

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday, July 7th, 2024**  
**Holy Communion 10 am**



**Introduction**

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the “between”: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.



***ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH***  
***121 N. SPRING STREET, MIDDLETOWN, PA 17057***  
***Sunday Worship 10:00am and Wednesday 10:00am***

# THIS IS CHRIST'S CHURCH THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE

St. Peter's is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a Reconciling in Christ congregation joining with Reconciling Works.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we welcome and invite all of God's people regardless of age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or economic status.

## **SERVING OUR CHURCH**

**July 7th, 2024**

<b>Preaching:</b>	Chaplain Hope Pancake
<b>Presiding:</b>	Reverend Elaine Dent
<b>Musicians:</b>	Spirit & Truth
<b>Reader:</b>	Jen Kemper

**PRELUDE: Fields of Gold**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MEDITATION: True Colors** *by Anna Kendrick & Justin Timberlake*

## **GATHERING**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: Listen, God Is Calling** ELW 513 v 1, 2, 3

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

**help us.**

It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. Amen.

At this time, I invite your prayers of thanksgiving or intercession either silently or aloud. (*Silence is kept.*)

For these and for all other petitions that are too deep for words, we pray to you:

**O Lord, hear our prayer.**

You are the Lord whose promises never cease.

**You are the Lord whose presence never fails.**

Gracious God, you are close to us no matter how far we feel from you: draw us into the very heart of your grace and help us to live into the truth that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### KYRIE ELW pg. 184 *setting 8, v 3& 4*

*Refrain*

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## WORD

### **FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> [A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.<sup>2</sup> And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup> The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.” <sup>5</sup> Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them. Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 123**

*We will read the Psalm responsively.*

<sup>1</sup> To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> **As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.**

<sup>3</sup> Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt,

<sup>4</sup> **too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud.**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

*Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.*

<sup>2</sup> I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not

know; God knows. <sup>3</sup> And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup> was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup> On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup> But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup> even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup> Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup> but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup> Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLIMATION: Camp Alleluia**

**ALLELUIA, GIVE THANKS**

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His Name. (Repeat)

The Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

**Glory to you O, Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-13**

*At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.*

<sup>1</sup> [Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup> On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup> Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.

<sup>4</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.”

<sup>5</sup> And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup> And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup> He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup> He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup> but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup> He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup> If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup> So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup> They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **YOUNG WORSHIPPERS' MESSAGE SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: How Firm a Foundation ELW 796 v 1,  
2, 3**

*Please stand as you are able. We will sing the Creed together.*

**CREED: (Sung)** *by The Newsboys*

## **WE BELIEVE**

We believe in God the Father We believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit And He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion We believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection And He's comin' back again We  
believe

## **+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*We will sing the response together.*

Lord, in your mercy, **Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**  
**ELW 75**

## PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you all

**C: and also with you**

P: Let us give each other that sign of peace.

**OFFERING: We are an Offering ELW 692**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*We will sing the Lord's Prayer together.*

**LORD'S PRAYER** *by FR. J. Neꝛ Marcelo*

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.

Ooh ooh ooh

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us, deliver us from e--vil.

ooh ooh ooh ooh

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

*All are invited to share in communion. It is Christ's table, and all are welcome. An usher will escort each row forward. White grape juice can be located*

*in the center of the tray. Please indicate to an usher if you would like to commune from your seat.*

**COMMUNION SONG**  
**Spirit of Gentleness ELW 396**



**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

**BLESSING:** The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**  
*Standing is optional.*

**SENDING: Make a Difference** *by Rachel Kurtz*

You gave your life to make a difference.  
You gave your life to make a change.  
You welcomed all to your table.  
You're calling us to do the same.

**(CHORUS)**

I want my life to make a difference.  
I want my life to make a change.  
I want my life to do some good here.  
I want my life to make a change.

**(VERSE 1)**

Workin side by side no out or inside,  
together we can make that change.  
With a few or many with a lot or not any,  
together we can make that change.

**(VERSE 2)**

Crossing the great divide joy and peace  
will abide together we can make that change.  
Jesus is our peace all fighting will cease together we  
can make that change.



## **(BRIDGE)**

We're the citizens with the saints  
we're the sunshine and the rain we're  
joy with the pain we're the change.  
You healed the sick and fed the poor  
you loved the prophet and whore and through  
us you will do more you're the change!

## **CHORUS END**

### **DISMISSAL:**

Go in peace. Let the Spirit lead you. You are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE: Follow You Follow Me** *by Genesis*

The bulletins, altar flowers, and candles are dedicated to the glory of  
God in honor of those who have served our country by the St. Peter's  
Congregation.

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*St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Middletown is located on the original  
and ancestral homelands of the Susquehannock peoples and we give thanks for  
their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor  
all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this place their home.*

# St. Peter's News

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

New to our prayer list this month: Art Wiand, Chancel Ilunga, Erma Grim, Cheryl Schlum, Anthony Mondeaux, Emily Eckert, Barbara Henry, Nevin Lingle, Steve & Olivia Waite, Emily Booth, Josie Brewster, Lucinda Sheaffer, Ben Chappell, and Mary Houser.

Those friends and members in need of continued prayers: Kate Haggerty, Dorothy Murphy, Karen Ainsley, Ida Kramer, Stephanie Kastelik, Brenda Stum, Kiersten Kwiatkowski, Linda Holmes, Regina Heagy, Jim Hurst, Tina Polito, Doris Arnold, Thelma Thomas, and Richard Brandt.

## **\*\*SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES\*\***

Corbin Stettler, Gabriel Goldsborough, Jordane Cleckner, Edgar Lopez, John Pappas, Colton Stone, Aaron Williams

## **RIDES NEEDED**

A member of our congregation is in need of a ride to church for July 14<sup>th</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup>, and July 28<sup>th</sup>. Please let Sharon or Molly know if you can drive them to church on any of these dates!

## **PASTOR MOLLY'S TIME OFF**

Pastor Molly will be on vacation from July 1<sup>st</sup>- July 15<sup>th</sup>. While she is away, please contact Chaplain Hope: 717-448-0739.

## **STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

St. Peter's is looking for two more (of four) volunteers to participate in a stewardship program through the synod. The program is comprised of six virtual training sessions, all of which are offered twice. Please see Molly if you are interested in learning more or would like to register! The cost has been covered.

## **END OF SUMMER BASH**

St. Peter's & TOGETHER are excited to be hosting a free community event to celebrate the end of summer and beginning of a new school year! We need volunteers to help play music & sing, prepare food, assist with games, and other needs. The bash is August 17<sup>th</sup> from 5pm-8pm. Help with set-up & tear-down would be greatly appreciated! Please see Alex if you are interested in helping out in any way.

## **SLEEP WELL UKRAINE FUNDRAISER**

Sleep Well, Ukraine is a web-broadcast daily show from 8-9 pm in Ukraine (1-2 pm in US) and airs calming music that Ukrainian parents can play at bedtime to help their children sleep. It was founded in 2022 to address the needs of the children in Ukraine living in combat zones and assist with sleep in this time of trauma. All the proceeds of this event will be sent to Sleep Well, Ukraine to continue to the program from the healing of the children through music. For more information on Sleep Well, Ukraine, go to their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/527248645575550](https://www.facebook.com/groups/527248645575550)

