



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

September 7, 2025

**The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Morning Prayer: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**



Jeremiah & the Potter's Wheel

Today's reading from the Prophet Jeremiah illustrates how we belong to the Lord and are shaped by the presence of God in our lives. As Jeremiah pronounces judgment against Judah and Jerusalem, God sends Jeremiah to the potter's house, where he observes the craftsman reworking a ruined vessel. Using the analogy of God as the potter, and the clay as God's people, the Lord declares that nations can be plucked up and destroyed if they do not heed the word of the Lord. However, God is also merciful to reverse that decision if a nation turns away from evil.

But if a righteous nation turns to evil, "I (the Lord) will change my mind about the good I had intended to do to it." (Jeremiah 18:11) God as a potter can form a new vessel from the old, depending on the people's choice for good or evil. The passage ends with a warning to the inhabitants of the land to repent. Here we see the balance between judgment and redemption as God actively shapes people and nations.

(Synthesis)

Faithfully,

Father Ron

Morning Prayer

Opening Voluntary: *"Allemande" - J.S. Bach*

Opening Hymn: *"Lift High the Cross"* **Hymnal 473**

PRELUDE May God bless you during this time of quiet reflection and personal prayer.

THE OPENING SENTENCE: **Page 78**

Officiant: Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

CONFESSION OF SIN: **Page 79**

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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

THE INVITATORY & PSALTER: **Page 80**

Officiant: Lord, Open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was
In the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE VENITE: **Page 82**

All: Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his for he made it, and his hands have molded the dry land.

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
**you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, *
**while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.**
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
**they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.**
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Reader: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Lesson

Philemon 1-21

Reader: A reading from the book of Philemon.

Let Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

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

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose

father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle (The First Song of Isaiah): *(Sung)*

Songbook 101

**All: Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my savior. Therefore
you shall draw with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall
say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; Make his deeds known upon the
peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord,
for he has done great things, and this is known in all the World. Cry aloud, inhabitants
of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is
now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

Reader: A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon Hymn *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

Hymnal 474

The Sermon

Jim Bowden

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin

Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

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Officiant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Officiant: Let us pray devoutly kneeling.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Page 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.**

Suffrage A:

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Officiant: Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People: And grant us your salvation.
Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People: Let your people sing with joy.
Officiant: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People: For only in you can we live in safety.
Officiant: Lord, keep this nation under your care.
People: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Officiant: Let your way be known upon the earth;
People: Your saving health among all nations.

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant: Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

All: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for the immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

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Officiant: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

THE GRACE

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Officiant: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Officiant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY *The Summons* – John Bell and Graham Maule



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot - steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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 BLESSING:

Officiant: The Peace of God which passes all understanding, keep our thoughts and hearts in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ. And the blessing of God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with us this day, and always. **Amen**

Recessional Hymn: *"Here I Am, Lord"*

Songbook 36

The Dismissal

BCP 366

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary: *Choral Song* - Samuel Wesley

The altar flowers are given by Andy and Martha Parton to the glory to God in honor of their 51st 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.

MUSIC MINISTRY: Our church welcomes everyone who loves music, with no auditions required to participate in the music ministries. Whether you are a seasoned musician or just enjoy singing from the heart, your voice and presence are valued here. Come be a part of something special as we uplift each other and celebrate our faith through song!

- **Chancel Choir** rehearsals will resume on Wed., August 27, at 7PM in the Nave.
- **Handbell Choir** rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 10, at 6:00 PM.

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.

WELCOME BACK SUNDAY

September 14th We will have ONE service only at 10am. Followed by a **Parish Fellowship Brunch** in Furr Hall. We hope you make plans to join us for a morning of community, faith, and good food!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS —Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, **WELCOME BACK SUNDAY 9/14/25:**

