

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 2025

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

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PRELUDE & BELLS *We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.*

WELCOME

Blessed be the Kingdom...now and forever **and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We stand **OPENING HYMN**

#673

“God, Whose Almighty Word”

vv1-4

✠BRIEF RITE FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS✠

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

1John 1:8-9

Most merciful God... **we confess that we are born captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you- who believe and repent- of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

✠HOLY COMMUNION✠

APOSTOLIC 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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Glory to God in the Highest”

9 AM p167 *Luke 2:14*

5 PM see p148

Refrain **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

1 Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

2 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. *Refrain*

3 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.

Last refrain **Glory to God in the highest. Amen, amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: LUKE 8:29
Return to your home and declare how much God has done for you.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 65:1-9

¹ I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, “Here I am, here I am,” to a nation that did not call on my name. ² I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³ a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; ⁴ who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine’s flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; ⁵ who say, “Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.” These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. ⁶ See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps ⁷ their iniquities and their ancestors’ iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. ⁸ Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, “Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,” so I will do for my servants’ sake, and not destroy them all. ⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

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

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 22:18-27

¹⁸ Be not far away, O LORD;

you are my strength; hasten to help me.

¹⁹ **Save me from the sword,**

my life from the power of the dog.

²⁰ Save me from the lion’s mouth,

my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

²¹ **I will declare your name to my brethren;**

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

²² Praise the LORD, you that fear him;

stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob’s line, give glory.

²³ **For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; but when they cry to him he hears them.**

²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

²⁵ **The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: “May your heart live forever!”**

²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

²⁷ **For kingship belongs to the LORD;
he rules over the nations.**

SECOND READING: GALATIANS 3:23-29

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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

We stand. GOSPEL VERSE: JOHN 6:68

9AM ONLY

p151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 8:26-39

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”—²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. ³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. ³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

#856

“How Great Thou Art”

vv1-2

We sit. SERMON

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Unorthodox Wisdom

A Right Mind

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.

*means whole, entire Christi

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

By the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to God our Father in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord, making intercession for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their need.

A brief silence

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Law, our teacher and disciplinarian. Thank you for your Gospel of grace, forgiveness, and freedom in Jesus. Thank you for your Holy Spirit, who gives us ears of faith to hear and do both words rightly.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Preserve your Church as your faithful remnant in the world. Conform it to the image of your Son. Use its words and deeds to draw many to faith in Jesus Christ.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless this congregation, its people and its work. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus; to support Solid Rock our mission in action; and that you send us adults for baptism. Cause all things to be done to your glory and for the benefit of your people. Clothe us in the loveliness of Christ, for the sake of the people he loves.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless your missionaries, so that through their preaching, many may receive the Gospel of forgiveness, peace, and life. Be the shield and glory of all who suffer on account of Jesus' name. Sustain them in their suffering; deliver them from their enemies; and turn the hearts of evil-doers to repentance and faith.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You stretch out your arms to peoples who do not know your name. Bless all nations with a longing to know your goodness and to do your will. Fill our leaders with wisdom, humility, and integrity, so that they may rightly use the authority entrusted to them.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guard and guide all who defend our country and its people, and all who stand in harm's way on behalf of freedom and justice. We also pray for those who put themselves at risk to assist victims of natural disasters and human malice. Bless them and keep them in the hollow of your hand.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sustain the lives and cheer the hearts of all who cry to you for help, especially: {List}. Especially we pray for all who suffer from mental illness, post-traumatic shock, or addiction, and for their families. Help them find clarity and calm; restore them to their right mind; and heal relationships wounded by their affliction. Bless and strengthen those entrusted with their care; and let your saving help bring joy to all.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you, holy and gracious Father, for the deliverance you have accomplished through your beloved Son for all who have died trusting in your promises. We pray for the families of {List}. We who still await that fulfillment pray: keep us steadfast in faith, clothed in Christ, filled with your Spirit, always eager to turn to you and cry "Abba, Father." Accomplish your promised salvation among us. When death claims us, lift up our heads, so that with all whom you have redeemed, we may forever glorify your name and rejoice in your love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we entrust our prayers and petitions into your hands, gracious Father, for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also, with you.**

We briefly greet those in our row with the words "Peace be with you."

We sit. OFFERING, OFFERTORY SONG & PRAYER- *Giving back to God*



First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering; your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts. Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available on our website stpeterhallettsville.org/giving or by scanning this code.

We stand #184

“Let the Vineyards”

Isaiah 5:1, Psalm 23:5, others

Let the vine- yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless- ing. Gath- er a har- vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath- er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, king of the universe. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary . . . and join their unending hymn:

5PM SPOKEN

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy...

In the night in which he was betrayed, ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

All honor and glory are yours...now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

We sit. INVITATION TO COMMUNION

As often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and who believe the Lord's words "This is my body given for you" and "This is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins" may receive Communion. Young children, not yet receiving Communion, may receive a blessing.

(Matt 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:19ff, 1 Cor. 11:24ff)

Communion administration occurs in a continuous fashion at the Communion rail. The ushers will guide you to the rail. To receive the elements, extend your hand, palm up, to the ministers. White grape juice is available in the center of the trays. For those unable to consume either bread or wine, the Church affirms the Lord's full presence in each element alone. Once you have received the elements, return to your seat by the side aisles. If you do not desire to receive Holy Communion, you may remain seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#195

"Lamb of God"

John 1:29

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace." The score includes a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

We stand POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER
 May the true body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

#313

“O Lord, Now Let Your Servant”



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
 2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
 till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
 till rap-tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin-ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 where Christ, the bless-ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

insert

“Onward Christian Soldiers”

vv1-2

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church"
by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

MANNA FOOD PANTRY DRIVE: This Project of the Social Ministry Committee has wonderfully been responded to by St. Peter members! Thank you to all who have donated so far, and we will keep this drive going through July. Let's keep filling up the tubs as we share our gifts to minister to those in need.

