



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

Second Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 18, 2026  
Holy Eucharist Rite II: 8:30 AM



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**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.**

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Twice in this morning's Gospel, John the Baptist proclaims, "Here is the Lamb of God," and his disciples are drawn to Jesus and His message.

In a cathedral in Copenhagen, Denmark, there is a magnificent statue of Jesus by the noted sculptor Albert Bertel Thorvaldsen. When Thorvaldsen completed the clay model of the sculpture, he gazed upon the finished product with great satisfaction. It was a sculpture of Christ with His face looking upward and His arms extended skyward. It was a statue of a majestic, conquering Christ.

Later that night, however, after the sculptor had left his fine new work of clay to dry and harden, something unexpected occurred. Mist from the Tyrrhenian Sea seeped into the studio in the night. The clay did not harden as quickly as anticipated. The upraised arms and head of the sculpture began to drop.

The majestic Christ with arms uplifted and head thrown back was transformed into a Christ with His head bent forward and arms stretched downward as if in a pose of gentle invitation.

At first Thorvaldsen was bitterly disappointed. As he studied the transformed sculpture, however, he came to see a dimension of Christ that had not been revealed to him before. It was the Christ who is a gentle, merciful Savior, so Thorvaldsen inscribed on the base of the completed statue, "Come Unto Me." A full-size replica of the Christus Consolator has greeted patients and visitors to Johns Hopkins Hospital for 130 years and that picture of the Lamb of God in His mercy has inspired millions around the world.

Faithfully, Fr. Nick+

# The Liturgy of the Word

**Opening Voluntary:** *Prelude in C minor* – J.S. Bach

**Opening Hymn:** *"The Church's one foundation"* **Hymnal 525 (1-3)**

**GENERAL ACCLAMATION** **BCP pg. 355**

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

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

**The Collect for Purity** **BCP pg. 355**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**8:30 am:** *Celebrant:* Lord have mercy **BCP Pg. 356**  
*People:* **Christ have mercy**  
*Celebrant:* Lord have mercy

**The Gloria (10:30 am)** **Hymnal S 280**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

**Isaiah 49:1-7**

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

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born,

while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword,

in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant,

Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

But I said, "I have labored in vain,

I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the Lord,

and my reward with my God."

And now the Lord says,

who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,

and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength--

he says,

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob

and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,

to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,

the slave of rulers,

"Kings shall see and stand up,

princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,

because of the Lord, who is faithful,

the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 40:1-5, 10-12

- 1 I waited patiently upon the LORD; \*  
**he stooped to me and heard my cry.**
- 2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; \*  
**he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.**
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; \*  
**many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.**
- 4 Happy are they who trust in the LORD! \*  
**they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.**
- 5 Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my God!  
how great your wonders and your plans for us! \*  
**there is none who can be compared with you.**
- 10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; \*  
**behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O LORD, you know.**
- 11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; \*  
**I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.**
- 12 You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; \*  
**let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.**

## The Second Lesson

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and

knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**The Sequence Hymn:**

*"How Great Thou Art"*

**Songbook 36 (1,3,4)**

**The Gospel (standing)**

**John 1:29-42**

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

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

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

*Reader:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Nicene Creed (standing)**

BCP pg. 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate:  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The Prayers of the People Form VI**

BCP pg. 392

*(said responsively by celebrant and congregation)*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and José, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence      The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence      The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence      The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

**Confession and Absolution**

**BCP pg. 393**

*Celebrant:* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Leader and People:*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, Known and unknown,**

**Things done and left undone; And so uphold us by your Spirit  
That we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
To the honor and glory of your Name;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**

### **Announcements**

## **The Liturgy of the Table**

### **The Offertory**    *“Come and See”*

“Come and see, come and see, I am the Way and Truth” said he.

“Follow me, follow me, come and a child, O come and see.”

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.

