

January 18, 2026  
2nd Sunday after Epiphany



**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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**Facebook** – St. Peter Lutheran ELCA, Ft. Myers Beach  
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**Streaming – Sunday Service 9:00 am** on  
**YouTube** - St Peter Lutheran Church Ft Myers Beach FL  
**In cooperation with Chapel by the Sea Presbyterian Church  
and former Beach United Methodist Church**

*Throughout the service  
the congregation reads aloud the bold print*

## **Prelude/Gathering Music**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

We gather and worship 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 thoughts 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.

Most Merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage 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!**

Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us and, for His sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

# For All the Saints

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
 2 You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
 3 Oh, may your sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and bold,  
 7 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the  
 8 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through

all who by faith cap - tain fore in the world con - fessed,  
 you, Lord, their saints who no - bly well - fought fight;  
 fight as the saints . . . tri - um - phant in the fought of old  
 saints . . . of pearl streams in bright ar - ray;  
 gates . . . of Fa - ther, in the count - less host,

your name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.  
 and you, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.  
 win with them the vic - tor's crown of gold.  
 the King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.  
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

4 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine,  
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,  
 6 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west;

we steals fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine;  
 soon, soon to ear - ful dis - tant tri - umph song,  
 soon, soon to faith - ful war - riors comes their rest;

yet and all are the one brave with - in your great de - sign.  
 hearts sweet are is the calm a - gain and arms are the strong.  
 are is the calm of par - a - dise are the blest.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**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**

### Prayer of the Day

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly  
6 Ghost; As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and ev - er  
10 shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

## Call to Worship from Psalm 40

<sup>1</sup> I waited patiently upon the LORD,  
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

**<sup>2</sup> The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

**<sup>4</sup> Happy are they who trust in the LORD!**

**They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

<sup>5</sup> Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

**<sup>6</sup> Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

<sup>7</sup> And so I said, "Here I am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

**<sup>8</sup> 'I love to do your will, O my God;  
your law is deep within me.'**

<sup>9</sup> I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

**<sup>10</sup> I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

<sup>11</sup> You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me

*The first reading is from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter*

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**PLEASE STAND FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>29</sup> [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup> He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon – Pastor Tom Frey**

# Lift High the Cross

*Refrain*

Music notation for the first section of the hymn. The top staff is in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till.

Music notation for the second section of the hymn. The top staff is in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are: all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Music notation for the third section of the hymn. The top staff is in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are: 1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod, 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Music notation for the fourth section of the hymn. The top staff is in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are: our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God. bear on their hast brows the Cru - ci - fied seal of him who died. as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee. praise to the prom - ised, draw us for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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Let us affirm our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed

**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 Christian church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

(Congregation will respond to each petition with  
**Receive our prayer**)

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## **Offering & Special Music**

Choir offering – Precious Lord, Take My Hand

### **Offering Prayer**

God of glory, great are your wonders among us  
and many are the blessings you bestow.  
Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,  
that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,  
through Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

#### **Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

**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 away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## **Invitation to Communion**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

All are welcome

### **PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

**Blessing** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his Grace.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.

May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence.

Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen**

### **Benediction**

As you go on your way,  
May God go with you!

May He go before you..to show you the way;

May He go behind you...to encourage you;

Beside you...to befriend you;

Above you...to watch over you;

And within you...to give you His Peace!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

God of endings and beginnings,  
God in the darkness and the light,

God, our hope for the journey,

☩ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

## "Go Now in Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen, Amen, Amen

Go in peace. Serve the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERVING TODAY

Pastor	Rev. Tom Frey
Worship Assistant	Paul Gresham
Organist/Choir Director	Carl Lauderma
Flautist	Courtney Eckmann
Ushers	Mark & Becky Lommen
Digital Ministry Coordinator	Deacon Lisa Miller

**SCAN IN ORDER TO MAKE YOUR OFFERING ONLINE!**

