



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The Little Church with the Big Heart



The 16th Sunday after Pentecost, Sept. 17, 2023

The Rev. Shawn Rutledge Presiding

Prelude: He is Lord (Steve Vest)

Welcome to St. Peter's Episcopal Church

St. Peter's is situated on land that was lived and traveled on by many different tribes including: the Hohokam, the O'odham Jewed, the Sobaipuri, and the Akimel O'odham We respectfully acknowledge and honor all Tribal communities, past and present, for their ongoing and fundamental relationship with this land and this region.

Processional: Love Devine, All Loves Excelling - The Hymnal #657

The Acclamation:

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Collect of Purity:

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

The Collect of the Day:

The Lord be with you.

And, also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph

said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:8-13

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

The Epistle: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord, and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual: Take My Life, and let it be - Hymnal 1982 #707 (V1/2)

The Gospel: **Matthew 18:21-35**

(Please stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy times seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' In anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel, the Good News of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Shawn Rutledge

The Nicene Creed: *(Please Stand as you are able)*

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

The Prayers of the People:

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop, Jennifer Reddall; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *(The people pray in silence)*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *(The people pray in silence)*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, especially: Owen, WaWee, John, Susan, Kelly, MaryJo, Stephen, Jody, Logan, Henry, and George, Kara, Penny, Hazel, Alexis, Carol, Ralph & Josie and their family. Pray for those in any need or trouble. *(The people pray in silence)*

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. *(The people pray in silence)*

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially: Sue Smith, Fran LaVoie and Sharon Suddeth. Pray for those who have died. *(The people pray in silence)*

Collect:

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, both those here present, and those joining us online; strengthen us to do your will, and to follow you all the days of our life. These prayers and all those we keep dear in our hearts we pray to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
(Silence)

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil we have done, and the evils done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love, and serve only your will. 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.

Peace: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

And also, with you.

(Please take a moment to offer your neighbors a sign of Christ's peace. This will be followed by some brief Announcements; and then we will offer blessings for any Anniversaries, Birthdays, Surgeries or Travelers)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory: Amazing Grace -The Hymnal 1982 # 671

Doxology: The Hymnal 1982 #380 V3

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. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer B

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: WLP 858

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread, and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Peter and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**The Lord's Prayer:
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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread:

(Silence)

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

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.

Communion Hymn: Bless the Lord, My Soul – (Taize WLP 827)

Post Communion Thanksgiving Prayer: *(Please stand or kneel as you are able)*

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.

Blessing:

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen.**

Procession into the World: Moe Thank We All Our God -The Hymnal 1982 # 397

Dismissal:

Go in Peace, to love and serve the Lord,

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: Go Fourth for God; Go Forth to the World in Peace (Routley) The Hymnal 1982 # 347

St. Peter's Episcopal Church Prayer List:

Owen, WaWee, John, Susan, Kelly, MaryJo, Stephen, Jody, Logan, Henry, and George, Kara, Penny, Hazel, Alexis, Carol, Ralph & Josie and their family.

Repose of the Soul List:

Sue Smith, Fran LaVoie and Sharon Suddeth.

* If you would like to add any names to the Church Prayer Lists, email: prayers@stpetersepiscopalcg.org.

Names are kept on the Church Prayer List for 1 month. If you'd like them to stay on the list, simply resubmit them. Names are kept on the Repose of the Soul List for 2 months.

Please visit our website for a listing of our worship times, and all current announcements which are contained in our current newsletter, 3 Peter: <https://stpetersepiscopalcg.org>

If you are new to St. Peter's and would like to schedule a time to meet w/the Vicar, please reach out to him via email: shawn.rutledge@stpetersepiscopalcg.org or by phone: 602-688-2273.

He would love to chat and get to know you; and If at any time you need pastoral care, please call the **Pastoral Care Line: 520-483-4288**

If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to the members of your Bishop's Committee.

Bishop's Committee:

- The Rev. Shawn Rutledge, Vicar
- Kari Davis, Bishop's Warden
- Dorrie Carskadon, People's Warden
- Kay Horton, Member at Large
- Linda Good, Member at Large
- Susan Herbert-Truskowsky, Member at Large