

# Calendar for this week:

Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 9 am worship at St. Peter's followed by the Town Hall meeting

Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, Staff meeting at 9 am Location TBD

Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm God's Work, Our Hands and Stewards, Angels in Ministry at St. John's Windish

Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Group at 7 am via zoom and Christian Service Workers at LoC at 9 am

Thursday, August 12 at 7 pm Walking Group at Riverview Park in Easton

Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>: Livestream worship available beginning at 4:45 pm on Facebook

Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> worship at 9 am at the Lutheran Center with fellowship after worship

Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> Youth Volleyball on the Lawn and Ice Cream Party at LoC

!



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2021**

**11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**9:00 AM - Holy Communion at  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church**

*The Rev. Mike Button, Interim Pastor*

Pastor's Email: mikebutton52@gmail.com

*The Rev. Suzanne M. Trump, Pastor of SJW*  
Pastor's Email: [strump@ptd.net](mailto:strump@ptd.net)

*Ministers: All Members of the Parish*



*CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT OUR WORSHIP*

## **INTRODUCTION**

*Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.*

**~~~~THE GATHERING~~~**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE HYMNS (*livestream only*)**

**Bread of Life from Heaven (ELW 474)**

Refrain

Bread of life from heaven,  
your blood and body given,  
we eat this bread and drink this cup  
until you come again.

1 Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice;  
giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.  
Eat, all of you, and be satisfied;  
in Christ's presence the loaves will abound. Refrain

2 Seek not the food that will pass away;  
set your hearts on the food that endures.  
Come, learn the true and the living way,  
that the fullness of life may be yours. Refrain

3 Love as the one who, in love for you,  
gave himself for the life of the world.  
Come to the one who is food for you,  
that your hunger and thirst be no more. Refrain

4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you;  
make your home in the lifegiving Word.  
Know only Christ, Holy One of God,  
and believe in the truth you have heard. Refrain

*times it feels like our lives are reduced to a statistic or a political party affiliation.*

*The crowds following Jesus knew who they were, and they thought they knew exactly who Jesus was too. They knew who his ancestors were, and they knew the stories of faith they all shared.*

*After all, Jesus was the neighbor boy—the carpenter's son. They had known him since he was just a kid. He was a simple Galilean peasant. He walked the same streets, fished in the same waters, and ate the same food as the rest of them.*

*And yet, he dared to claim a different identity: he was the bread of life, the living bread come down from heaven. His roots were not just in this rocky terrain of the Middle Eastern soil, but in the God of the cosmos.*

*This is not what God was supposed to look like. This is not the powerful king they were waiting for. This was just Mary and Joseph's son. He was supposed to be one of them!*

*But this is the great mystery of our faith: God cannot be reduced to an algorithm or a stereotype. God dwells in the people we least expect, in the most ordinary places, in people scandalously like us and outrageously different than us. God abides with us, defying our expectations, challenging our self-proclaimed identities by offering us the bread of life in Jesus Christ. In this holy bread, we are given a new identity more powerful and enduring than any other in this world: child of God, beloved and whole; in God, of God, and with God for all of eternity. Thanks be to God.*

\* \* \* \* \*

*From sundaysandseasons.com.*

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3 You gave me all I wanted;  
this food can death destroy.  
And you have freely granted  
the cup of endless joy.

My Lord, I do not merit  
the favor you have shown;  
and all my soul and spirit  
bow down before your throne.

4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened  
with heav'nly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened,  
to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you  
where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you  
glad songs in endless joy.