OFFERING YTD (Jan-May '25) \$126,702.74; EXPENSES \$140,481.60
DIFFERENCE +/- -\$13,778.86 *(due to yearly insurance payment)*

This Weekend June 22

Sunday AM: *Assisting:* Sophie Teltschik

Communion Set Up: Linda Smith

Communion Clean Up: Barbara Grindeland

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Dr. Wesley McAda, Shannon DeForest, Aaron Henke

Acolytes: Julie Henke & Clay Henke

Power Point Sunday: Barb Koehn

Altar Flowers given by: Barb Koehn & family in remembrance of the life of God's faithful servant, Larry Koehn

Radio Ministry given by: John & Lucille Parker in celebration of John's birthday and our Anniversary

Sunday PM: *Assisting:* Daniel Drozd

Communion Clean Up: Daniel Drozd

Attendance for Sunday, June 15th: 9AM 101/5PM 9

Congratulations to Daniel Drozd and Jack Conoway for winning the Whataburger gift card!

This Week @ St. Peter

Sun June 22, 9:00 am Worship Service, 10:00 am Coffee Time,
10:30 Adult Christian Learning, 5:00 pm Worship Service

Mon June 23, 1:00 pm Quilting, 5:00 pm Social Ministry Meeting

Tue June 24, 5:15 pm Add Value, 6:00 pm Property, 7:00 pm Prayer Group

Thu June 25, 7:30 pm AA/Al-Anon

Sat June 27, FH Rental

Sun June 29, 9:00 am Worship Service, 10:00 am Coffee Time,
10:30 am Adult Christian Learning, 5:00 pm Worship Service

Our Prayer List:— *Requests listed 4 weeks under **Concerns** For unless otherwise requested.*

Melanie Gilliam, Julie Tanner, Elizabeth McGee, Deanna Ness, Billy Jean Mayes, Joelle Mihalovich, Jane Yamerick, Aubrey Martell, Leon Koehne, Janice Delmar, Ky Lange, Cooper Kirkland, James Kubecka, Wayne Briscoe, Charles Hotz, Cherri Fryer, Charlotte Murphy

Extended concerns: *Requests listed 9 months unless otherwise requested.*

Oleen Covey, Gracie Isbell, Jim Brandt, Edmund Koerth, Barbara Tackett, Melissa Grice, Charlotte Hartmann, Michael Drozd, Jeffrey Morgenroth, Charlie Garmon, Carrie Besetsny, DeWayne Dixon, James Evans, Pr. John Schmidt & family (*Missionary in Ghana*)

Other Concerns: first responders (*military, law enforcement, firefighter, medical*), Safe House Church (*Hallettsville*);

San Miguel (*Ft. Worth*) and Houston Oromo Lutheran Churches, President Trump, our country

Grieving Families of: Joseph Benbenik, Gary Muehr, Elliette Mae Kocian, Darleen Kastner, Jordan Ramirez, Bernadette Bludau, Percy Spradlin, Kim Fowlkes, Jean Niemietz, Steve Kutach, Emmanuel Velasquez, Michelle Greenwell, Michelle Goranson, Andy Seay, Howard & Dean Loewe

Serving Next Weekend: June 29

Sunday AM: *Assisting:* Barbara Grindeland

Communion Set Up: Linda Smith

Communion Clean Up: Marilyn McAda

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Dr. Wesley McAda, Shannon DeForest, Aaron Henke

Acolytes: Karlie Hotz & Maggie Stillions

Power Point Sunday: Julieane Mihalovich

Altar Flowers given by: Monte & Aileen Peck in honor of our 51st Wedding Anniversary today 6/29/74

Radio Ministry given by: June Pence in memory of June Renger on her Birthday

Sunday PM: *Assisting:* Daniel Drozd

Communion Clean Up: Daniel Drozd

Second Sunday after Pentecost June 22, 2025

Isaiah 65:1-9; Psalm 22:19-28; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

SAVE THE DATES IN JULY:

July 14-16 St. Peter VBS “Epic Australian Adventure” (register online now at myvbs.org/stpeterlch)

Thursday, July 17 5:00 pm Worship Meeting

Openings for Radio: Aug 31; Sept 7, 14, 21; Oct 26; Nov 2, 16, 23, 30; Dec 14, 28

Openings for Flowers: Sept 7, 14, Oct 19, 26; Nov 16; Dec 14, 28

ENTRANCE HYMN (ELW) *God, Whose Almighty Word* (ELW 673)

Text by John Marriott; Music by Felice de Giardini

1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

2 Christ, who once came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind;
oh, now to humankind
let there be light.

3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

4 Holy and blessed three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might:
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW) *How Great Thou Art* (ELW 856)

Text & Music by Stuart K. Hine

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain

3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing
he bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain

4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" Refrain

Closing Hymn (LBW) *Onward Christian Soldiers*

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

insert

1 Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus
going on before.
Christ, the royal master,
leads against the foe;
forward into battle,
see, his banners go!

Refrain

Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus
going on before.

2 Like a mighty army
moves the church of God;
let us boldly follow
where the saints have trod.
We are not divided;
all one body we;
one in hope and doctrine,
one in charity. ***Refrain***