



ST. PETER'S CHURCH

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The Second Sunday in Lent - 5 March 2023

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.

+ 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist follows this Order of Service with the exception of music. +

+ We Gather In God's Presence +

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

Prelude

*Hymn **337** *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* Unde et memories

Celebrant Blessed be God who forgives all our sins. **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thought 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.**

+Decalogue

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Trisagion **S102** [front of blue hymnal] [sung 3 times]

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

+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 Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. [Collect of the Day] **O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

+ We Listen To The Word Of God +

First Reading – **Genesis 12:1-4a

*Psalm **121** [read in unison]

Second Reading – **Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

*The Gospel - **John 3:1-17**

Sermon Fr. Sam

*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 +

+ I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops: Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Daniel, our Bishop; for this gathering; for all ministers, especially Sam our Rector; David, our retired clergy; Joseph, our Deacon, and for all people. Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. We pray especially for Joseph, the President of our nation; Antonio, the Secretary General of the UN, Josh, the Governor of our Commonwealth and the men and women who are serving in our armed forces. We pray for all the international efforts in protecting our planet from wars and violence, deadly diseases and global warming. Let us pray to the Lord.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the unemployed, the hungry, the homeless, the oppressed, human trafficked, those in prison, and the refugees, migrants and asylum seekers at our border and for all who remember and care for them. For the volunteers who serve community meals here at St. Peter's, and for Cristosal Foundation we support in El Salvador, let us pray to the Lord. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

I ask your prayers for those who are sick, or in any other adversity, especially ***John, Peter, Joan, Lane, Karen, Georgette, Lenora, Bill, Joseph, Leah, Mary, Diana, Melissa, Peggy, Dawn, Stephanie, Sandi, Frances, Amy, Gretchen, Carol, Anne Marie, Kate, Fr. Jim, Bill, John, Shawn, Ben, Cathy and Jenn.*** (you may add your own petitions)

I ask your prayers of thanksgiving for Seamus Sutter who celebrates a birthday this week. (you may add your own petitions)

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored, whom we remember today. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own way. *[The celebrant adds a concluding collect]*

The Peace *[All stand facing center aisle] [please be seated following 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 *Hide not thou thy face from us O Lord*

Richard Farrant

Hymn 380 v. 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.

Celebrant: Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: ***May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all God's holy Church.***

+ The 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 255 LEVAS **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, 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: 259 LEVAS **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. 262 LEVAS **AMEN.**

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.**

Agnus Dei 270 LEVAS **Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

Prayer of humble access: **We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, 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 313 *Let thy Blood in mercy poured*

Jesus, meine Zuversicht

Hymn 106 LEVAS *Take My Hand, Precious Lord*

Thomas A. Dorsey

+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 **637** *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord*

Lyons

*Dismissal

Postlude

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Intercessions This Week - Please pray: • **For** those who are sick, or in any other adversity, John Burkhardt, Peter Fifer, Joan Grunwell, Lane Schultz, Karen Greene, Georgette Druckenmiller, Lenora Thornton, Bill Sullens, Joseph Ndungu, Leah Githua, Mary Gibbons, Diana Novi, Melissa Boukalik, Peggy Green, Dawn Rhoads, Stephanie Green, Sandi Spadt, Frances Stengel, Amy Foerster, Gretchen Streuli, Carol Cottrell, Anne Marie Grimes, Kate Taylor, Fr. Jim Evans, Bill, John, Shawn, Ben, Cathy and Jenn. • **For** the men and women who are serving in our armed forces • **For** those with whom we give thanks, especially Seamus Sutter who celebrates a birthday this week • **For** all who have died.

Ministry Assistants Today: Altar Guild: 8:00 – Ron Gaugler; 10:00 – Cathy Sullens + **Chalicerist:** 8:00 – Lisa Scott; 10:00 – Jolie Chylack + **Counters:** Marva Young, Erin Hall + **Greeters:** Judi Hans, Andrea Steck + **Lectors:** 8:00 – Joyce Paster; 10:00 Karen Martz, Jolie Chylack, Doug Streuli

Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m. – Every Friday During Lent

qigong/yoga community class on Wednesday, March 8th at 5:30pm - St. Margaret’s Hall

The Daughters of the King invite the Parish to a Book Discussion: Our next Book Discussion will be held on April 1st from 9:30am - Noon. We will be reading Amy Jill Levine’s book Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner’s Guide to Holy Week. This is a short (143 pages) but enlightening look at the events happening during Holy Week. We can plan to read the book during the month of March and then gather for a discussion on April 1st, the day before Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week.

Youth Group Meal Preparation - The St. Peter's Youth Group leaders are seeking parishioners who would be willing to prepare a meal for a Youth Group meeting. During every meeting, the youth and leaders gather for a meal, and it is a very important part of our fellowship. The meals are on Sundays throughout the church school year, and we usually feed about 12-15 people.

The attached SignUp Genius (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0448aeac22a57-youth2#/>) has more details, or you can reach out to Katie Druckenmiller at kdruckenmiller@gmail.com. Thank you for considering supporting the Youth Group in this very meaningful way.

People at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church

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| 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 | Liturgical Coordinator: Marty Bloem: mabloem55@gmail.com | |
| Deacon: The Rev. Joseph Dietz: JoesFrames@Comcast.net ; Liaison to Vestry: Fellowship, Adult Forum, Worship Committee | Parish Secretary: Judith Dougherty: saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com | |
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Genesis 12:1–4a

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

Psalm 121 *read in unison*

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- ⁴ Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- ⁵ The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- ⁶ So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- ⁸ The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

Romans 4:1–5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

John 3:1–17

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the

Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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