#### **DISMISSAL**

A: *Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

#### **POSTLUDE: RONDEAU- MOURET**

#### **GOSPEL MESSAGE: A New Identity**

*In an increasingly polarized world, demographics are everything. Many of us rely on information about a person's hometown, family, alma mater, or workplace to make assumptions about their politics, social concerns, or lifestyle. Internet algorithms make inferences based on our age, gender, and relationship status to market products, services, or ideas to us. At*

5 Drink of this cup and declare his death;  
eat this bread and believe Easter morn;  
trust his return and, with ev'ry breath,  
praise the one in whom you are reborn. Refrain

#### ***I Received the Living God (ELW 477)***

*Refrain*

*I received the living God,  
and my heart is full of joy.  
I received the living God,  
and my heart is full of joy.*

*1 Jesus said: I am the bread,  
kneaded long to give you life;  
you who will partake of me  
need not ever fear to die. Refrain*

*2 Jesus said: I am the way,  
and my Father longs for you;  
so I come to bring you home  
to be one with us anew. Refrain*

*3 Jesus said: I am the truth;  
come and follow close to me.  
You will know me in your heart,  
and my word shall make you free. Refrain*

*4 Jesus said: I am the life,  
far from whom no thing can grow,  
but receive this living bread,  
and my Spirit you shall know. Refrain*

## **O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts (ELW 658)**

1 O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,  
the fount of life, the light of all:  
from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts  
we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

2 We taste you, ever-living bread,  
and long to feast upon you still;  
we drink of you, the fountainhead;  
our thirsting souls from you we fill.

3 For you our restless spirits yearn,  
where'er our changing lot is cast;  
glad, when your smile on us you turn,  
blest, when by faith we hold you fast.

4 O Jesus, ever with us stay!  
Make all our moments fair and bright!  
Oh, chase the night of sin away!  
Shed o'er the world your holy light.

## **Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises (ELW 535)**

Refrain

*Hallelujah!* We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.

*Hallelujah!* We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness. Repeat

1 Christ the Lord to us said:  
*I am wine, I am bread,*  
*I am wine, I am bread,*  
*give to all who thirst and hunger.* Refrain

2 Now he sends us all out,  
strong in faith, free of doubt,

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **~~~THE SENDING~~~**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

*The assembly stands as able.*

### **BLESSING**

*P:* *The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.*

*C: Amen*

## **SENDING SONG: O Living Bread from Heaven (ELW 542)**

1 O living Bread from heaven,  
how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given  
have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing!  
O cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
in thankful song o'er flows.

2 My Savior, you have led me  
within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me  
with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given  
what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven,  
that now I shall not die.

*The body of Christ, given for you.*

*The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

*and each person may respond "Amen."*

*Please take note: If you are abstaining from receiving Holy Communion, please utilize this time of silence to share the following prayer.*

**C: I believe that You are truly present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I always desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim Your resurrection. I love You above all things, and long for You in my soul.**

**Since I cannot receive You in the sacrament of Your Body and Blood, I implore You to come into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with Your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from You. May I live in You and You in me, in this life and in the life that is to come. Amen.**

Based on a prayer from: *The Prayer Book for the Armed Forces* (1988)

*The assembly stands as able*

#### **TABLE BLESSING**

**P:** *The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

**C: Amen**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A:** *Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.*

**C: Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*strong in faith, free of doubt.  
Tell to all the joyful gospel. Refrain*

#### **WELCOME: Pr. Mike**

#### **PRELUDE: Schmucke, Dich O liebe Seele**

**- Johannes Brahms**

*The assembly stands as able.*

*All may make the sign of the cross  $\text{\textcircled{X}}$ , the sign marked at baptism.*

#### **CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** *Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\text{\textcircled{X}}$  one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.*

**C: Amen.**

**P:** *Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin. God, our provider,*

**C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

**P:** *Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus,  $\text{\textcircled{X}}$  the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.*

**C: Amen**

## **GATHERING SONG**

### **GATHERING SONG Dearest Jesus, at Your Word (ELW 520)**

1 Dearest Jesus, at your word  
we have come again to hear you;  
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred  
and in glowing faith be near you  
as the promises here given  
draw us wholly up to heaven.

2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight  
lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
till your Spirit breaks the night,  
filling us with light unclouded.  
All good thoughts and all good living  
come but by your gracious giving.

3 Radiance of God's glory bright,  
Light of light from God proceeding,  
Jesus, send your blessed light;  
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,  
that our prayers and songs may please you,  
as with grateful hearts we praise you.

