

St. Peter's Church

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The Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost – 25 October 2020

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.

+ We Gather In God's Presence +

[* indicates all standing - + indicates all kneeling - **indicates all sitting]

[Silence for prayer and preparation]

Prelude

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. 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 sin 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 Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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 34:1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain — that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees — as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 90:1-6. 13-17

¹ Lord, you have been our refuge *

from one generation to another.

² Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, *

from age to age you are God.

³ You turn us back to the dust and say, *

"Go back, O child of earth."

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *

and like a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep us away like a dream; *

we fade away suddenly like the grass.

⁶ In the morning it is green and flourishes; *

in the evening it is dried up and withered.

¹³ Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? *

be gracious to your servants.

¹⁴ Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *

so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

¹⁵ Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *

and the years in which we suffered adversity.

¹⁶ Show your servants your works *

and your splendor to their children.

¹⁷ May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; *

prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

**Second Reading – I Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel - Matthew 22:34-46

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet" '? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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 + [The Leader and People pray responsively]

+ In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. [Silence]

For all people in their daily life and work. For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world. We pray especially for Donald, 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. For migrants who are fleeing from war, violence, poverty and environmental degradation. *For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper care of your creation. For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble. For the first responders, emergency personnel, and volunteers, who minister to the victims of disasters, the sick, the displaced, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God. For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Daniel, our Bishop; Rodney, our Assisting Bishop; for all ministers, especially Sam, our Rector; David, our Retired Clergy; Joseph, our Deacon; the Vestry; the congregation; and all those who participate in the ministries of the church. *For all who serve God in his Church.*

God, we pray for all afflicted by the Coronavirus. We pray for the more than 200,000 families mourning the loss of a loved one. We pray for those who are sick, for essential workers and medical professionals, for all who suffer because of economic fallout and lost jobs, especially those who know hunger and homelessness. Be with our families and children and schools, seeking to navigate this difficult time. Hear us Lord. *For your mercy is great.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We remember especially: **Joan, Vernet, Greg and Lou.** Let us add our own petitions. Hear us, Lord. **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We ask your blessing especially on Peter Druckenmiller and Kristen Cassidy who celebrate a birthday this week. Let us add our own petitions. We will exalt you, O God our King. *And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, remembering especially, Susan Hyatt, Rosemary Klein and Rev. Charles A. Carter, III. Let us add our own remembrances. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them. *Who put their trust in you.* [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.*

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Anthem Simple Gifts St. Peter's Chorus Shaker Hymn

Doxology 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: Sanctus Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory; 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 forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, *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 forever. Amen. Christ our Passover Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

+Communion of the People

+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.

+The Blessing

Announcements

*Dismissal

Postlude

Intercessions This Week - Please pray: • For those who are sick, or in any other adversity, especially Joan Grunwell, Vernet Spence-Brown, Greg Schiele, Deacon Lou Steffenhagen • For the men and women who are serving in our armed forces. • For those with whom we give thanks, especially Peter Druckenmiller and Kristen Cassidy who celebrate a birthday this week.. • For all who have died especially, Susan Hyatt, Rosemary Klein and Rev. Charles A. Carter, III.

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