



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship

Our Mission is to share the life, love and joy of Jesus Christ with others

St. Peter's Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Jonathan Suloff

Office Administrator: Lisa Zinar

Music Director: Ya-Jhu Yang

Nursery School Director: Christine Caputo

Sexton: Derrick Hudson

Guest musician: Caroline Van Pelt

Phone: 610-828-3098 Email: office.splh@gmail.com

www.StPetersLafayetteHill.org

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**ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
3025 CHURCH ROAD
LAFAYETTE HILL, PENNSYLVANIA**

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023

Prelude & Welcome:

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity,+ one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of our neighbors.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Pastor: Merciful God,
Assembly: **we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

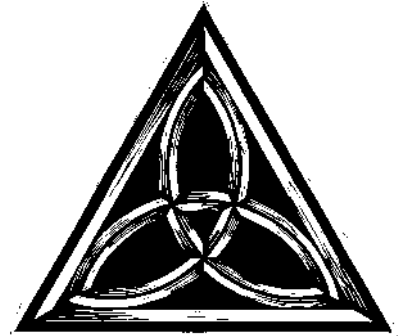
**Righteous God,
we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.**

**In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Pastor: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Assembly: **Amen.**



Opening Hymn: *“Womb of Life and Source of Being”*



1 Womb of life and source of be - ing, home of ev - 'ry rest - less
2 Word in flesh, our broth - er Je - sus, born to bring us sec - ond
3 Brood - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us; be our part - ner, be our
4 Moth - er, Broth - er, ho - ly Part - ner; Fa - ther, Spir - it, On - ly



heart, in your arms the worlds a - wak - ened; you have
birth, you have come to stand be - side us, know - ing
friend. When our mem - 'ry fails, re - mind us whose we
Son: we would praise your name for - ev - er, One - in -



loved us from the start. We, your chil - dren, gath - er
weak - ness, know - ing earth. Priest who shares our hu - man
are, what we in - tend. La - bor with us; aid the
Three and Three - in - One. We would share your life, your



round you, at the ta - ble you pre - pare. Shar - ing
strug - gles, Life of life and Death of death, ris - en
birth - ing of the new world yet to be, free of
pas - sion, share your word of world made new, ev - er



sto - ries, tears, and laugh - ter, we are nur - tured by your care.
Christ, come stand a - mong us, send the Spir - it by your breath.
ser - vant, lord, and mas - ter, free for love and u - ni - ty.
sing - ing, ev - er prais - ing, one with all, and one with you.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: RAQUEL, Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1944–1992

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Music © 1985, 1991 Estate of Skinner Chávez-Melo

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Kyrie:

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

Hymn of Praise:

“Glory to God”

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

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.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



⑩ 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.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



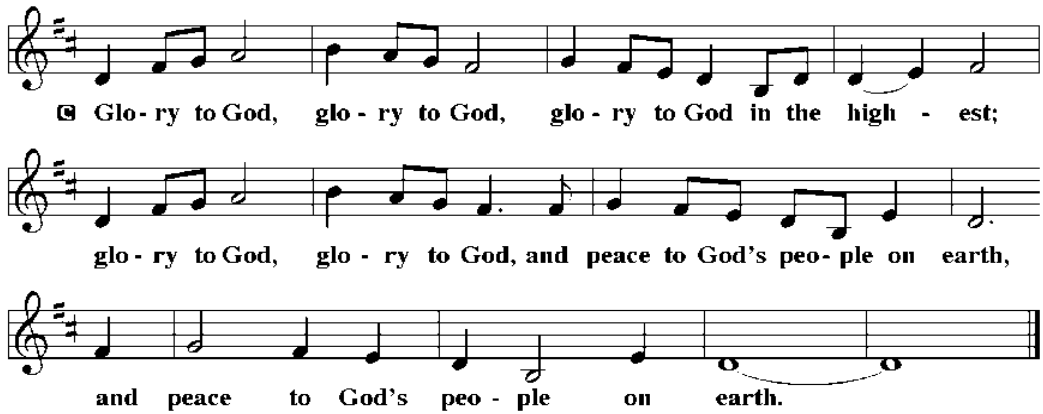
①
③ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



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.



