



The Episcopal Church of St. Peter by-the-Lake

First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 11, 2026

Holy Eucharist Rite II and Holy Baptism: 10:30 AM



Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent; for this is the house of God.

**Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you;
after the service (and during the peace) speak to one another.**

The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ

“Be more zealous than you are now. Learn to understand the times. Expect him to come who is above time, the timeless one, the invisible one who became visible for our sake, the untouched one, the one beyond suffering who came to suffer for us, who in every way endured for our sake.

Toil together, fight, run, suffer, rest, and rise up together as God’s stewards, companions of His table, and his servants! Let none of you desert the flag! Let your baptism remain your armor, faith your helmet, love your spear, patience your weapon.”

(St. Ignatius in a letter to St. Polycarp, 120 A.D.)

“As I went down to the river to pray.
Studyin’ about that good ole way
and who shall wear the starry crown,
good Lord, show me the way.
O sisters, let’s go down, let’s go down, come on down.
Come on, sisters, let’s go down,
down to the river to pray.”

(Alison Krauss, ‘O Brother where art thou?’ Motion Picture Soundtrack, 2000)

Faithfully,

Father Ron

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Voluntary: Variations on “*Veni Creator Spiritus*” – Hal Hopson

Opening Hymn: “*Hail to the Lord’s Anointed*” Hymnal 616

GENERAL ACCLAMATION BCP pg. 299

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: **There is one hope in God’s call to us;**

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: **One God and Father of all.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 42:1-9

Reader: A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,

I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29:1-4, 9-11

Jerome Webster Meachen (b. 1930)

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, *
 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; *
 worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
 the God of glory thunders; *
 the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; *
 the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD *
 all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; *
 the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; *
 the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

The Second Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn: "Christ, when for us you were baptized"

Hymnal 121

The Gospel (standing)

Matthew 3:13-17

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Baptismal Liturgy

BAPTISMAL HYMN *Baptized in water*

Songbook 12

PRESENTATION/EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATE

301

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents: I present *Ashlyn Sage Heck* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: **I renounce them.**

Question: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: **I renounce them.**

Question: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: **I renounce them.**

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: **I do.**

Question: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: **I do.**

Question: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: **I do.**

Celebrant: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People: **We will.**

Celebrant: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?
People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People: **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 to the dead.
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.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People: **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.**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

305

Celebrant: Let us now pray for *Ashlyn Sage Heck* who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader : Deliver *her*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Open *her heart* to your grace and truth.

People : **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Fill *her* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader : Keep *her* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People : **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Teach *her* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Send *her* into the world in witness to your love.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Bring *her* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

306

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE HOLY BAPTISM

307

Celebrant: *Ashlyn Sage Heck*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *this* your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *her* to the new life of grace. Sustain *her*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *her* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

Celebrant: *Ashlyn Sage Heck*, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People: **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

Children, Preschool—5th grade may leave for Kingdom Kids

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Ron Taylor

THE PEACE *All stand*

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

People: *And also with you.*

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Table

The Offertory *Down to the River to Pray* - arr. Mark Liverridge

At the Presentation

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Bidding Prayer

Celebrant: This is the table of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is made ready for all.
So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,
You who have been here often and you who have not been here long,
You who have tried to follow and those who struggle to find the path.
Come, because it is God who invites you.
It is God's will that those who desire to do so should meet God here.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer A)

BCP pg. 361

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Preface of the day.)
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

S - 129

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or sit.

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People: **Christ has died.**
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Danish 3-fold (10:30) And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy Name,
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.**

BCP 364

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Administration of the Sacrament

Communion of the People

Communion Hymn “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Hymnal 686

Post Communion Prayer (Celebrant and People)

BCP pg. 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: *"We Know That Christ Is Raised"*

Hymnal 296

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

BCP pg. 366

Closing Voluntary: *Prelude in C* – J.S. Bach

SPBTL NEWS AND EVENTS

CENTERING PRAYER 10AM, Meets downstairs every Wed. Please join us!

COFFEE HOUR Sign up in Fotinos Hall or call the office.

MUSIC MINISTRY: Chancel Choir rehearsals, Wednesday 7PM in the Nave. **Handbell Choir** rehearsals resume 1/14/26 Wednesdays @ 6:00 PM downstairs in the choir room.

COFFEE WITH THE CLERGY Gather in Fr. Ron's office at 9:30am on Sunday mornings for a relaxed, casual conversation based on questions you may have regarding faith, church, and society. We hope you can join us!

KITCHEN CLEAN 2026 We need for people to sign up for monthly kitchen cleaning in 2026. Please see the sign up sheet in the kitchen and sign up with a friend! Thank you.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 1/18/26:

8:30 AM

Chalice Bearer—Kathleen Wiley
Ushers - Helen Lungwitz
Acolytes - Libby Motto
Reader - Libby Motto

10:30 AM

Chalice Bearers— Michelle Stewart, ?
Ushers - Gra Wagner, Dave Pittinaro
Acolytes - Freya Gustis, Isabelle Dalton
Reader—Ginny Pretty
LLR—John Stewart
Livestream - Beth Lunney, Cha Wuerdeman

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Scott Major

In Loving Memory of his Mother's Birthday.

2026 Dates to remember!

January 25th— Visit from Sister Madeleine Mary from the Community of St. Mary, Southern Province at both services. She will also be leading the Adult Forum in Fr. Ron's office at 9:30am.

January 20th—February 10th—Supper & The Word

February 1st—Bishop José visit and Confirmation at 10:30AM

February 8th— Annual Parish Meeting

February 17th —Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 18th—Ash Wednesday

Note: Budget figures are adjusted to reflect Mother Tara's departure starting in June.

