

# Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 02, 2023

## 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 *congregation responds and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*We stand* OPENING HYMN

#888

“America the Beautiful”

### ✠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 thought 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.

*1 John 1:8-9*

*Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.*

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 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”

*p. 148 Luke 2:14*



**A** Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo- ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on- ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: 1 PETER 2:9

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

*We sit* FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 28:5-9

<sup>5</sup>The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

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

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 89:1-4, 15-18

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**<sup>2</sup>For I am persuaded that your love is established forever;  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>"I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**<sup>4</sup>I will establish your line forever,  
and preserve your throne for all generations.**

<sup>15</sup>Happy are the people who know the festal shout!  
They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

**<sup>16</sup>They rejoice daily in your name;  
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

<sup>17</sup>For you are the glory of their strength,  
and by your favor our might is exalted

**<sup>18</sup>Truly, the LORD is our ruler;  
the Holy One of Israel is our king.**

SECOND READING: ROMANS 6:12-23

<sup>12</sup>Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. <sup>15</sup>What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, <sup>18</sup>and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*We stand.* GOSPEL VERSE: JOHN 6:68

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: MATTHEW 10:34-42

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>34</sup>Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; <sup>36</sup>and one's foes will be members of one's own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup>and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>40</sup>Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup>and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple — truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

#676

“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”

*We sit.* SERMON

Rev. Tim Christ, STS

*We stand.* PROFESSION OF FAITH    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.**

\*means whole, entire Christian Church

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the Church, the world, and for one another.

*A brief silence is kept.*

Father, you pay us the compliment of revealing difficult truths to us. You expect us to see the world honestly, and to value your truth above even earthly peace. You speak to us of sin and death, cross bearing and persecution, suffering and service. Give us a double measure of your Spirit as we seek to be disciples of Jesus, because, dear Lord, we're going to need it!

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Give the Church courage to speak your truth, even when that seems to bring not peace but a sword. Keep it faithful to the testimony of apostles and martyrs, saints, and doctors of your one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church throughout all time and space. Grant that it should prefer nothing whatsoever to Christ; and that it should count as its greatest honor the bearing of his Cross in this sin-shadowed world.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Preserve the lives of your persecuted servants from those who despise your Law. When they must bear a bitter cross, keep them faithful, firmly fixed on the joy set before them. Give us courage to defend and assist them. Give us grace to faithfully serve the Lord for whom they are willing to die.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bless the people and ministries of this congregation. Give us fresh ways to reach, speak with, and walk alongside people who don't know your love. 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. We ask a special blessing upon all Vacation Bible School programs this summer. Give them dedicated volunteers and lots of happy children.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Even in the lazy days of summer, you call us to be Jesus' apprentices in the art of healing souls, teaching minds, and softening hearts to receive your great gifts. Bless and guide everyone learning to be disciples of Jesus, walking with him as he seeks the hurting and lost.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Our nation is facing challenges, divisions, and discontent. Remind us of the great gifts you have bestowed upon us. Fill us with your Spirit, so that we always seek your will and strive to do it. Bless us with peace, and with freedom from every evil and falsehood. Teach us all to live together as your children, and to work together for the prospering of all.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Keep safe those in the military, and all on the front lines of chaos, danger, and disease. Prosper all they do that is in accordance with your will. Give them clear heads, capable hands, and upright spirits. Bring them safely home when their task is done, and heal those who are injured in any way.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray on behalf of your servants who suffer in body, mind, spirit, or circumstance, and for all who crave your mercy and blessing, including: {List}. Restore them to health, wholeness, and hope. Help us to give even a cup of cold water for the sake of our Lord and his love for them. Bless all caregivers, doctors, nurses, technicians, and therapists with compassion, expertise, and cheerful service.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

With reverence and affection, we remember before you our beloved dead. We pray for the families of {List}. Comfort all who grieve. Help us care for each other for Jesus' sake. Help us speak hard truths with humility and love. Give us grace to take up our cross and follow Jesus, knowing that he will lead us through danger, evil, and death, and will bring us home to you forever.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers, dear Father, as they touch your heart through the Spirit who searches our hearts. For the sake of your beloved Son, answer them as may be best for us and give you glory.