© 1974 Marilyn Hamm (John 1:35-52; 14:6)

### **At the Presentation**

#### **Doxology**

**Hymnal 380, stanza 3**

**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 C)

BCP pg. 369

*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:* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People:* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant:* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People:* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Celebrant:* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People:* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Celebrant:* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People:* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Celebrant:* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

*The people kneel or sit.*

*Celebrant:* And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*Celebrant and People:* **We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.**

*Celebrant:* Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rachel, and Rebekah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*Celebrant and People:* **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant:* Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

**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,  
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** “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord” **Hymnal 178**

**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:** “Here I am Lord” **Songbook 36**

**The Dismissal** **BCP pg. 366**

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

*People:* Thanks be to God.

**Closing Voluntary:** *Prelude to the “Te Deum”* – Marc Charpentier

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Peggy and Mark White in thanksgiving for God’s love, grace, and presence in our lives.*

## **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 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.

### **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

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** -- Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 1/25/25:

**8:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearer*—Michele Moss  
*Ushers* - Tracey Engel  
*Acolytes* - Michele Moss  
*Reader* - Cathy Melesh

**10:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearers*— Scott Major, Beckye Smith  
*Ushers* - Joe Anzalone, David Plyler  
*Acolytes* - Audrey Prouty, Bonnie Grant  
*Reader*—Frances Smith  
*LLR*—Cyndi Jarvis  
*Livestream* - Walter Smith, Beth Lunney



#### Financial Status as of Nov 30, 2025

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

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

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



DATE	2/1/2026	2/8/2026	2/15/2026	2/22/2026
8:30	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Cathy Melesh	Michele Moss	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	Sherree Brady	Karen Horne
Coffee Hour				
10:30	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Frances Smith, Diana Mushill	Patty & Patrick Duggan	Hope Paasch, 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 Paasch
Livestream Tech	Bill Reid, Cha Wuerdeman	Beth & Dick Lunney	Walter Smith, Andy Halasz	Bill Reid, Andy Halasz
Lay Reader	Emeka Eziri			
Coffee Hour		Mike and Christine Scalione		John & Michelle Stewart
Altar Guild	A. Bowden	J. McPeak	C. Hatley	B. Smith
Flower	Patt & Jim Racz	Beckye Smith	Brandy Rudd	Emily Gentry
Bread Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4

ST.PETER BY-THE-LAKE IS  
HOSTING A...

**VISION BOARD**

Join G, as she motivates and empowers  
you to embrace life to the fullest!  
This event had rave reviews last year!

Please join us!  
Open to all ~

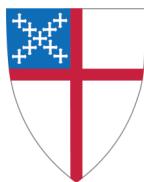
2026

January 23<sup>rd</sup>

6-7:30pm

Vision Board

\*Refreshments will be served  
8433 Fairfield Rd Denver, NC 28037



**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:** John Stewart

**Ushers:** Helen Lungwitz, Gra Wagner, Dave Pittinaro

**Chalice Bearers:** Kathleen Wiley, Jim Heil, Michelle Stewart

**Acolytes:** Libby Motto, Freya Gustis, Isabelle Dalton

**Readers:** Libby Motto, Ginny Pretty

**Altar Guild Team 3** – Carmen Hatley, Cathy and Tom Grace, Jean Hatley, Jeanne Hawkins, Cyndi Jarvis, Nancy Pittinaro, Brandy Rudd, Daphne Wagner, Mary Sansbury

**Bread Guild Team 3:** Mary Sansbury, Cathy Maslow

**Livestream Tech:** Beth Lunney, Cha Wurdeman

**Coffee Hour:** Mike & Vickie Levi, Martha Parton

**THE VESTRY**

**Senior Warden – Stephanie Heil**

**Junior Warden – Mary Sansbury**

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

Clerk of the Vestry: Daphne Wagner

**THE STAFF**

**The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Taylor, Rector**

canismajorm41@yahoo.com

**The Rev. Nick McDonald, Assisting Priest**

nickmcd@spbtl.com

**Ginia Edwards, Director of Christian Formation**  
gedwards@spbtl.com

**David Wilcox, Director of Music**  
music@spbtl.com

**Kate D'Amato, Parish Administrator**  
kate@spbtl.com

**Sherree Brady, Finance Administrator**  
financeadmin@spbtl.com

**Jim Heil, Treasurer**  
jheil164@yahoo.com

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

**BE DISCIPLES:  
ENGAGE THE WORLD**