Financial Status as of Nov 30, 2025

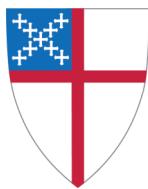
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance YTD
Total Revenues	\$474,233	\$456,064	\$18,170
Total Expenses	\$462,867	\$456,030	(\$6,837)
Net Total	\$11,366	\$34	\$11,333

Scan the QR Code with your phone — this will take you directly to St. Peter's gift entry screen.



SPECIAL SERVANT SCHEDULE
January and February 2026

DATE	1/4/2026	1/11/2026	1/18/2026	1/25/2026
	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE
8:30				
Chalice Bearer	Cathy Melesh	Jennifer Baker	Kathleen Wiley	Michele Moss
Usher	Ronnie Rudd	Chad Hamby	Tracey Engel	Helen Lungwitz
Acolyte	Cathy Melesh	Tracey Engel	Libby Motto	Michele Moss
Reader	Libby Wills	Jennifer Baker	Libby Motto	Cathy Melesh
Coffee HOUR				
10:30				
SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Jim & Stephanie Heil	Mary Sansbury, ?	John & Michelle Stewart	Scott Major, Beckie Smith
Usher	Roger Simpson, Dick Lunney	Duane Rinkus, Jim Racz	Gra Wagner, Dave Pittinato	Joe Anzalone, David Plyler
Acolyte	Gretta Gustis, Grace Finch	Michelle & John Stewart	Freya Gustis, Isabelle Dalton	Audrey Prouty, Bonnie Grant
Reader	Priscilla Foley	Andy Parton	Ginny Pretty	Frances Smith
Livestream Tech	Walter Smith, Cha Wuerdeman	Bill Reid, Andy Halasz	Beth Lunney, Cha Wuerdeman	Walter Smith, Beth Lunney
Lay Reader	Zoe Jarman	Matt Gustis	John Stewart	Cyndy Jarvis
Coffee HOUR			Martha Parton	Frances & Walter Smith
Altar Guild	A. Bowden	J. McPeak	C. Hatley	B. Smith
Flower	Catherine Maslow	Scott Major	Peggy White	Tricia and Mark Wagner
Bread Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
DATE	2/1/2026	2/8/2026	2/18/2026	2/22/2026
8:30				
Chalice Bearer	Cathy Melesh	Sheree Brady	Jennifer Baker	Kathleen Wiley
Usher	Jennifer Baker	Steve & Cathy Hiney	Emily Gentry	Ron & Karen Horne
Acolyte	Cathy Hiney	Tracy Engel	Cathy Melesh	Libby Motto
Reader	Michele Moss	Susan Schuman	Sheree Brady	Karen Horne
Coffee Hour				
10:30				
SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Frances Smith, Diana Mushill	Patty & Patrick Duggan	Hope Paesch, Elaine Jacobs	Jim & Stephanie Heil
Usher	Bob & Claire Tracy	Walter & Frances Smith	Diana Mushill, Mary Sansbury	David Plyler, Duane Rinkus
Acolyte	Ethan Graham, Freya Gustis	Zachary Ireland, Ava Prouty	Jenny Hunter, Jack Dwyer	Ethan Graham, Diana Mushill
Reader	Freya Gustis	Lisa Anzalone	Elaine Jacobs	Hope Paesch
Livestream Tech	Bill Reid, Cha Wuerdeman	Beth & Dick Lunney	Walter Smith, Andy Halasz	Bill Reid, Andy Halasz
Lay Reader	Emeka Eziri			
Coffee Hour				
Altar Guild	A. Bowden	J. McPeak	C. Hatley	B. Smith
Flower	Patt & Jim Racz	Beckie Smith	Brandy Rudd	Emily Gentry
Bread Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4



The Episcopal Church of St. Peter by-the-Lake
8433 Fairfield Forest
Denver, North Carolina 28037 (704-483-3460)
<https://www.saintpeterbythelake.net/>

Jesus Christ, Head of the Church

Ministers: All members of the Church

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Ron Taylor

Assisting Priest: The Rev. Nick McDonald

Christian Formation Director: Ginia Edwards

Director of Music: David Wilcox

Director of Music Emeritus: Leigh Ann Johnston

Licensed Lay Reader: Matt Gustis

Ushers: Chad Hamby, Duane Rinkus, Jim Racz

Chalice Bearers: Jennifer Baker, Mary Sansbury, J/M Stewart

Acolytes: Tracey Engel, J/M Stewart, Ava Prouty

Readers: Jennifer Baker, Andy Parton

Altar Guild Team 2 – Jill McPeak, Betsy Clements, Marge Fairbanks, Cathy Melesh, Michele Moss, Karen Taylor, Claire and Bob Tracy, Diana Mushill, Rene Sliwoski, Tricia Wagner

Bread Guild Team 2: Vicki Levi, Diana Mushill, Rene Sliwoski

Livestream Tech: Bill Reid, Andy Halasz

Coffee Hour:

THE VESTRY

Senior Warden – Stephanie Heil

Junior Warden – Mary Sansbury

Tracey Engel, Pat Higbie, Steve Hiney, Gary Jarvis, Connie Mathis, Michelle Moss, John Stewart

Clerk of the Vestry: Daphne Wagner

THE STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Taylor, Rector

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The Rev. Nick McDonald

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Sherree Brady, Finance Administrator

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Jim Heil, Treasurer

jheil164@yahoo.com

MISSION STATEMENT:
*BE DISCIPLES:
ENGAGE THE WORLD*

