

## Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

July 6, 2025

9:30 A.M.

### Theme of the Day

Peter declares that in Jesus, the Living Stone, we are like “living stones” being “built up as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ!”

### Call to Worship

“Salvation unto Us Has Come”

LSB 555, v.1

Salvation unto us has come By God’s free grace and favor;  
Good works cannot avert our doom, They help and save us never.  
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone;  
He is our one Redeemer.

### Welcome

### Hymn

“The Church’s One Foundation”

LSB 644

### Invocation

*(Please stand.)*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

Opening Sentences *Isaiah 66:10; 1 Peter 2:6; Luke 10:20*

**P** Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her;

**C** rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her.

**P** “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious,

**C** and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

**P** Do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you,

**C** but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.

Confession and Absolution *Psalms 32:5*

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.  
Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

#### Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray: Almighty God, You have built Your church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone.

**C** Build us as a spiritual house made of living stones, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to You through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 66:10–14

*(Please be seated.)*

“Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her; that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious abundance.”

For thus says the LORD: “Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip, and bounced upon her knees. As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bones shall flourish like the grass; and the hand of the LORD shall be known to his servants, and he shall show his indignation against his enemies.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### New Testament Reading 1 Peter 2:4-10

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they

disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 10:1–20

*(Please stand.)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

After this the Lord [Jesus] appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades.

"The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Creed

Nicene Creed

All: I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

*(Please be seated.)*

Sermon

“Living Stone(s)”

Pastor Keith Jones

Hymn of the Day

“Built on the Rock, the Church shall Stand”

LSB 645

## The Prayers of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Grant hopeful faith, Lord our God, to all who are not at peace this day.

**C** Give them strength to endure both national upheaval and internal stress as they await Your promised peace.

**P** Grant comfort and solace to all who mourn.

**C** Strengthen them to rely on our Savior's victory over death and the grave.

**P** Surround with caring individuals and relief agencies people who have lost home and income from flood and fire, storm and tempest.

**C** Open doors of opportunity that they may find the food, clothing, and shelter they need each day.

**P** Move people of faith to seek out the lonely and distressed, the poor and disenfranchised, O Holy Spirit.

**C** Awaken in Your servants the words they need to share and the action they need to take so that fellowship and joy may replace isolation and sorrow.

**P** Work through individuals and agencies to bring about the healing You have in mind for all who are sick, gracious God.

**C** Use the talents You have given them so that the people under their care may be restored in body, mind, and spirit, to praise Your gracious, holy name.

(Additional petitions are offered...)

**P** Finally, O Lord, remember those who have requested our prayers this day, [especially . . .]. As fits Your plans for them, visit and restore them in Your mercy.

**C** Grant these requests, we pray, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

+ Service of the Sacrament +

Preface

*(Please stand.)*

**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

- P** It is truly good, right, and proper 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. Together with angels and archangels and with all that rejoice in the courts of heaven we praise Your glorious name.

### Sanctus *Incorporating Isaiah 6:2–3; Revelation 4:8; Mark 11:9–10*

- P** We join the seraphim Isaiah saw: “Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:  
**C** ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!’”
- P** And we echo the four living creatures around the throne of which St. John wrote, “Day and night they never cease to say,  
**C** ‘Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!’”
- P** And we rejoice with the Palm Sunday crowds of whom St. Mark wrote, “Those who went before and those who followed . . . shouted,  
**C** ‘Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! . . . Hosanna in the highest!’”

### Lord’s Prayer

- P** Lord Jesus, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
All: 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.

### Words of Institution

- P** 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 His disciples saying, “Take, eat, this is My + body which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

After supper He took the cup and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, “Drink of it all of you. This is My + blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ    *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

Agnus Dei    *John 1:29*

**P** John the Baptist "saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'"

**C** Have mercy on us.

**P** Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** grant us Your peace. Amen.

The Distribution    *(Please be seated)*

*(...after the Communion, please stand...)*

Post-communion Canticle Luke 2:29–32

**P** When Simeon saw the baby Jesus in the temple, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

**C** "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel."

Benediction    *Numbers 6:24–26*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

Closing Hymn

"Rock of Ages"

*LSB 761*

## Silent Prayer

Lord Jesus, the chosen and precious Living Stone, there is no other Rock besides You. Like living stones being built up as a spiritual house, build me up so I may declare the praises of Him who called me out of darkness into His wonderful light. Amen.

+ + +

## Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.  
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For Next Week, read 1 Peter 2:11-25 and answer these questions:

1. In verse 11, Peter urges Christians to “abstain from the passions of the flesh.” What are “the passions of the flesh” and why should we abstain from them? (See Romans 13:13-14; Galatians 5:24; James 4:1ff.)
2. God has established the Church to bless His people and He has also established secular government for good order and a harmonious life. Christians are subjects of both kingdoms. According to verses 13-14, how do governing authorities accomplish good order and a harmonious life?
3. What is the result of Christians doing “good” according to verse 15? How are we to live according to verses 16 and 17?
4. How is a Christian to live in the face of injustice? What is the result of the Christians’ righteous living while they are suffering unjustly? (vv 18-19)
5. What example does Jesus provide when we are suffering for the sake of the Gospel? (vv 20-25)



Sermon Outline —Living Stones  
“Living Stone(s)”  
(1 Peter 2:4-10)

★ The L\_\_\_\_\_ Stone is Jesus

▶ God/Rock

- “The Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel.” (Genesis 49:24)
- “the rock in whom I take refuge.” (Psalm 94:22)
- “shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.” (Psalm 95:1)
- “Is there any God besides me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.” (Isaiah 44:8)

▶ N\_\_ Other R\_\_\_\_\_ But Jesus

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” (1Peter 2:6; cf. Isaiah 28:16)

▶ Peter – Cephas –Rock

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

★ Jesus: An e\_\_\_\_\_/o\_\_\_\_ Stone

“...but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone [Psalm 118:22],’ and, ‘A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense’ [Isaiah 8:14].” (1 Peter 2:7-8)

“They stumble because they d\_\_\_\_\_ the word, as they were d\_\_\_\_\_ to do.” (1 Peter 2:8)

★ Like L\_\_\_\_\_ Stones

“...you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 2:5)

▶ Chosen to Be B\_\_\_\_\_ -B\_\_\_\_\_

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” (1 Peter 2:9)

“Priest” – *pontifex* = *Bridge-builder*

▶ N\_\_\_\_\_ Who Have Become S\_\_\_\_\_

“Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” (1 Peter 2:10)