



Family of faith,
as you come to this place
—as you leave this place—
may God grant you
the curiosity to counter assumptions,
the vulnerability to befriend,
the bravery to speak your truth,
the wisdom to listen,
the strength to ask for help,
the resiliency to choose love
(even when it's hard),
and the awareness of the Holy Spirit
who is always beside you.
In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself.

st. john's

August 13, 2023

WELCOME

We are so happy you are with us. Please add your voice and heart to the prayers. Help others find a place and greet the person next to you as we prepare to worship together. Please stand and sit as you are comfortable.

I've been meaning to ask ...

Some of the best conversations start with good questions—questions we've been meaning to ask, questions that keep us curious, and questions that lead us deeper into courage and connection. On July 23, we began a series around four guiding questions: *"Where are you from? Where does it hurt? What do you need? Where do we go from here?"*

These questions aren't surface level; they invite us to tell our stories, share our pain, care for one another, and dream about a new way forward together.

Week 4: Where do we go from here?

This final question is not meant to be the end of the journey; instead, it creates openness to explore together what is next. It is contextual, designed for individuals, families, churches, and communities to discern how to move forward into something new.

While stepping into the next chapter, our hope is that we keep cultivating curiosity, asking questions, having conversations, and seeking connection in order to humanize and care for each other. Ultimately, this final question invites us to foster hope and imagination.

And, as this journey unfolds, **we wish to avoid glorifying a false sense of unity** that glosses over or ignores inequities and real harm done – we come from the garden, but it isn't a rose garden. We acknowledge how marginalized groups and individuals who've survived trauma are often urged to forgive and forget without accountability or repair; we want to avoid perpetuating this pattern. We trust you will be mindful of this dynamic during this series.

visiting scholar

The Episcopal Church in Wyoming welcomes **Mr. Peter Sabella**, a Palestinian Christian leader from the Holy Land, who will lead us in a discussion on how to walk the road to Emmaus in our daily lives. Mr. Sabella will broaden our understanding of historic Christianity and the unique role that Arab Christians play throughout the Holy Land and the Middle East.

Born as a Palestinian Christian in Jerusalem, Mr. Sabella brings the unique perspective of being both Palestinian and Israeli. He received his Master of Arts Degree in Peace and Development Studies from the University of Guttenberg in Sweden

and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Bethlehem University, which was the first university established in the West Bank.

Mr. Sabella is experienced as a licensed tour guide for pilgrim groups visiting the Holy Land and has previously worked with humanitarian missions throughout the West Bank and Gaza. He is the author of the book *Closed for Renovation: On the Road to Emmaus*, which has been published in both English and French.

On the Road to Emmaus Preconception, Revelation, and Proclamation

An Invitation from the Holy Land to walk the Road of Emmaus in our daily lives

August 29, 2023
7:00 PM

ST. JOHN'S
308 MOUNTAIN VIEW
POWELL, WY

More Info

Peter Sabella

Palestinian Christian, Biblical Scholar, Author and Middle East Specialist

The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

The poster features a photograph of Peter Sabella, a man with a beard and a scarf, standing in front of a dirt road that winds through a hilly, arid landscape. The text is overlaid on the image in various colors and fonts.

ministers

Altar Guild	Barb Roberts
Sound	Augusta Larsen
Greeter	Cynthia Garhart
Greeter	Megan Nickles
Worship Leader	Laura Greathouse
Reader	Kenny Allen
Reader	John Walsh
Preacher	Charlotte Patrick
Intercessor	Debora Smith
Presider	Susan McEvoy
Communion Server	Diana Anderson
Communion Server	Lynda Ramier
Communion Bread	Cynthia Garhart
Coffee Hour	Debora Smith and Sue Woods

prayer concerns

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Chile

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Christopher's, Cheyenne

Hugh B. & Marge; Lee & Kelly;
Hunter & Charlotte; Shirley & Deb;
Richard & Jennifer; Tim & Lynnae;
Robin & Mark; Margie & Josey;
Bobbi & Bentley; Bob & Charlotte;
Ann & Martha; Brandon & Diedre;
Rob R., Kathy E., Nelson, Tammy,
Rob K., Bobby B., Larry, Alex, Irene,
Nancy, Alan, Katy, Marlynn, Sue, Kahli,
Ron and Jane

Justin, Jacob, Patrick, Reece,
Coleman, Bryce and Nathan who
are serving in the military.

