



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

August 17, 2025

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist Rite II: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM



The Cost of Discipleship

In today's Gospel, Jesus takes up the same cry as the prophets, "You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, by 'why' do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Jesus isn't being our pal today. He isn't trying to comfort us or soothe us. Jesus is absolutely shouting, "I came to bring fire to the earth! Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!" Jesus was seeing orphans and widows and sojourners being treated shamefully. Jesus was seeing women having to live by a different set of laws than men; and men being able to get away with the same things that would cause a woman to be stoned to death. The poor were going without food or shelter. God's command to love our neighbor as ourselves was going unheeded and Jesus was not happy.

The sad truth is that today there are people who are still being sold into the most heinous of slaveries. I wonder what Jesus would shout today as he sees the poor still going without food and shelter? Jesus wants desperately for humanity to share the urgency in provision for justice, compassion and mercy. "Why do you not know how to interpret the present time?" The question is as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago. (The Rev. Dr. Suzanna Metz – Synthesis)

Faithfully,

Father Ron

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Voluntary: *Fantasia* – Johann Pachelbel

Opening Hymn: *"How Firm a Foundation"*

Hymnal 636

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, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 5:1-7

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

Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice, but saw bloodshed;
righteousness, but heard a cry!

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

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn: "God, Whose Purpose is to Kindle"



1. God, whose pur - pose is to kin - dle,
 2. God, who still a sword de - liv - ers,
 3. God, who in your ho - ly gos - pel

Now ig - nite us with your fire.
 Rath - er than a plac - id peace,
 Wills that all should tru - ly live,

While the earth a - waits your burn - ing,
 With your sharp - ened Word dis - turb us,
 Make us sense our share of fail - ure,

With your pas - sion us in - spire. O - ver - come our
 From com - pla - cen - cy re - lease! Save us now from
 Our tran - quil - i - ty for - give. Teach us cour - age

sin - ful calm - ness, Stir us with your sav - ing name.
 sat - is - fac - tion, When we pri - vate - ly are free,
 as we strug - gle In all lib - er - at - ing strife.

Bap - tize with your fier - y Spir - it,
 Yet are un - dis - turbed in spir - it
 Lift the small - ness of our vi - sion

Crown our lives with tongues of flame.
 By our neigh - bor's mis - er - y.
 By your own a - bun - dant life.

Text: Luke 12:49; David E. Trueblood, 1900–1994, alt., © 1967, David Elton Trueblood
 Tune: HOLY MANNA, 8 7 8 7 D; William Moore, fl.1830

The Gospel (*standing*)

Luke 12:49-56

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

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

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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

Blessing of the Backpacks, students, teachers, Administrators & all school staff

The Liturgy of the Table

The Offertory *‘God the Sculptor of the Mountains’* –John Thornburg

God the sculptor of the mountains, God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens, God the potter of the land:
You are womb of all creation, we are formless; shape us now.

God the nuisance to the Pharaoh, God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar of the darkness, God the beacon of the free:
You are gate of all deliv’rance, we are sightless; lead us now.

God the unexpected infant, God the calm, determined youth,
God the table-turning prophet, God the resurrected Truth:
You are present every moment, we are searching; meet us now.

God the dresser of the vineyard, God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest, God the source of all we eat:
You are host at every table, we are hungry; feed us now.

Words: John Thornburg (b. 1954) OneLicense A-742587

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.

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.

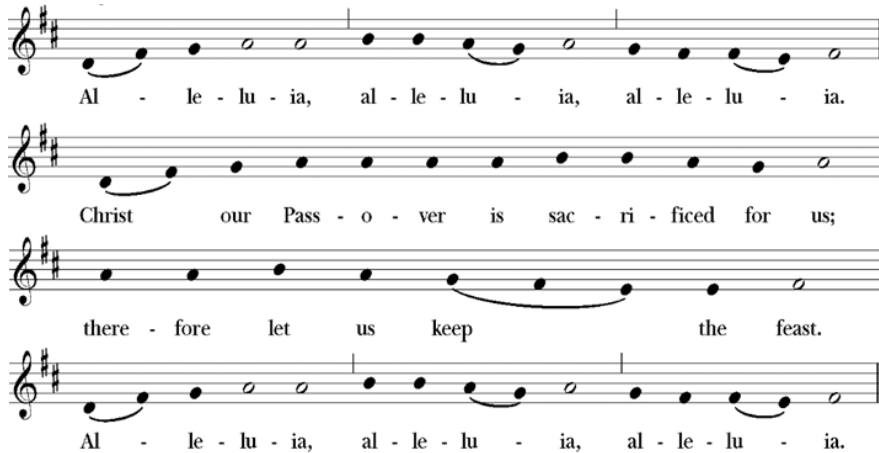
The Breaking of the Bread

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

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

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154



Administration of the Sacrament

Communion of the People

Communion Hymn: *'Christ Be Beside Me'*

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part. | 3. Christ be in all hearts thinking about me;
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me;
In ears that hear me, Christ ever be. |
| 2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life. | |

Text: Ascribed to St. Patrick; James Quinn, SJ, 1919–2010, © 1969, Published by OCP.

Tune: BUNESSAN. OneLicense A-742587

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:

"O Jesus I Have Promised"

Hymnal 655

The Dismissal

BCP pg. 366

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary: *Toccata – Johann Pachelbel*

Join us around the refurbished playground for a special blessing & rededication

The altar flowers are given by Josette Anzalone in honor and glory to God and in memory of our wonderful, loving and caring spouse, dad and Grandpa JJ. Happy Heavenly Birthday, Joe!

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 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.

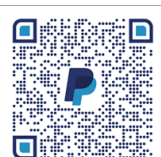
FALL PARISH WORKDAY Saturday, August 23rd Mark your calendar and join us to beautify our parish grounds!

ONE BLOOD BLOOD DRIVE Save the Date: August 20th from 9am-2pm, right here at St. Peter by-the-Lake! <https://www.oneblood.org/donate-now>

Financial Status as of May 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

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, 8/24/25:

8:30 AM

Chalice Bearer— Jennifer Baker

Usher— Tracey Engel

Acolyte - Michele Moss

Reader - Michele Moss

10:30 AM

Chalice Bearers - Patty & Patrick Duggan

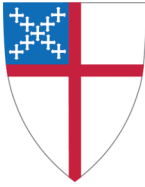
Ushers - Roger Simpson, Duane Rinkus

Acolytes - Madison Ireland, Ava Prouty

Reader - Diana Mushill

Lay Reader - Stephanie Heil

Livestream - Phillip Russo, Walter Smith



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: Steve & Cathy Hiney, Dick Lunney, Gra Wagner

Chalice Bearers: Kathleen Wiley, Mary Sansbury, Diana Mushill

Acolytes: Tracey Engel, Isabelle Dalton, Audrey Prouty

Readers: Libby Motto, Georgia Rummage

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, Jeanne Hawkins, Cathy Maslow

Livestream Tech: Bill Reid, Andy Halasz

Coffee Hour: Dave Pittinaro

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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David Wilcox, Director of Music

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Kate D'Amato, Parish Administrator

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Sherree Brady, Finance Administrator

financeadmin@spbtl.com

Jim Heil, Treasurer

jheil164@yahoo.com

MISSION STATEMENT:



BE DISCIPLES:

ENGAGE THE WORLD