health and wholeness, calm troubled spirits, and give us courage and wisdom.

For all health care workers, first responders, essential workers, and for all who must interact with the public; and for those who have lost their jobs because of the pandemic,

surround them with your care, shield them from infection, lift their weariness, and guide them into new sources of work.

For researchers, manufacturers and public decision-makers; and for the leaders of our government and those of other nations,

guide their efforts to find treatments and preventions for this virus, and to make decisions that will benefit all citizens of the earth.

For all who are feeling disenfranchised, discriminated against, and fearful about the future; and for our nation's leaders who are seeking peaceful resolution to the issues that are dividing our country,

give them courage and insight, patience and strength.

For your church,

that we might be a beacon of light and hope in the midst of despair and distress, trusting in your presence in the midst of all these things.

In You, O Lord, we place our trust. For You, O Lord, we wait in hope.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****FIRST READING**

Isaiah 25:1-9

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a

heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these

things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Now We Join in Celebration"

#462

- 1. Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation,
dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder;
for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.**
- 2. Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture!
For this bread and cup of blessing are for us the sure possessing
of your loving deed on Calv'ry, of your living self, our vict'ry,
pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.**
- 3. Lord, we share in this communion as one fam'ly of God's children,
reconciled through you, our brother, one in you with God our Father.
Give us grace to live for others, serving all, both friends and strangers,
seeking justice, love and mercy till you come in final glory.**

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church let us confess our faith:

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, 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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Petitions end: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(spoken)*

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 our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

SHARING OF COMMUNION**COMMUNION HYMN**

"God Is Here"

#526

1. **God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.**
2. **Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.**
3. **Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.**
4. **Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, received; we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!**

TABLE BLESSING

At the conclusion: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion: Amen

SENDING**BENEDICTION**

At the conclusion: Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

#547

1. **Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

2. **With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE