The Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

24 July 2022 9:00 am



**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**

**564 Glasgow Street, Pottstown, Pa 19464**

**Office Telephone: 610-323-5044**

**Office Hours: 8:00 am to 12 Noon**

**Office Email: stpeterschurch1@comcast.net**

**https://www.stpeterslutheranpottstown.com**

Ministers, All the People of St. Peter’s

Timothy J. Bianchini, Sexton

Lisa A. Moore, Administrative Assistant

Anita M. Barndt, Music Director

The Rev. Elaine C. Quincey, Pastor

# Our Mission: To Learn, Celebrate, and

# Express the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**Welcome**

Welcome to St. Peter’s! We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America where all are invited to join us in praising and giving thanks to our gracious God. We pray you experience God’s love and care with us. If you would like a prayer or visit with the pastor, please speak to her following worship. If you are worshiping with us for the first time, please fill out a visitor's card from the pew holder and place the card in the offering plate. Please sign our guest book. You are welcome here. Really!

**Liturgy**

Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.”

*So that all may worship: Please be in quiet meditation. Turn off all electronic devices. We invite you to use this quiet time for prayer, asking God to bless our worship. After worship greet and speak with your neighbor.*

**P** Presiding Minister (Pastor)

**A** Assisting Minister

C Congregation

**Gathering**

**Quiet For Prayer and Meditation**

Prelude: "Prelude" – Morland

**Announcements**

### *Please stand as you are able*

### Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity,☩ one God,

whose steadfast love endures forever.

**C Amen.**P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Merciful God,

**C we confess that we have not followed your path**

**but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,**

**we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,**

**we have too often passed by on the other side.**

**Set us again on the path of life.**

**Save us from ourselves**

**and free us to love our neighbors.**

**Amen.**

P Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins

but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

**C Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** "Come, Thou Font...." 807

**Greeting**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

**Hymn of Praise**

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**Prayer of the Day**P Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**C Amen.**

*Congregation may be seated.*

**Word**

**First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32**In today’s reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God’s justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham’s nephew, Lot.

A A reading from Genesis.  
20Then the Lord said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! 21I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.”  
 22So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. 23Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?

24Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it?

25Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” 26And the Lord said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” 27Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. 28Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” 29Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” 30Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” 31He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” 32Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

A The word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 138**  
A The Psalm is read responsively.  
1I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.  
2**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;****for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**  
3When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.  
4**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,****when they have heard the words of your mouth.**  
5They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.  
6**The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly,****perceiving the haughty from afar.**  
7Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.  
8**You will make good your purpose for me;****O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

### Second Reading: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about “the empty lure” of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.  
  
A A reading from Colossians.

6As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. 8See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. 9For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. 11In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; 12when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, 14erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. 15He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.  
16Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. 17These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. 18Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, 19and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Gospel Acclamation  
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**Gospel: Luke 11:1-13**  
In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God’s coming reign, God’s mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.  
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P 1Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”2He said to them, “When you pray, say:   
Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. 3Give us each day our daily bread. 4And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.” 5And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’

7And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’

8I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.  
9“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

P The gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**  
*Congregation may be seated*

Sermon Pastor Elaine C. Quincey

***Silence for reflection***

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Hymn of the Day:** "Lord, Teach Us How......" 745

**Apostles Creed**   
AWith the whole church, let us confess our faith*.*

**C** **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**ATrusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer *A brief silence*A Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Merciful God,**C receive our prayer.**

ARejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance. Protect water sources and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God,

**C receive our prayer.**

A Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God,

**C receive our prayer**

A Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer. Merciful God,**C receive our prayer.**

A Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God,

**C receive our prayer.**

*Pause for Pastor and/or others to offer intercessions.*ABuried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Join our voices with theirs as we sing of your great glory. Merciful God,

**C receive our prayer.**

P Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**C Amen.**

*A Brief Silence*

**Peace**

**The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the Peace of the risen Christ.**P **The peace of Christ be with you always.  
C And also with you.**

**Offering**

*Ushers will receive the offering plates from the Assisting Minister during the playing of the Organ Offertory*

**Organ Offertory:** "Andantino" –Gigout

*Ushers return offering plates to the Assisting Minister.*

Please stand as you are able.

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**Offering Prayer**A Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**C Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom

and teach us to pray.

C **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.**

**Sending**

**Blessing**

P The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life

this day and always.

**C Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: "**Now Thank We All Our God" 840

**Chimes**

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

**C Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: "Larghetto in D Major" – Rinck

**Worship Bulletin**: The Cusick Family in Memory of all those who have gone before us.

**Worship Ministers***Lector*: Kim High*Ushers*: Nancy Dunning, Anna Stetler*Altar Duty*: Nancy Boerner*Offering Counters*: Kim High(H), Donald Sutton, Tanya   
 Sutton

**Prayer Chain**: Please fill out a Prayer Request card and place it in the parlor box or offering plate

**PASTOR'S OPEN STUDY HOURS**

Tuesday, 26 July 10am - 2pm

It is best to call as there are times I may have been called out or have a meeting

**PLEASE call anytime and leave a message!  
484-553-1604**