Josephine and Don who reside in
care centers.

celebrations

August Birthday: Tim Glatzer—13th, Izaiah Allen—15th, Hunter Patrick—19th

Mary Dillivan—19th

August Anniversary: Meg & Steve Nickles—19th

prelude

“Time after Time,” Eva Cassidy.

hymn



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and
3. Let us build a house where love is found in
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach be -
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their



all can safe - ly live. A place where saints and
words are strong and true. Where all God's chil - dren
wa - ter, wine and wheat; A ban - quet hall on
yond the wood and stone, To heal and strength - en,
songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for -
dare to seek to dream God's reign a -
ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice
serve and teach, and live the Word they've
taught and claimed as words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as
meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, is re -
known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger bear the
Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of

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faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall
 sym - bol of God's grace; Here as one we claim the
 vealed in time and space, As we share in Christ the
 im - age of God's face, Let us bring an end to
 faith and songs of grace. Let this house pro - claim from



end di - vi - sions:
 faith of Je - sus;
 feast that frees us; } All are wel - come, all are wel - come,
 fear and dan - ger:
 floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come in this place.

Gathering

In the beginning was the Word.

The Word was made flesh, and lives among us.

The Word asks "What do you need?

Where does it hurt? Who do you long to be?"

**The Word walked the earth speaking with the poor,
 the hungry, the lonely, and the outcast.**

Praise to God for this holy conversation.

Let us worship in truth and hope.

Today we are together.

Holy God, gather us in.

CONFESSIO

Let us make our confession to God.

Holy God,

Forgive us for giving up on the things that matter.

Forgive us for confusing a plateau with the mountain top.

Forgive us for taking the easy way out

**instead of doing the work of curiosity, relationship,
vulnerability, and connection.**

Inspire us to see new paths for where we can go from here.

With hope we pray,

Amen.

Family of faith, we are works in progress,

but we are works in progress

designed, created, and claimed by God.

Hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

Every day is a new day for love.

Thanks be to God for growth and for grace that knows no end.

Amen.

scripture readings

We sit.

It is good and pleasant when all God's people live in unity.

--Ps. 133:1

Loving God, draw near to us and join us together, that we may be one in you.

Help us to hear and carry forward your message of hospitality and healing.

A reading from ____.

After the reading

Word of God, word of promise.

Thanks be to God.

sermon

hymn *We sing twice.*

**Refrain*



Love one an - oth - er as I have loved you. Care for each
oth - er. I have cared for you. Bear each oth - er's bur - dens.
Bind each oth - er's wounds; and so you will know my re - turn.

**Verses available in accompaniment books.*

Text based on John 14-16; 1 Corinthians 13. Text and music © 1987, Robert J. Dufford, SJ.
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prayers

God of conversation, we are here, trying to be courageous. We are here, trying to be curious. We are here, trying to build connections in this troubled world. Draw near to us. Teach us how to speak. Teach us how to listen. Teach us how to find you in the spaces between our words and our ears. And as you do, hear and receive these prayers we offer, saying
God of conversation, **hear us.**

We stand, kneel or sit. The intercessor continues, closing with

God of conversation, we've been meaning to ask, "Where do we go from here? How do we speak the truth? How do we listen to you and to each other?" Guide us. Hold us. Unsettle us. Challenge us. Feed us. Fill us. Meet us here. We ask all this in the name of the One who calls us to love.
Amen.

peace

We stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of God.

offertory

Be devoted to one another in love.

Honor one another above yourselves. -Romans 12:10

MUSIC

“This Little Light of Mine,” JJ Heller.

great thanksgiving

We stand.