#### 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](http://stpeterhallettsville.org/giving) or by scanning this code.*

*We stand* #184

“Let the Vineyards”

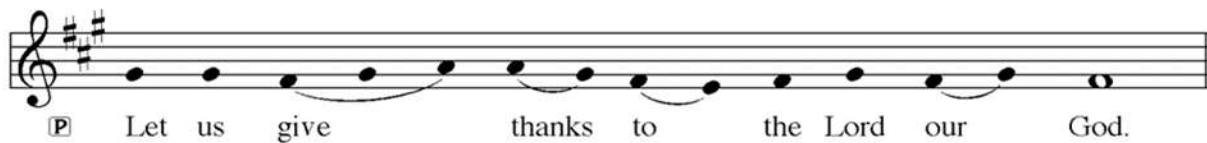
*Isaiah 5:1, Psalm 23:5, others*

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.

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.**



## GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



## 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

The gifts of God for the people of God. **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

"Lamb of God"

p154 John 1:29



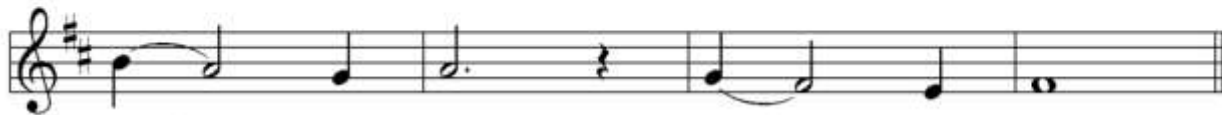
**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**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.**

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

“Lord Now You Let Your Servant”

Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,  
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

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  
#622

“Neither Death nor Life”

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
100 North Promenade, Hallettsville, Texas 77964  
(361) 798-2808    www.stpeterhallettsville.org

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

*Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!*

**Opening Hymn; "America the Beautiful" (#888)**

Text by Katherine L. Bates; Music by Samuel A. Ward

**1 O beautiful for spacious skies,  
for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties  
above the fruited plain:  
America! America!  
God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood  
from sea to shining sea.**

**2 O beautiful for heroes proved  
in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved,  
and mercy more than life:  
America! America!  
May God thy gold refine,  
till all success be nobleness,  
and ev'ry gain divine.**

**3 O beautiful for patriot dream  
that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam,  
undimmed by human tears:  
America! America!  
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control,  
thy liberty in law.**

## Hymn of the Day: “Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak” (#676)

Text by Frances R. Havergal; Music by Robert Schumann

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak  
in living echoes of your tone;  
as you have sought, so let us seek  
your straying children, lost and lone.

2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead  
the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;  
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed  
your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.

3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach  
the precious truths which you impart;  
and wing our words, that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many a heart.

4 Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,  
until our very hearts o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word,  
your love to tell, your praise to show.

## **Closing Hymn: “Neither Death nor Life”(#622)**

Text & Music by Marty Haugen

### **Refrain**

**Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor trials in the present, nor any trial to come,  
neither height, nor depth, nor all of creation  
can ever separate us from the love of God  
poured out in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

**1 Dwell in the one who raised Christ from the dead;  
though your body shall die, in Christ you shall rise  
through the Spirit who brings you to life. Refrain**

**2 All who are led by the Spirit shall live  
as children of God, and heirs with Christ Jesus,  
God's adopted and chosen and loved. Refrain**

**3 All of the suff'ring we now must endure  
is nothing to the glory so soon to be revealed  
when creation itself is set free. Refrain**

**4 All of creation awaits the new birth,  
the fullness of redemption, through labor pains of love,  
and so we wait in patience and hope. Refrain**

**5 Who can separate us from the love of Christ?  
Will hardship or distress, persecution or famine,  
or nakedness or peril or sword? Refrain**