

Welcome to  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



*Seventh Sunday after Epiphany*  
*February 20, 2022*  
*10:15 am Worship Service*  
*Pastor Brandon Johns*

**BELL RINGING****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are 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 Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN: Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

## GREETING

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

**And also with you!**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM

*After Giving Thanks, Remember Me*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

<sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup>Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup>You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' " <sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

### PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40 (*Read Responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>Do not be provoked by evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

<sup>2</sup>**For they shall soon wither like the grass,  
and like the green grass fade away.**

<sup>3</sup>Put your trust in the Lord and do good;  
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

**<sup>4</sup>Take delight in the Lord,**

**who shall give you your heart's desire.**

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,  
and see what God will do.

**<sup>6</sup>The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light  
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

<sup>7</sup>Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who  
succeeds in evil schemes.

**<sup>8</sup>Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

<sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall be cut off,

but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

**<sup>10</sup>In a little while the wicked shall be no more;  
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

<sup>11</sup>But the lowly shall possess the land;  
they will delight in abundance of peace.

**<sup>39</sup>But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O Lord;  
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

<sup>40</sup>You, O Lord, will help them and rescue them;  
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,  
because in you they seek refuge.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50**

<sup>35</sup>But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup>Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup>So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup>It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup>It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

<sup>45</sup>Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

*This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(The assembly stands, if able, to welcome the gospel.)*

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

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

**GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38**

The holy gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>27</sup>“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bles those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.

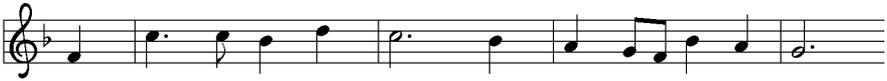
<sup>32</sup>“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

*This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.*

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: Oh, Praise the Gracious Power**



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear  
 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds  
 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,  
 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,  
 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:  
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:  
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:  
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:  
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

*Refrain*



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,  
 the love, the word, the tide.  
 Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,  
 praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy.

***The response for each petition is:*** God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

*During social distancing protocols, our in-person offerings are made before or after the worship service. The offering plates are located near the entrances to the nave.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

## CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. 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.

## DIALOGUE

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.**

**THE PROPER PREFACE** *(It is indeed right... Join their unending hymn)*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Taught by God's Word Incarnate, we are bold to pray:  
**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**

## **INSTRUCTION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

At this time Pastor will take a moment to explain how the distribution of Holy Communion will take place from our seats. The explanation will conclude with the Invitation to Communion and then we will commune.

The elements of the Sacrament are offered with these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. *And* The blood of Christ, shed for you.

For children who do not communion, lay hand(s) on each child and offer this or another blessing:

*“May you find shelter in God and take delight in the abundance of peace found in God’s kingdom. Amen.”*

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## **BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Radiant God with our eyes we have seen your salvation and, in this meal, we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**



## SENDING SONG: O Christ, Our Hope

1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's  
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den  
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som  
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us  
5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry

might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by  
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to  
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in  
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by  
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through

ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:  
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.  
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.  
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.  
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

## SHARING FOR SERVING: BIRTHDAYS AND MISSION NOTICES

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Let your light shine. **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE** *Trumpet Tune and Choral*

Lani Smith

### RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24133.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**Our Monthly Benevolent Cause for February**

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support Sherri Ifft, Missionary. If you would like to support this cause, please mark the other line on your contribution envelope Sherry Ifft.

The eternal candle  
is presented by  
Lucille Wingard  
In loving memory of  
Lynette Wingard

Today's altar flowers  
are presented by  
Patti & Charlie Flach  
In celebration of their  
50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.  
Many blessings to you!

**Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:**

Matt & Kim Morris	Dave Grubbs
Jan Hogan	Corey Wearing
Todd Manuel	Luke Clawson
Tom Manuel	The family of Kenny Rice
Bob Tarbet	Ron & John West
The family of Beryl Gilliland	

Please hold these members and friends of St. Peter's in your prayers.  
*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:16*



***ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH***

*is a congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of  
the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).*

Presiding Bishop (ELCA)  
Synodical Bishop (SW PA Synod)  
Pastor  
Organist & Music Director  
Office Secretary  
Sexton  
Lector  
Acolyte  
Bell Ringer

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
The Rev. Kurt A. Kusserow  
The Rev. Brandon Johns  
Marlene Domhoff  
Heidi Beahm  
Joe Ludwik  
Karen Ferrari  
Mark Zoelle  
Wes Schmidt

---

### St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

---

Mon. – Fri.	3:30 pm	After School Program
Mon. Feb. 21	7:00 pm	Sowers Scout Meetings
Tue. Feb. 22	7:30 pm	Dorcas Circle
Wed. Feb. 23	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thur. Feb. 14	9:00 am	Quilters Group
	7:00 pm	Bible Study & Scout Meeting
Sat. Feb. 26	10:00 am	WELCA Cluster Meeting

**Shrove Tuesday** – is March 1st. A tentative plan is to host a pancake and sausage dinner beginning at 6 pm followed by a bring your best joke competition and a 2021 year in review DVD presentation, followed by the burning of palms service.

Those who have their best joke ready to share can sign up on Shrove Tuesday to provide and even flow of entertainment. Best jokes can come from folks of all ages, just remember to keep them G rated for younger ears and in respecting our church family as a whole.

If you would like to volunteer to help make dinner for Shrove Tuesday please see Pastor Johns.

**Fish Fry Dinner**- will be held on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> starting at 4:30 pm. The dinner will be drive thru only with NO RESERVATIONS needed. It is first come first served until it is sold out.

Eilene Budisky is accepting cash donations to cover the cost of food and other items needed for the dinner. A poster for other items that will be needed will be posted at a later time.



## Looking Ahead...Lent



Mar. 1	Shrove Tuesday
Mar. 2	<b>Ash Wed. 7:00 pm Service</b> <b>(communion at seats, ashes as you come forward)</b>
Mar. 10	Lent Service 7 pm (with communion)

**Volunteers Needed**- to help with the live stream, tech portion of bringing the worship service to folks who are watching remotely. See Heidi Beahm or Pastor Johns if you would like to be trained on being part of the tech team at St. Peter's.

**Morning Manna & Kid Camp**- will be offered again this coming summer. St. Peter's will host 1 week of morning manna and 3 weeks of kid camp. (June 6-10, June 13-17, August 15-19) Please see Heidi Beahm if you are interested in registering for any of these camps. Morning Manna is from 9-noon and will be a farm theme this year. Kid camps will run from 7:30 am – 5:30 pm.

**Communion Ministers** - if you would like to volunteer to take communion to shut in members, that ministry is going to begin again in the next few months, and we need your help! Training will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, March 13th. Please let Pastor Johns know if you would like to be part of this ministry.

**Meager Meals** – is returning this Lent, at least tentatively. On Thursday evenings at 6 pm starting on March 10<sup>th</sup>, we will gather before worship to eat soup and bread together. If you would like to provide either for a night or nights, there is a sign-up in Luther Hall.

## **Welcome to St. Peter's**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray that your worship experience will fill you with the grace and mercy of Almighty God through his Holy Spirit.



## **Newcomers and Guests**

New to St. Peter's? We are glad you found us. Please check in with Pastor by calling or email to talk about what St. Peter's is like under regular conditions and so you can be connected with the ministries we are holding in old and new ways during these social distance times.

## **Staying in Touch:**

Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

Church Office: 724.538.5810

Church Email: [stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net](mailto:stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net)

Pastor Email: [rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com](mailto:rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com)

Church Website: [www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org](http://www.stpeterslutheranevanscity.org)

Church Facebook Page: St. Peter's Lutheran Church

*But love your enemies, do good, and lend,  
expecting nothing in return. - Luke 6:35*

