
After the altar candles are lit, we invite you to observe a time of silence to prepare your hearts for worship and to come before God in prayer.

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him! Habakkuk 2:20

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Light the Fire (Bill Maxwell) (FMSB pg. 75)

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

After a prayer, children ages 4 through 5th grade are dismissed for Children's Chapel. Children under age 4 may attend with a parent or be cared for in the nursery.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR 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.

SONG OF PRAISE

Sanctuary (John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs) (FMSB p. 97)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The People sit.

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way.

²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines

made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ ²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 66:7-18

⁷Bless our God, you peoples; *

make the voice of his praise to be heard,

⁸Who holds our souls in life, *

and will not allow our feet to slip.

⁹For you, O God, have proved us; *

you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹⁰You brought us into the snare; *

you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *

but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹²I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *

which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *

I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁴Come and listen, all you who fear God, *

and I will tell you what he has done for me.

¹⁵I called out to him with my mouth, *

and his praise was on my tongue.

¹⁶If I had found evil in my heart, *

the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁷But in truth God has heard me; *

he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

¹⁸Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *

nor withheld his love from me.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

A Reading from the First letter of Peter.

¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE

Wonderful Counselor (Unknown Author) (FMSB pg. 131)

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Sarah Minton

THE 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Please kneel or stand, as best helps you to pray.)*

Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of God's praise to be heard, saying, "We call out to you with our mouths; *your praise is on our tongues.*"

Lord Christ, you have not left us orphaned, but have given your Church an Advocate. May that same Holy Spirit teach us to keep your commandments and comfort us with divine love.

Silence

We call out to you with our mouths; *Your praise is on our tongues.*

Loving God, bless the suffering. May those who suffer for doing good find a friend in Christ Jesus. May those who suffer from disasters beyond their control find you attentive to the voice of their prayers.

Silence

We call out to you with our mouths; *Your praise is on our tongues.*

Lord of heaven and earth, you made the world and everything in it. You give to all mortals life and breath and all things. May we be faithful stewards of all you have created.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

We call out to you with our mouths; *Your praise is on our tongues.*

Merciful Lord, bless the people of this city with a spirit of gentleness and reverence. May we be set free from fear to live, instead, in hope.

Silence

We call out to you with our mouths; *Your praise is on our tongues.*

God, you are not far from each one of us. You love us as your children. Reveal your love, especially this day, to the sick and sorrowful.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence

We call out to you with our mouths; *Your praise is on our tongues.*

Heavenly Father, you hold our souls in life. You have saved us in baptism. Because your Son Jesus lives so do we rejoice in the hope of unending life in you.

Silence

We call out to you with our mouths; *Your praise is on our tongues.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

COMMISSIONING OF VESTRY MEMBERS

Celebrant Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Today we especially recognize and affirm the ministries for which persons in our congregation and parish have offered themselves, giving thanks for those who have served in the past year, for those who will continue to serve, and for those who will begin to serve in the multiple offices that are critical to the function of our parish.

Celebrant We have elected the following people to serve on the Vestry; Annette Bell, Kevin Green, Emily Haas, Jayne Jeney, Diane LoCastro, Kathy McLean, John Myers, Ted Pappas, Laura Lee Skillman, Trey Warren, and Diane Woodside.

Celebrant Do you affirm that it is your will that these persons represent this church on the Vestry?

People **It is.**

Members of the new Vestry are invited to approach the altar for the commissioning of the Vestry.

Celebrant You have been called to serve on the Vestry. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this service, perform it with care, to the honor of God and the benefit of the church?

People **I will with God's help.**

The congregation promises to uphold those who are commissioned.

Celebrant Will you uphold these Vestry members in prayer and support them in their ministry?

People **We will with God's help.**

All Vestry members are invited to kneel as they are able for a blessing.

Celebrant In the name of God Almighty (+), the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost, and on behalf of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, I hereby commission these individuals to serve as a Vestry member of St. St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

A concluding prayer if offered.

Celebrant Let us pray. Blessed are you, gracious God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. In every age you call people to minister in your name and for your mission. Look with favor upon the members of the Vestry and all lay ministers whom you have called. May the work of these your servants build up your church, and may we celebrate your grace and love our city for the glory of your name now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Vestry now faces the congregation and is greeted with applause.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

The Celebrant says

“Jesus said, ‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the word will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.’”

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

A Living Prayer (Ron Block) (FMSB pg. 3)

DOXOLOGY (*verse 3 only*)

From all that dwell below the skies (Old 100th) (H 380)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

(Fran McKendree)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory Lord we sing your praise
Hosanna in the Highest Hosanna in the Highest
Hosanna in the Highest Lord we sing your praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of power and might
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the Highest Hosanna in the Highest
Hosanna in the Highest Lord we sing your praise.

The People stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

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,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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 [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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,
Our Father (Steve Croskey and Tim Smith) (FMSB pg. 91)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

We welcome you to receive the true presence of Jesus in this Holy Communion. Come forward to the altar rail and kneel or stand with an upturned palm to receive the bread. (Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.) To receive the wine, you may either drink from the chalice or intinct (dip) your bread carefully in the chalice. If you'd prefer not to receive communion, but would like to receive a blessing, kneel or stand at the altar rail with your arms crossed over your chest. Please do not hesitate to ask for communion to be brought to you in your pew.

Notify an usher, who will let the clergy know to assist you.

COMMUNION HYMN *More Precious Than Silver (Lynn DeShazo/Pete Sanchez, Jr.) (FMSB pg. 81)*

COMMUNION HYMN *Breathe (Marie Barnett) (FMSB pg. 18)*

COMMUNION HYMN *God Is For Us (Unknown Author) (FMSB pg. 40)*

COMMUNION HYMN *Amazing Grace (John Newton) (FMSB pg. 8)*

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant In the Name of Christ and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People We who are many are one body, as we share one bread, one cup. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING

Celebrant The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

CLOSING PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Shout to the Lord (Darlene Zschech) (FMSB pg. 101)

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

† † †

*The flowers on the Altar are given by Martin Wilson
to the glory of God and in loving memory of his mother, Ada Wilson.*

† † †

Today's loose plate offering will be donated to Micah's Place in honor of Mother's Day.

† † †

Celebrant
The Reverend Rachel McElwee
Preacher
The Reverend Sarah Minton
Eucharistic Ministers
Jordan Barlow, Melanie Grimley
Lector
Michael Broussard
Intercessor
Joanne Roach

Greeters
Cathy & Fred Eichmann
Acolyte Team Blue
Children's Chapel Leaders
Ellen Blair, Katy Schewee-Blair
Ushers
Michael Broussard, Steve Sell

Vestry Person of the Service
Diane Woodside
Videographer
Ken Saitow
Others Serving Today
Lisa Saitow, *Bread Baker*
Gordon Hart and Joanne Roach,
Flower Ministry
Altar Guild Team 4 | Breakfast Team 6