4 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
praise to you and adoration!  
Grant us what we need the most:  
all your gospel's consolation  
while we here on earth await you,  
till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

## **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.

*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.*

*Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.*

**C: Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**C: 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.**

~~~COMMUNION~~~

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

The assembly is seated.

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE**

**P:** 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:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**C: 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. Hosanna in the highest.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**P:** Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**AA:** Let us pray. Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

### **~~~~~THE WORD~~~~~**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### **FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:4-8**

First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

**A:** A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Kings:

<sup>4</sup>[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."<sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."<sup>6</sup>He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again.<sup>7</sup>The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."<sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 34:1-8 (read responsively)**

A: <sup>1</sup>I will bless the Lord at all times;  
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

C: <sup>2</sup>**I will glory in the Lord;**  
**let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

A: <sup>3</sup>Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;  
let us exalt God's name together.

C: <sup>4</sup>**I sought the Lord, who answered me**  
**and delivered me from all my terrors.**

A: <sup>5</sup>Look upon the Lord and be radiant,  
and let not your faces be ashamed.

C: <sup>6</sup>**I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me**  
**and saved me from all my troubles.**

A: <sup>7</sup>The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the  
Lord and delivers them.

C: <sup>8</sup>**Taste and see that the Lord is good;**  
**happy are they who take refuge in God!**

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:25--5:2**

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

A: A reading from Ephesians:

<sup>25</sup>So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup>Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup>Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup>Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling

## **C: hear our prayer.**

P: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## **~~~~~THE MEAL~~~~~**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**A:** Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

For the church of Christ in all its diverse forms. For mission developers, new mission starts, and all communities of faith exploring new models of ministry for the sake of the gospel. For congregations facing difficult decisions about their future. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** For the health and well-being of creation. For shade trees that provide refuge from the hot summer sun. For lakes, rivers, and oceans contaminated by pollution and all who lack clean water. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** For those called to positions of authority in our legal system, we pray. For judges, lawyers, law clerks, and court employees who ensure the fair administration of justice. For corrections officers and prison chaplains, that they would deal mercifully with those who are incarcerated. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** For all who cry out to you in their affliction. For exiles, refugees, and others who face long and difficult journeys, uncertain about the future. For all who mourn the death of a loved one. For all who are sick (especially). God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** For this assembly gathered around your table, we pray. For those among us who bake bread and prepare the vessels for our communion celebration. For those who bring the food from this table to those who are homebound or hospitalized. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**A:** For those who have been raised to eternal life, we give thanks. With all the saints we praise you for the bread of life that keeps us in your love forever. God, in your mercy,

and slander, together with all malice,<sup>32</sup> and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.<sup>5:1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,<sup>2</sup> and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**A: The word of the Lord.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S CHAT: Pr. Mike**

The Assembly stands as able.

## **HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:35, 41-51**

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

**P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 6<sup>TH</sup> chapter.**

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to [the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty....<sup>41</sup>Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."<sup>42</sup>They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?"<sup>43</sup>Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life."<sup>48</sup>I am

*the bread of life.* <sup>49</sup>Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

P: The gospel of the lord.

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

The assembly is seated.

**SERMON: PR. MIKE**

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands as able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness (ELW 488)**

1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,  
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
come into the daylight's splendor,  
there with joy your praises render.  
Bless the one whose grace unbounded  
this amazing banquet founded;  
Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy,  
deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

2 Hasten as a bride to meet him,  
eagerly and gladly greet him.  
There he stands already knocking;  
quickly, now, your gate unlocking,  
open wide the fast-closed portal,

saying to the Lord immortal:  
"Come, and leave your loved one never;  
dwell within my heart forever."

3 Now in faith I humbly ponder  
over this surpassing wonder  
that the bread of life is boundless  
though the souls it feeds are countless;  
with the choicest wine of heaven  
Christ's own blood to us is given.  
Oh, most glorious consolation,  
pledge and seal of my salvation.

4 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,  
truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
peace beyond all understanding,  
joy into all life expanding:  
humbly now, I bow before you,  
love incarnate, I adore you;  
worthily let me receive you,  
and, so favored, never leave you.

**APOSTLES' CREED**

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**