

THE CONFSSION OF SAINT PETER

January 18, 2026

Peter's confession, that Jesus of Nazareth is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," is rock solid. Jesus is the stone rejected by the builders that has become the cornerstone. The psalmist celebrates God as "my rock in whom I put my trust." Paul refers to the Christ as the "spiritual rock" that followed the children of Israel in the wilderness. Even the Greek word "petros," from which Peter's name comes, means stone. We gather each week to confess and honor "the Son of the living God" as our rock and salvation.

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in D Major

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be God – Father, ♦ Son, and Holy Spirit – who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, the whole company of heaven, and our sisters and brothers in this community.

silence for reflection

P: Holy and gracious God,

C: **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have lived only for the present, without regard for generations to come. We have sought the realms of this world, rather than your promised reign of justice and peace. Have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: How blessed are those whose sins are forgiven. In the mercy of almighty God, I announce to you the entire forgiveness of your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the ♦ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

ENTRANCE RITE

Entrance Hymn

Glories of Your Name Are Spoken

1 Glo - ries of your name are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring-ing from e - ter - nal love,
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov -'ring, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a mem - ber am,

he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed you for his own a - bode.
well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move.
for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near.
let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in your name.



On the Rock of A - ges found-ed, what can shake your sure re - pose?
Who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage?
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Fad - ing are the world-lings' plea-sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show;



With sal - va - tion's walls sur-round-ed, you may smile at all your foes.
Grace which, like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809

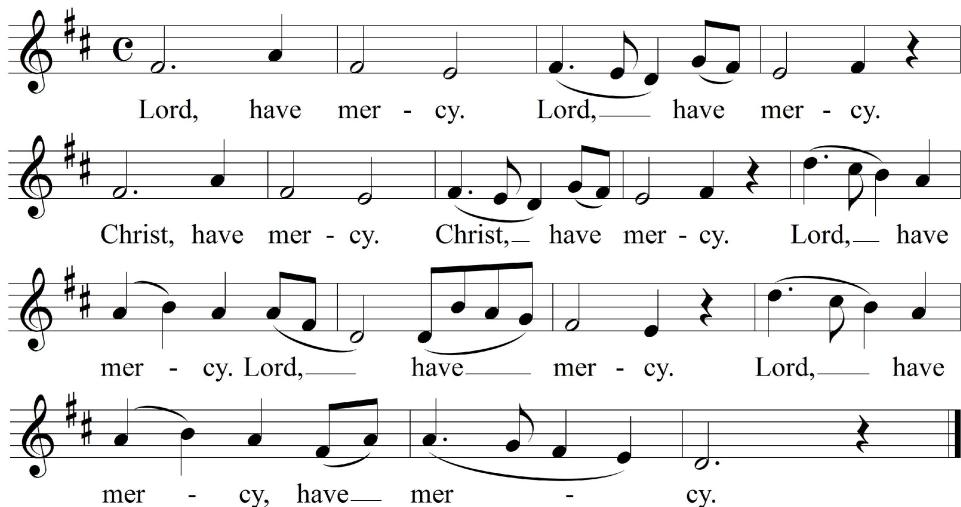
Apostolic Greeting

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.**

Kyrie

(sung in unison)



Hymn of Praise



1. Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
2. Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3. Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Salutation and Prayer of the Day



P: The Lord be with you. C: And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty God, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah and Son of the living God. Keep your Church firm on the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson - Acts 4:8-13

Peter, though an uneducated fisherman, is given the gift of the Spirit enabling him to proclaim to the Jewish leaders that the crucified Jesus has become the risen Savior.

⁸Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to the authorities, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

“the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.”

¹²“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.” ¹³Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 18:1-7, 17-20

(sung in unison)

This psalm is a royal hymn of praise to thank God for saving David from his enemies.

¹I love you, O ¹LORD my strength,

O LORD my stronghold, my crag, ¹and my haven.

²My God, my rock in whom I ¹put my trust,

my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge: You are worth- ¹y of praise.

³I will call up- ¹on the LORD,

and so shall I be saved ¹from my enemies.