☩ Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

The Salutation:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day:

Pastor: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Please be seated

Announcements



First Reading:**Isaiah 44:6-8**

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the Lord does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
⁸Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading:**Romans 8:12-25**

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—
¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the
deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of
God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a
spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with
our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs
with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory
about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the
children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will
of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage
to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the
whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we
ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption,

the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

Assembly: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

Message:

Pastor Suloff

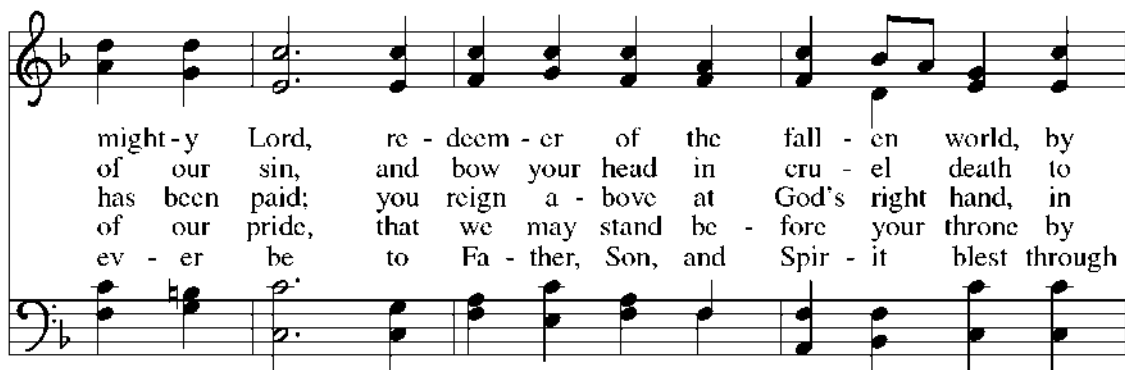
Please stand

Hymn of the Day:

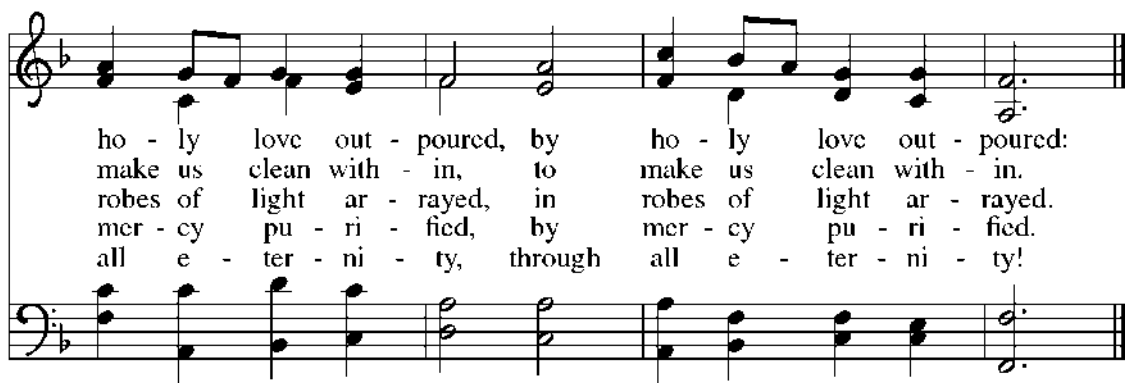
“O Christ, Our Hope”



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!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

The Apostles Creed:

Pastor: With the whole people of God, let us profess our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed.

Assembly: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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:

Pastor: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

Please kneel or be seated

(The Prayers of the Church are said)

Pastor: Hear us, O God; ***Assembly:* Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

***Assembly:* Amen.**

Please stand

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

***Assembly:* And also with you.**

Offering:

Offering Music:

"Alleluia"

- Mozart

The Offertory:

“Create In Me”



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.



Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me



with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,



and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

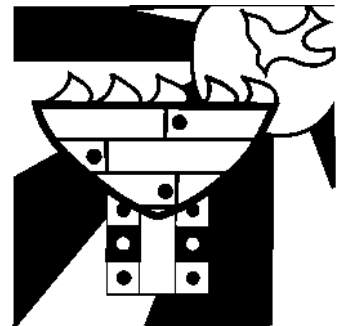
Offering Prayer:

Pastor:

God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly:

Amen.



The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

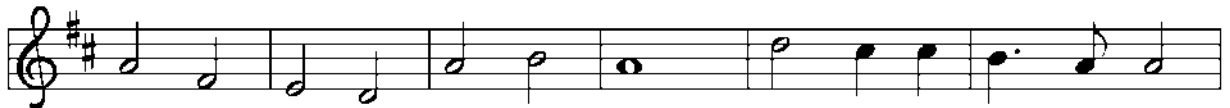
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

People: And also with you

People: We lift them to the Lord.

People: It is right to give God
thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

Pastor: 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.



Pastor: Let us pray in confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
**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.**



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 Distribution:

All those who believe in the presence of the Lord at the table, are invited to share in the sacrament. If you would like to receive Communion or a blessing from the pastor please join the line in the middle aisle of the sanctuary, receive the bread, and then move to the chalice and dip your wafer in the wine. If you prefer to remain in your pew or are joining us for worship online please take the individual Communion Cup or the elements of your choosing and share them with one another and with the community. If young children are present who have not yet received their First Communion please bring them forward or take a moment and share a blessing with them. Be the community of Christ with all those gathered near and far. All are welcome at the table of the Lord.

