



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

Last Sunday after the Epiphany

February 15, 2026

Holy Eucharist Rite II: 8:30 AM & 10:30 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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Southern Utah folklore still enshrines stories about Ebenezer Bryce, a cattleman who used to run his herds early in the last century on land that is now Bryce Canyon National Park. The canyon he used is actually the face of a high plateau, carved by wind and water into fantastic, colorful sandstone castles and cathedrals. Few people can stand on the canyon's rim, look down at the majestic scene below and fail to sense awe and inspiration.

Once, Bryce was asked what it was like to have spent his working life in a setting of such overwhelming natural beauty. The cattleman replied: "Well, it's one heck of a place to lose a cow."

We might think this as proof of the man's dedication to his work and his herd, but it is probably more accurate to attribute the remark to his inability to perceive the majesty of the place. Too often we are blind to the grandeur, beauty, and wonder of life. It's easy to miss if we're not listening and watching closely and slowly enough. Embracing a Rule of Life is a sure way to periodically slow down enough to bring all our senses to attend to scripture and prayer. In the process, we may just learn that transfigurations are not the exception: they are the rule.

Remember how in Holy Scripture many people got new names to go with a new life and a new image? Abram became Abraham. Sarai became Sarah. Jacob became Israel. Saul became Paul. Simon became Peter, "The Rock."

We are all being altered in the appearance of our face, our countenance. We are all changing. To live is to be continually transfigured. So, who are we becoming?

Faithfully, Fr. Nick

## The Liturgy of the Word

**Opening Voluntary:** *O God Beyond All Praising* – Gustav Holst

**Opening Hymn:** *"Songs of thankfulness and praise"* **Hymnal 135**

**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

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

Exodus 24:12-18

*Reader:* A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## Psalm 2

Jerome Webster Meachen (b. 1930)



- 1 Why are the nations in an uproar? \*  
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
- 2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,  
and the princes plot together, \*  
against the LORD and against his Anointed?
- 3 "Let us break their yoke," they say; \*  
"let us cast off their bonds from us."
- 4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; \*  
the Lord has them in derision.

- 5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, \*  
and his rage fills them with terror.
- 6 "I myself have set my king \*  
upon my holy hill of Zion."
- 7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: \*  
he said to me, "You are my Son;  
this day have I begotten you."
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance \*  
and the ends of the earth for your possession.
- 9 You shall crush them with an iron rod \*  
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
- 10 And now, you kings, be wise; \*  
be warned, you rulers of the earth.
- 11 Submit to the LORD with fear, \*  
and with trembling bow before him;
- 12 Lest he be angry and you perish; \*  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
- 13 Happy are they all \*  
who take refuge in him!

## **The Second Lesson**

**2 Peter 1:16-21**

*Reader:* A reading from the second Letter of Peter.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**The Sequence Hymn:** *We have come at Christ's own bidding* (ODE TO JOY)



1. We have come at Christ's own bid-ding to the high and ho - ly place,  
2. Light breaks through our clouds and shad-ows; splen-dor bathes the flesh-joined Word;  
3. Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our faith de - cline,



where we wait with hope and long - ing for some to - ken of God's grace.  
Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the heavn - ly voice is heard.  
we like Pe - ter find it tempt-ing to re - main and build a shrine.



Here we pray for new as - sur - ance that our faith is not in vain,  
Eyes and hearts be - hold with won - der how the law and proph - ets meet:  
But true wor - ship gives us \_\_\_cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess,



search - ing like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.  
Christ, with gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.  
that out dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

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**The Gospel** (*standing*)**Matthew 17:1-9**

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

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

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

*Reader:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon****The Rev. Nick McDonald****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 III**

**BCP pg. 387**

*(said responsively by celebrant and congregation)*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

The People may add their own petitions.

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

### **Confession and Absolution**

**BCP pg. 360**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Leader and People:*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. 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

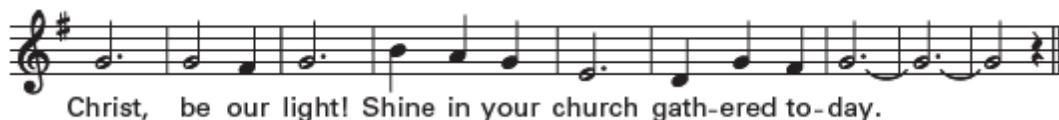
*Christ Be Our Light* - Bernadette Farrel

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

Refrain: Choir and Congregation



Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. (Refrain)

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. (Refrain)

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come. (Refrain)

## 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 B)

BCP pg. 367

*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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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.

*The people kneel or sit.*

**Celebrant:** We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People:* **We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant:* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.

*People:* **AMEN.**

**Danish 3-fold Amen (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 *“Be Thou My Vision”*

Hymnal 488

**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**

**Sending Hymn:**

*“O wondrous type! O vision fair”*

**Hymnal 137**

**The Dismissal**

**BCP pg. 366**

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

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

**Closing Voluntary:** *O Wondrous Image, Vision Fair* – arr. David Johnson

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ronnie & Brandy Rudd in celebration of another year of walking in our faith together.*

## 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** Hmmmm.... Still see a lot of blank lines on our Kitchen Sign up sheet. Please think about doing a good deed this week—SIGN UP! 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.

### Financial Status as of Dec 31, 2025

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance YTD
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$534,118</b>	<b>\$495,428</b>	<b>\$38,691</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$500,097</b>	<b>\$495,428</b>	<b>(\$4,670)</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$34,021</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$34,021</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.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** —- Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 2/22/25:

**8:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearer*—Kathleen Wiley

*Ushers* - Ron & Karen Horne

*Acolytes* - Libby Motto

*Reader* - Karen Horne

**10:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearers*— Jim & Stephanie Heil

*Ushers* - David Plyler, Duane Rinkus

*Acolytes* - Ethan Graham, Diana MUSHILL

*Reader*—Hope Paasch

*LLR*—Matt Gustis

*Livestream* - Bill Reid, Andy Halasz

**2026 Dates to remember!**

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

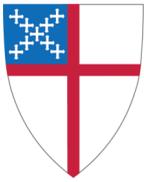
**February 17th** —Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper @5:30pm

**February 18th**—Ash Wednesday @ 7pm

**February 22nd** - Sister Madeleine Mary visit

**February 25th**—Blood Drive

**April 15th (new date!)**—Confirmation and Bishop Jose visit @ 6:30PM



## **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:** Sherree Brady

**Ushers:** Emily Gentry, Diana Mushill, Mary Sansbury

**Chalice Bearers:** Jennifer Baker, Hope Paasch, Elaine Jacobs

**Acolytes:** Cathy Melesh, Jenny Hunter, Jack Dwyer

**Readers:** Sherree Brady, Elaine Jacobs

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

**Livestream Tech:** Walter Smith, 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, Assisting Priest**

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**Ginia Edwards, Director of Christian Formation**

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**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***

