



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

July 13, 2025



The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite II: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

Who is our Neighbor?

The question persists from the time of Cain and Abel to the present day: “Who is my neighbor?” It is doubly hard to answer in times when we are so mobile and active. From one day to the next we may not even see our neighbors as they come and go. We are able to drive from one part of an area to another, bypassing residential neighborhoods by using freeways. In the larger picture of things, because of rapid communication and the internet, this world has shrunk. We also live in a time of great polarization where all of this selective information has made it harder and harder for people to talk and listen to those with whom they disagree. Who are our neighbors?

From God’s point of view, everyone is our neighbor: the old people down the street, the children who go to schools in our cities, the disabled person who is looking for a job. It can be overwhelming to realize that we have ties and responsibilities to all of them. But it is true because God is the one who unites us all in a family, the human family.

Jesus expressed it simply with his parable of the man from Samaria who stopped to help a Jew. He took responsibility for his place in the world; he recognized that it is a gift to be alive, and the gift is intended to be shared with everyone, not just people who seem to be ‘like us.’ To “take care of him” means sacrifice and compassion. It means dropping our tendencies toward judging whether or not a person ‘deserves’ our care. In God’s family, everyone is the neighbor. We only have to be ready to help, in the name of the One who was sacrificed for us. Jesus reminds us, “take care of them” ... because ‘them’ is really ‘us’. (The Rev. Dr. Don Armentrout: Synthesis)

Faithfully,

Father Ron

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Voluntary: *'Children of the Heavenly Father'* - Franklin Ashdown

Opening Hymn: *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"* **Hymnal 657**

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 Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Amos 7:7-17

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

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by;

the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.'"

And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

"Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.

You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel,
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.'

Therefore thus says the Lord:

'Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
and your land shall be parceled out by line;
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.'"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 82

- 1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:
- 2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?
- 3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;
- 4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.
- 5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;
- 7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince.'
- 8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.

The Second Lesson

Colossians 1:1-14

Reader: A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May

you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn:

"Jesu, Jesu"

Hymnal 657

The Gospel (*standing*)

Luke 10:25-37

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

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

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Libby Motto

The Nicene Creed (*standing*)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV

BCP 388

Deacon or other leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
 live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;
 that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all indigenous people, especially the Cherokee and Catawba nations, that in bonds of kinship and strength we may be good stewards of God's creation. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

For all young people, growing in the faith of Christ, and passing it on to generations yet to come. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

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 *'When We Are Living'*

When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
And when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
We belong to God; we belong to God.

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
We belong to God; we belong to God.
Good works of service and for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
We belong to God; we belong to God.

'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
When sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
Whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
We belong to God; we belong to God.

Across this wide world, we shall always find
Those who are crying with no peace of mind,
And when we help them, or when we feed
them,
We belong to God; we belong to God.

At the Presentation

Doxology

Hymnal 380

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

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:

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. _____

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,

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.

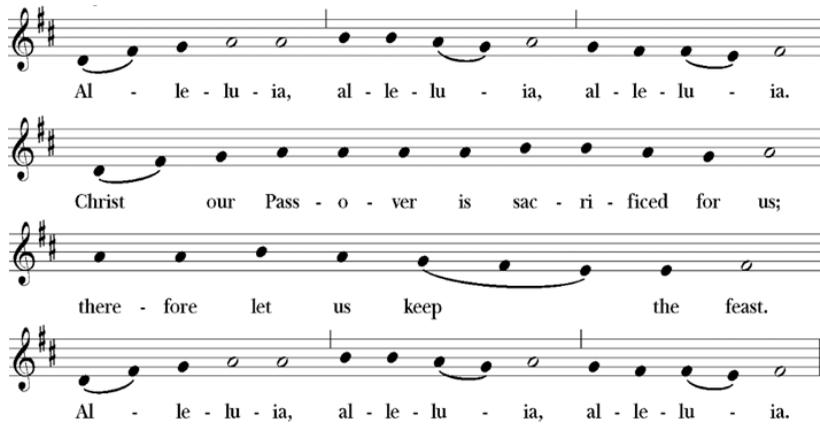
The Breaking of the Bread

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

'Prayer of St. Francis'

Songbook 87

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:

"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

Songbook 69

The Dismissal

BCP pg. 366

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary: *Praise to Almighty God—J.S. Bach*

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Beth & Dick Lunney in honor of their anniversary.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 7/20/25:

8:30 AM

Chalice Bearer– Kathleen Wiley
Usher– Ronnie Rudd
Acolyte - Cathy Melesh
Reader - Karen Horne

10:30 AM

Chalice Bearer– Jim & Stephanie Heil
Usher– Claire & Bob Tracy
Acolyte - Jenny Hunter, Beckett Rinkus
Reader - John Stewart
LLR - Matt Gustis

PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of 5/31/2025)

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance YTD
Total Revenues	\$236,731	\$219,878	\$16,852
Total Expenses	\$223,690	\$219,648	(\$4,042)
Net Total	\$13,041	\$230	\$12,811

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.

LAST GAME NIGHT OF THE SUMMER: Join the fun July 14th in Fotinos Hall for St. Peter's Game night! Bring a snack to share and a favorite game to play. Fun for all ages!

VALLE CRUCIS REGISTRATION Is now open! Annual Parish Retreat will be October 17th–19th, 2025 See our website or Fotinos Hall for more info and a registration form.

SUMMER CHOIR If you like to sing but can't make weekday rehearsals, this is for you. We will meet on Sunday mornings in the Nave at 9:45 a.m. for rehearsal continuing through the months of July and August! Hope to see you there! Contact David Wilcox at music@spbtl.com for more information.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED— For many years, volunteers from St. Peters have helped the residents of the Lakewood Care Center at 7981 Optimist Club Road in Denver by distributing snacks, drinks and kind words to them. We are in need for someone to help out doing this. This happens the third Wednesday of every month, from 10:00 to 11:30am. You'd be working with another St Peters' volunteer. If you think this is something you might be willing to do, please text Marilyn Saunders at 704-589-1530 for more information.

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



ST. PETER BY-THE-LAKE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MAGNIFIED VBS 2025

SIGN UP FORM



PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name :

Email Address :

Phone Number :

Date of Birth : / /

Address :

City :

ZIP/Postal Code :

State/Province :

Pick up Person :

REGISTRATION OPTION

Small Blessing Newborn-4yrs Pre-k-2nd grade 3rd-5th grade

6th-8th grade 9th-12th grade Adult

VBS T-SHIRT (\$15)

ALLERGIES?

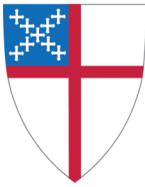
FOOD RESTRICTIONS?

Gluten Free Vegan Peanut/ Nuts None Other



DATE

SIGNATURE



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

Christian Formation Director: Ginia Edwards

Director of Music: David Wilcox

Director of Music Emeritus: Leigh Ann Johnston

Licensed Lay Reader: Libby Motto

Ushers: Cathy Melesh, Frances & Walter Smith

Chalice Bearers: Jennifer Baker, Hope Paasch, Elaine Jacobs

Acolytes: Tracey Engel, Bonnie Grant, Maddie Ireland,

Readers: Sherree Brady, Hope Paasch

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

Bread Guild Team 2: Michele Moss, Diana Mushill, Rene Sliwoski

Livestream Tech: Beth Lunney, Walter Smith

Coffee Hour: Dick Lunney

THE VESTRY

Senior Warden – Jessica Gustis

Junior Warden – Stephanie Heil

Tracey Engel, Pat Higbie, Gary Jarvis,

Connie Mathis, Bill Reid, Mary

Sansbury, Pamela Weed

Clerk of the Vestry: Daphne Wagner

THE STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Taylor, Rector

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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