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

(At this time receive the bread, cracker, or that which you are using as the body of Christ)

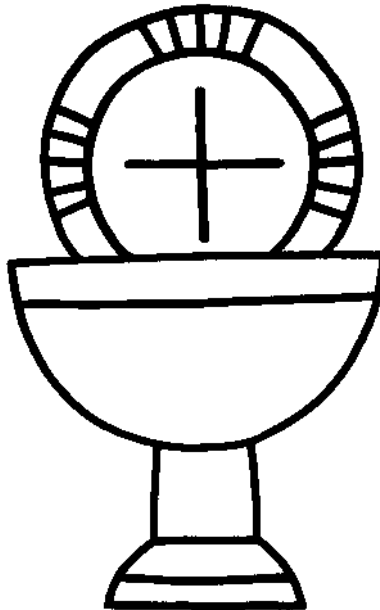
Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

(At this time receive the wine, juice, water, or that which you are using as the blood of Christ)

Communion Music:

“Laudate Dominum”

- Mozart



Please Stand

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: Amen.

The Post-Communion Prayer:

Pastor: We thank you, generous God,
for the refreshment we have received
at your banquet table.
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: Amen.



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - `ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

The Benediction:

Pastor: 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.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, † and of the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: Amen.

Closing Hymn:

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

The Dismissal:

Pastor: Go in peace to share the life, love, and joy of Jesus Christ with all.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

HELP US KEEP THE PRAYER LIST CURRENT:

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list please contact the church office at office-assist.splh@gmail.com or simply use the Prayer Request Form that can be found on the church website.

Please remember in your prayers those members, family and friends on our prayer list:

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Tomas Burka | Isabel Hyczko | Bernadette Pence |
| Chad Caparo | Ted Hyczko | Leigh Richard |
| The Chamberlain Family | Sharon Killough | Ursula Schwartz |
| Debbie Davis | Betty Jane Knittel | Steve Schultz |
| Marge Devitt | The Langerfield Family | The Soo Lee Family |
| Cooper Durham | Rose Letouille | Karen Specos |
| Hunter Durham | Maryanne Lorenzon | Karen Speers |
| Robert Emberger | Melissa Mooran | Jackie Strauss |
| Walt Humm | The Neborak Family | Teresa Weber |
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Support St. Peter's with RaiseRight (formerly ShopWithScrip)!!

RaiseRight (formerly Shop-
WithScrip) has been in opera-
tion at St. Peter's since
2007. So far, the RaiseRight
program has contributed

\$39,600.00 to St. Peter's. This

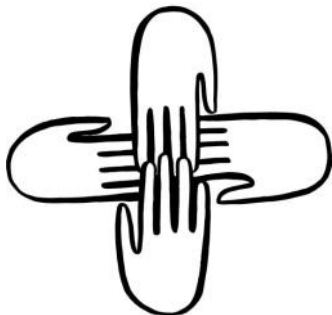
includes \$2,100.00 raised in 2022. When someone buys RaiseRight cards, they pay the face value of the card and they get the face value of the card. St. Peter's receives a percentage of that face value from RaiseRight. The customer doesn't need to do anything except purchase the cards. The "donation" part of the process is all done behind the scenes.

Gift card purchases through RaiseRight don't have to be hundreds of dollars - \$5 and \$10 cards are available and all amounts help pay down the church mortgage. Download the RaiseRight app, sign up (our Enrollment Code is 7B43336F15851) and be part of something impactful for St. Peter's. Or, visit Jane Stettler at the front door of the church before or after the service. You can also contact Jane and she will send you a sign-up email to walk you through the process.



RaiseRight.

Formerly ShopWithScrip



Volunteer!

We are looking for people to help out everywhere!!!

We are looking for folks to help out as Worship

Assistants, to help lead us in song as part of the choir or as an instrumentalist, to help with Finance, Property, Worship & Music, Sunday School, Cemetery Care, Social Ministry, Prayer Shawl

Ministry, Prayer Team, our Audio/Visual elements on Sunday morning, and pretty much anything else you can think of! If you are willing to help serve as a Communion Assistant, Usher, or Greeter

please use the link below or use the sign-up available in the church narthex. If you are interested in helping with any of our ministries please contact Pastor Suloff. Don't worry, you're not signing up for a lifetime or a bunch of long meetings, just a willingness to help out when you can, where you can, in a place you are passionate about!

Worship has ended, let the service begin!



St. Peter's Statement of Welcome

All people are created by God. We affirm with the apostle Paul, that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one. In keeping with our mission statement “to share the life, love and joy of Jesus Christ with others”, we welcome all people regardless of characteristics which might cause exclusion or discrimination outside of St. Peter's.

We affirm that all people share the worth that comes from being unique individuals created by God. All people are welcome within the membership of this congregation upon making the same affirmation of faith as all other members make. Members of this congregation are expected and encouraged to share in the sacramental and general life of this congregation.

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