⁴The breakers of death rolled ¹over me,

and the torrents of oblivion made ¹me afraid.

⁵The cords of hell en- | tangled me,
 and the snares of death were | set for me.
⁶I called upon the LORD in | my distress
 and cried out to my | God for help.
⁷He heard my voice from his heav- | enly dwelling;
 my cry of anguish came | to his ears.
¹⁷He reached down from on | high and grasped me;
 he drew me out | of great waters.
¹⁸He delivered me from my strong enemies and from those who | hated me,
 for they were too might- | y for me.
¹⁹They confronted me in the day of | my disaster;
 but the LORD was | my support.
²⁰He brought me out into an | open place;
 he rescued me because he delight- | ed in me.

Second Lesson - 1 Corinthians 10:1–5

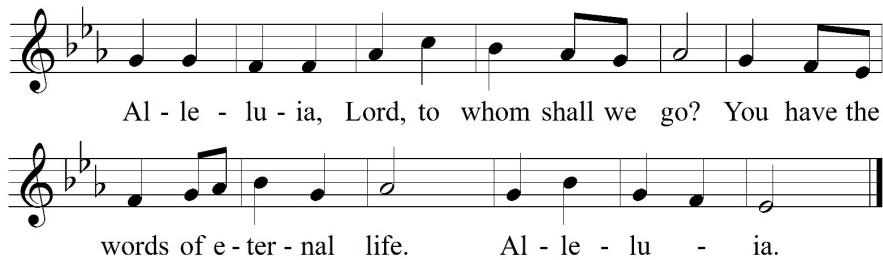
In this part of the letter, Paul is establishing a comparison between the events following the exodus from Egypt and the followers of the risen Christ. Passing through the sea equates to Holy Baptism, manna and water from the rock to Holy Communion. Jesus the Christ, then, is the new Moses.

¹I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse



Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

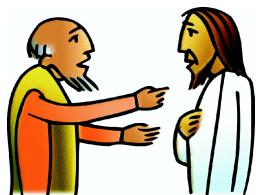
Holy Gospel - Matthew 16:13-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

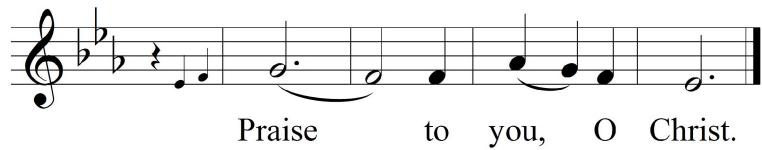
Jesus of Nazareth had been teaching, healing, working miracles, and generating opposition. But did his closest followers understand who he was? Peter, under the guidance of the Spirit, spoke his great confession of faith, one that continues to define our understanding of the Christ.



¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the

gates of Hades will not prevail against it.¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor Roberts

silence for reflection

Hymn of the Day

By All Your Saints in Warfare

The Confession of St. Peter



1 By all your saints in war - fare, for all your saints at rest,
2 Praise for your great a - pos - tle so eag - er and so bold,
3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther and wor - ship God the Son



thrice fall - ing, yet re - pen - tant, thrice charged to feed your fold.
and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



Lord, make your pas - tors faith - ful to guard your flock from harm,
till all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



and hold them when they wa - ver with your al - might - y arm.
as - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry and praise to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.
Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

The Creed

P: Using the words of our ancestors in the faith as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim the triune God whom we believe:

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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

The Prayers

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A: Build your Church upon a rock, gracious God. Let your forgiveness and salvation be spoken in every language and tongue. Bless missionaries and mission organizations as they accompany and empower communities in your name. Defend your Church against all peril. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: As you led your faithful people through cloud and sea, lead us into right relationship with the earth. May healing rains come to places of drought and gifts of sun and wind to flooded lands. May stormy seas be calmed and the face of the earth renewed. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Help us confront and disrupt the workings of greed, exploitation, and violence. Lead nations in doing justice and loving mercy. Empower us to show compassion to those who are imprisoned and liberate those who are held captive. Deliver us from the hands of those who would wish us harm. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: In Jesus the Christ, our salvation is revealed. Embrace any who are rejected or have lost their way. Release the anxious. Encourage the sick. Make your healing power known to those for whom we pray this day. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Reconcile us to one another, O God. Bring unity to your Church. Bring peace to our relationships. Teach us to show grace to one another. When we cause harm, give us humble hearts to confess our shortcomings and ask for forgiveness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We praise you for Peter and for all your faithful people who have proclaimed Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Make bold our confession of faith. Give us confidence that we, too, may know the fullness of your gift of salvation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen



LITURGY OF THE MEAL

The Peace

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

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offertory Anthem*Descend, O Heavenly Dove*Mark Schweizer
(1956-2019)

*Lord God, the Holy Ghost, In this accepted hour,
As on the day of Pentecost, Descend in all Thy power;
We meet with one accord In our appointed place,
And wait the promise of our Lord, By all adored, The Spirit of grace.
Descend, O heavenly Dove, abide with us alway,
And in the fullness of thy Love, come from above, And cleanse us, we pray.*

Offertory

Unison

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 un - to
me the joy of your sal - va - tion:
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. God our provider,

C: **you have not fed us with bread alone but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts which we receive from your bounty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**Great Thanksgiving

(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 him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface and Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might.
Heav-en and earth are full, full
of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**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 with our Risen Lord

Agnus Dei

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Re - deem - er, Re - deem - er of the world, give - us your peace.
give - us your peace.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on nothing less than
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
 Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

O Savior, Precious Savior



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,



O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;



we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,

we praise thee and confess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
 we praise thee and confess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
 we praise thee and confess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
 and ev - er - more confess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879
 Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929

Post-Communion Blessing

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

Post-Communion Hymn

Come with us, O bless-ed Je-sus, with us ev - er - more to be.
 And, in leav - ing now thine al-tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!
 Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho-rus nev - er cease the heav'n-ly strain;
 but in us, thy lov-ing chil-dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.
C: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit, strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Benediction

(P) Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and for-ever.
 (C) A-men, A-men, A - men, A-men, A - men.

Hymn

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



1. Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2. To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3. Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4. Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing-kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Prelude in D Major

Antonín Dvořák



The candles are given to the glory of God by Carol and Ken Barclay
in honor of Amanda Barclay's birthday.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday, January 18	8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube 11:45 a.m. Intermediate Youth (grades three - five) 4:30 p.m. Mission Trip Youth 5:00 p.m. Thomas Mass 6:00 p.m. Third Sunday Program
Monday, January 19	Church Office closed (Martin Luther King Day) 9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class 7:00 p.m. Connecting with God (via Zoom) - <i>Know God - Know Self</i>
Tuesday, January 20	1:00 p.m. Bible Study - <i>Romans</i> 5:40 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Church Council
Wednesday, January 21	12:10 p.m. Service of Holy Communion 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, January 22	9:00 a.m. Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.) 11:00 a.m. Discussion Group - <i>Living the Questions</i>
Friday, January 23	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class 11:00 a.m. Book Discussion Group - <i>Miracles and Wonders</i>
Sunday, January 25	8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube 1:00 p.m. Pastor's Information Class 4:00 p.m. Epiphany Procession Service (at St. John's Episcopal Church) 6:00 p.m. International Dinner

The hymns are reprinted by permission: OneLicense.net A-725273.

German Mass by Franz Peter Schubert, adapted by Richard Proulx. © Copyright 1985 and 1989 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago, Illinois. All rights reserved.
Used with permission.

Liturgy reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress Annual License SAS024905.

Our Mission: "To care actively in the name of Jesus Christ."

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1000 Langhorne Road
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503**

Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity

President: Deb Serio

Pastor: Dennis S. Roberts

Organist-Chairmaster: J. William Greene

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries:

Parish Administrator: Carol Dee Robertson

Susan H. Williams

Parish Nurse: Gail Midkiff

Sextons: Linda Woody and Patricia Wiggington

Church Office: 434-384-8441

email: office@holytrinitylynchburg.org

www.holytrinitylynchburg.org