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks.

Wondrous and merciful God, we thank and praise you
because we did not choose you, you chose us.

You destined us to become your friends
from before the foundation of the world.

You showed steadfast love and faithfulness
to your covenant people
and remembered your promises in every generation.

Greater love has no one than you;
in Christ you laid down your life
and turned us from servants into friends,
and by your Spirit you raise us up
to be your beloved companions forever.

And so we gladly thank you,
with angels and all who sit at your right hand in heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Holy, holy, holy is the God of hosts.

The whole earth is filled with God’s glory.

Praise God!

Welcome the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Tender God, in Jesus you fully shared our humanity
as you expressed and embodied your full divinity.
Send your Holy Spirit on your people,
that impulse may turn to forbearing faithfulness,
need may become humble gentleness,
and good intentions may be fulfilled in sacrificial kindness.
By that same Spirit, bless these gifts of friend and neighbor that they may
become your church, and these offerings of bread and wine may be for us the
body and blood of your son Jesus Christ;
who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread and gave it to them, saying,
 "Take, eat This is my body which is given for you
 Do this to remember me."
After supper he took the cup.
Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
 "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.
 Do this, as often as you drink it, to remember me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Generous God, in Christ you show us what it means to love.
Bless your children with patience and kindness.
Dispel envy and pride, self seeking and anger. Turn our memory from the wrongs of
others into wonder at your forgiving mercy.
Protect us, empower us, inspire us, persevere with us,
that we may each find our vocation in the mission of your church,
and your church may discover its purpose in witness and service to your world, and
your world may enter its destiny as a unity of love,
until the day when prophecies, tongues, and knowledge cease,
and we see you face to face, and find love in you forever,
Creator, Redeemer, Spirit.

AMEN.

Lord's prayer

We pray together.

Our Father in heaven,

we pray that your name will always be kept holy.

We pray that your kingdom will come—

**that what you want will be done here on earth,
the same as in heaven.**

Give us the food we need for today.

Forgive our sins,

just as we have forgiven those who did wrong to us.

Don't let us be tempted,

but save us from the Evil One.

**For the kingdom and the power and the glory belong to you
forever and forever.**

Amen.

breaking bread

We break this bread

to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

These are God's gifts for the journey.

We share them with our companions on the way.

COMMUNION

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread or only wine. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

MUSIC

"Yesterday Was Hard On All Of Us," Fink.

"We Are," India.Arie.

Gratitude

We stand.

Let us pray.

Good and loving God,

**We thank you for drawing us together,
uniting us at one table.**

**We thank you for the sustaining grace you offer us,
again and again.**

**We thank you for making yourself known to us
and revealing your love for us through this encounter.**

**We ask that you open our hearts ever wider
to you and to our neighbors.**

**We ask that our community be drawn together;
that we may be one with each other and with you.**

**We ask that we take forth from this table
the courage to ask the hard questions
that lead us deeper into communion,
that guide our efforts,
and that reveal where your Spirit
is already at work.**

Amen.

hymn

1. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
2. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
4. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. It

there is ha - tred, let me bring your love. Where
there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned, in

there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord, And
there is dark - ness, on - ly light, And
giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, and in

where there's doubt, true faith in you. 1.
where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy. 2., 4.
dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Refrain

Oh, Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek So much to be con -
soled as to con - sole. To be un - der - stood as to un - der -
stand. To be loved as to love with all my soul. D.C.

Text: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997
Tune: Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997; arr. by Robert J. Batustini, b.1942
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Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy

sending

Jesus said to his friends,

“This is my command: Love each other.”

We go with the love of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

postlude

“You've Got a Friend in Me,” Michael Bubl .

SOURCES

This service and its themes come from Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org with the following exceptions:

Prayer before scripture, Offertory, Gratitude and Sending are by Tim Glatzer.

Prayers are adapted from A Sanctified Art by Diana Anderson and Susan McEvoy.

The Great Thanksgiving was adapted by Megan Nickles from *Eucharistic Prayers*, by Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher.