



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

**August 10, 2025**



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

## **Watchful & Faithful**

The Scriptures are filled with admonitions to God's people to be watchful and to be faithful. Watchfulness is an attitude which requires us to be always in readiness for the Lord's return, loins girded and lamps lit, expectant and prepared.

Faithfulness is an attitude and a behavior pattern which describes how we are to live out our lives as we watch and wait. Abraham is a paradigm of both watchfulness and faithfulness, in that he accepted the promise of God even when there was no sign of its fulfillment. He was ready for any opportunity to witness God's presence in his life and to celebrate it.

Waiting for the return of the Lord means being prepared to acknowledge him when he comes to us, not just on clouds of glory...but in the neighbor who is suffering, in the child who is hungry, in the friend who is depressed and whose 'waiting' is filled with anxiety and hopelessness.

Jesus tells us to watch and to wait, and he demonstrates to us what it means to be a faithful servant while we live in the expectancy of his coming. The joyful expectation of the Kingdom (watchfulness) is enhanced by our living as though the Kingdom was here in its fullness (faithfulness). Faith is enlivened by our expectant watch, and waiting is meaningful when we spend our interim time celebrating His daily coming through worship, prayer, and service to our neighbors. (Sue Armentrout – Synthesis)

**Faithfully,**

**Father Ron**

# The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Voluntary: *Largo* - Vivaldi/Bach

Opening Hymn: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

Hymnal 528

## Lord, You Give the Great Commission



1. Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the  
2. Lord, you call us to your serv - ice: "In my  
3. Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my  
4. Lord, you show us love's true meas - ure: "Fa - ther,  
5. Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am



sick and preach the word." Lest the Church ne -  
name bap - tize and teach." That the world may  
bod - y, this my blood." Let us all, for  
what they do, for - give." Yet we hoard as  
with you to the end." Faith and hope and



glect its mis - sion, And the Gos - pel go un - heard,  
trust your prom - ise, Life a - bun - dant meant for each,  
earth's true glo - ry, Dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward,  
pri - vate treas - ure All that you so free - ly give,  
love re - stor - ing, May we serve as you in - tend,



Help us wit - ness to your pur - pose With re -  
Give us all new fer - vor, draw us Clos - er  
Ask - ing that the world a - round us Share your  
May your care and mer - cy lead us To a  
And, a - mid the cares that claim us, Hold in



newed in - teg - ri - ty;  
in com - mun - i - ty;  
chil - dren's lib - er - ty; With the Spir - it's gifts em -  
just so - ci - e - ty;  
mind e - ter - ni - ty;



power us For the work of min - is - try.

## 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

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; 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

Genesis 15:1-6

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

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## PSALM 33 (12-22)

- 12** Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! \*  
**happy the people he has chosen to be his own!**
- 13** The Lord looks down from heaven, \*  
**and beholds all the people in the world.**
- 14** From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze \*  
**on all who dwell on the earth.**
- 15** He fashions all the hearts of them \*  
**and understands all their works.**
- 16** There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; \*  
**a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.**
- 17** The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; \*  
**for all its strength it cannot save.**
- 18** Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, \*  
**on those who wait upon his love,**
- 19** To pluck their lives from death, \*  
**and to feed them in time of famine.**
- 20** Our soul waits for the Lord; \*  
**he is our help and our shield.**
- 21** Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, \*  
**for in his holy Name we put our trust.**
- 22** Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, \*  
**as we have put our trust in you.**

## The Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-12

*Reader:* A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## The Sequence Hymn:

*"Rise Up, Ye Saints of God"*

**Hymnal 551**

## The Gospel (*standing*)

**Luke 12:32-40**

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

*Reader:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon**

**The Rev. Dr. Ron Taylor**

### **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**      *'Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning' - Spiritual*

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary,  
Children, don't get weary,  
Children, don't get weary,  
'Til your work is done.

Christian, journey soon be over,  
Christian, journey soon be over,  
Christian, journey soon be over,  
The time is drawing nigh.



## 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 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, 10 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)**

**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.

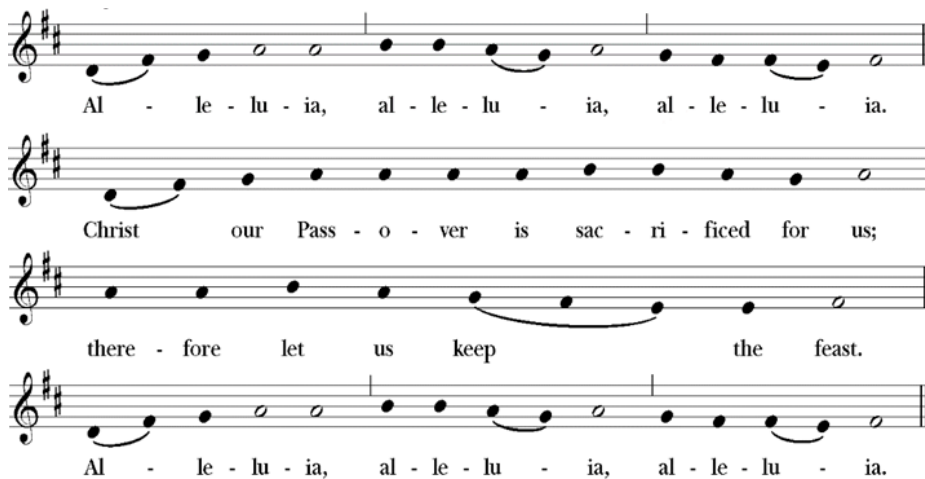
**The Breaking of the Bread**

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

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

**The Fraction Anthem**

**Hymnal S 154**



**Administration of the Sacrament**

**Communion of the People**

Communion Hymn 'This Little Light of Mine'

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'This Little Light of Mine'. It is written in 4/4 time and consists of five systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system begins with the lyrics '1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,'. The second system continues with 'this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;'. The third system continues with 'this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'- a let it shine,'. The fourth system concludes with 'let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. (let it shine)'. The fifth system contains the lyrics '2. Everywhere I go' and '3. All through the night'.

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin'- a let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. (let it shine)

2. Everywhere I go

3. All through the night

**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:**      *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ”*

**Hymnal 490**

**The Dismissal**

**BCP pg. 366**

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

*People:*      **Thanks be to God.**

**Closing Voluntary:**      *Allegretto - Johann Scholze*

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Gary and Cyndi Jarvis  
in honor of their wedding anniversary.*

## **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.

**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 10 a.m. for rehearsal continuing through the months of July and August! Hope to see you there! Contact David Wilcox at [music@spbtl.com](mailto:music@spbtl.com) for more information.

### **SUNDAY AUGUST 17th BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS, STUDENTS, AND SCHOOL STAFF**

Join us at either service with your backback and Fr. Ron will bless you and your backpack before you begin the new school year.

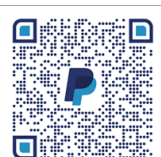
**FALL PARISH WORKDAY** Saturday, August 23rd Mark your calendar and join us to beautify our parish grounds!

**ONE BLOOD BLOOD DRIVE** Save the Date: August 20th from 9am-2pm, right here at St. Peter by-the-Lake!

**Financial Status as of May 31, 2025**

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

*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, 8/17/25:

**8:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearer*— Kathleen Wiley

*Usher*— Steve/Cathy Hiney

*Acolyte* - Tracey Engel

*Reader* - Libby Motto

**10:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearers* - Mary Sansbury, Diana Mushill

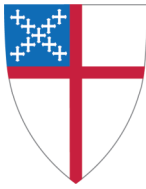
*Ushers* - Roger Simpson, Gra Wagner

*Acolytes* - Isabelle Dalton, Audrey Prouty

*Reader* - Georgia Rummage

*Lay Reader* - Libby Motto

*Livestream* - Bill Reid, Andy Halasz



## **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:** Sherree Brady

**Ushers:** Helen Lungwitz, Diana Mushill, Kathy Campbell

**Chalice Bearers:** Cathy Melesh, Scott Major, Beckye Smith

**Acolytes:** Cathy Melesh, Greta & Freya Gustis

**Readers:** Jennifer Baker, Sherree Brady

**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:** Walter Smith, Bill Reid

**Coffee Hour:** Marilyn & Ian Saunders

### **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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**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**

