



The Confession of St. Peter January 18, 2026 (Setting 3)

Losing Ourselves in the Confession of the One Name of Salvation

St. Peter speaks for all disciples when he confesses, "*You are the Christ*" (Mark 8:29). This confession is the bedrock of the Church, which Christ Himself builds (Matt. 16:18), for "*this Jesus*," the stone rejected by earthly builders, "*has become the cornerstone*" (Acts 4:11). This was a scandal even to Peter. The Christ must suffer, be rejected, be killed, "*and after three days rise again*" (Mark 8:31), for through this work of salvation received by faith, God's "precious

and very great promises" are granted, "*so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature*" (2 Peter 1:4). Wherever Jesus is the Christ, His disciples deny themselves, take up their crosses and follow Him (Mark 8:34). They have been cleansed from their former sins and increase in faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection and love, effective and fruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:5-9). All who trust in Jesus, the Christ of Peter's confession, will save their life, though for His sake they lose it (Mark 8:35). "*For there is no other name ... by which we must be saved*" (Acts 4:12)

Welcome

We are thankful you have joined us today!

Hymn

Christ is Our Cornerstone | **912**

Entrance Psalm

[Psalm 118:19-29]

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the
LORD.

**This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Save us, we pray, O LORD!

O LORD, we pray, give us success!

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine
upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the
horns of the altar!

**You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the
Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [Matt 28:19b; 18-20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart
and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching
Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us
forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

[Hebrews 10:22]

who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. [Psalm 32:5]

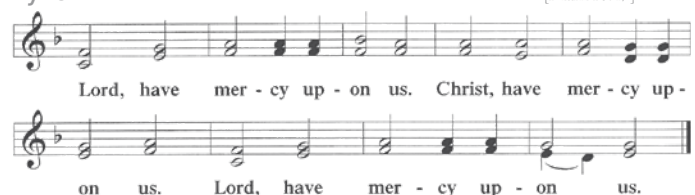
Quiet time for self-examination and confession.

O almighty God, merciful Father, **I, a poor, miserable
sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities
with which I have ever offended You and justly
deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But
I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of
them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and
for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings
and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be
gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a
called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the
grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the
command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your
sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the
Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

Kyrie

[Mark 10:47]



Gloria [Luke 2:14; John 1:29]

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only - begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray... *[silence for individual prayer]* Heavenly Father, You revealed to the apostle Peter the blessed truth that Your Son Jesus is the Christ. Strengthen us by the proclamation of this truth that we too may joyfully confess that there is salvation in no one else; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The First Reading is from Acts.

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and

to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus." [Acts 4:8-13]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading is from Second Peter.

Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. [2 Peter 1:1-15]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Holy Gospel singing:

Al-le-lu - ia. Al-le-lu - ia. Al-le-lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark:

Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the

prophets.” And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power.” [Mark 8:27-9:1]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Our Confession of Faith

Please stand to confess the Nicene Creed printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Please sit.

Children’s Message

[Mark 10:14-16; Matt 19:14; Luke 18:16-17]

The children are invited forward for a message led by Pastor Fitch.

Hymn

At the Name of Jesus | 512

Sermon

Litany of Thanksgiving for those who work in the Church
Installation of the 2026 Church Servants

Gathering of the Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay

Please stand.



Offertory Hymn



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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert.

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,

bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The 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. [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

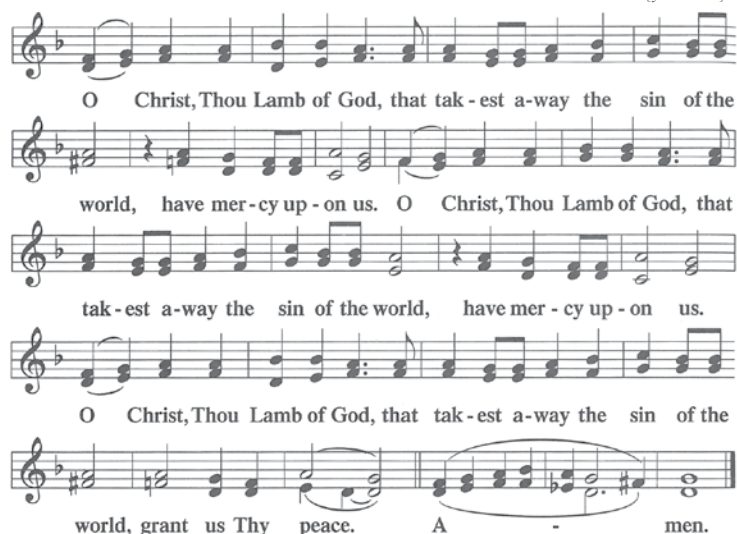
In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

[Mt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** [John 20:19]

Lamb of God

[John 1:29]



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

Hymns

Come Follow Me, the Savior Spake | **688**

The Church's One Foundation | **644**

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Post Communion Prayer

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
and His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Salutation and Benedicamus

[1 Timothy 4:22]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Bless we the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

[Numbers 6:24-26]

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and give you + peace. **Amen, amen, amen.**

Hymn

We Are Called to Stand Together | **828**

Passing of the Lord's peace

Postlude

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Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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