One Service ONLY 10 AM

Chalice Bearers—Diane Davis, Stephanie Heil

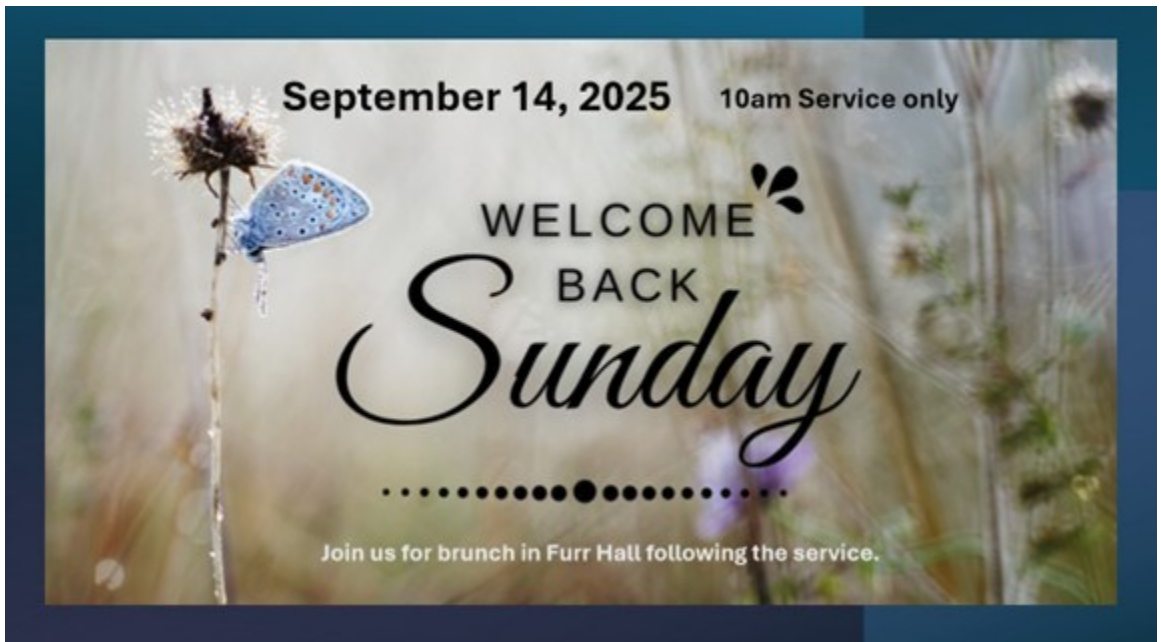
Ushers - Claire Tracy, Dave Pittinaro

Acolytes - Freya Gustis, Brady Rinkus

Reader - Ginny Pretty

Lay Reader - Jim Heil

Livestream - Bill Reid, Andy Halasz





THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Peter by-the-Lake

INVITES YOU TO A
DEDICATORY PIANO RECITAL
of the Boston G-163 Grand Piano

Friday, Sept. 19, 2025 | 7 p.m.

featuring
Kathryn Graham , soprano
Kevin Haney, organ
Troy Keeney, trumpet
Diana Stone, violin
David Wilcox, piano



BAKERS MOUNTAIN
HICKORY, NC

Join us for a morning hike on September 20th.

**We will hike for about an hour and a half, pausing halfway
to enjoy some trail mix and reflect on God's word.**

Sign-up in Fotinos Hall.

Financial Status as of July 31, 2025

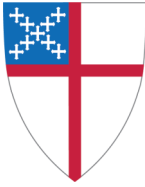
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance YTD
Total Revenues	\$306,589	\$298,607	\$7,983
Total Expenses	\$310,095	\$298,442	(\$11,653)
Net Total	(\$3,506)	\$165	(\$3,671)

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



SPECIAL SERVANT SCHEDULE
September and October 2025

DATE	9/7/2025	9/14/2025	9/21/2025	9/28/2025
8:30	FIRST SERVICE		FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Jennifer Baker		Cathy Melesh	Kathleen Wiley
Usher	Helen Lungwitz		Steve & Cathy Hiney	Emily Gentry
Acolyte	Tracey Engel		Michele Moss	Cathy Melesh
Reader	Susan Schuman		Diane Johnson	Libby Willis
Coffee HOUR				
10:30	SECOND SERVICE	Welcome Back Sunday	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Hope Paasch, Elaine Jacobs	Diane Davis, Stephanie Heil	Jim & Stephanie Heil	John & Michelle Stewart
Usher	Gary Johnston, David Piyer	Claire Tracy, Dave Pittinaro	Gra Wagner, Diana Mushill	Kathy Campbell, Joe Anzalone
Acolyte	Diana Mushill	Michelle Stewart, Brady Rinkul	Freya & Greta Gustis	Zachary Ireland, Isabelle Dalton
Reader	Andy Parton	Ginny Pretty	Daphne Wagner	Frances Smith
Livestream Tech	Walter Smith, Bill Reid	Bill Reid, Andy Halasz	Beth Lunney, Andy Halasz	Cha Wuerdeman, Beth Lunney
Lay Reader	Jim Bowden	Jim Heil	Libby Motto	Stephanie Heil
Coffee HOUR		Welcome Back Sunday		
Altar Guild	A. Bowden	J. McPeak	C. Hatley	B. Smith
Flower	Martha Parton	Charles & Diane Johnson	Lauren Adessa	Bonnie Grant
Bread Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
DATE	10/5/2025	10/12/2025	10/19/2025	10/26/2025
8:30	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE	FIRST SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Sherrree Brady	Michele Moss	Cathy Melesh	Jennifer Baker
Usher	Mike & Angela Matuousek	Cathy Melesh	Ronnie Rudd	Chad Hamby
Acolyte	Cathy Hiney	Libby Motto	Tracey Engel	Michele Moss
Reader	Jennifer Baker	Libby Motto	Cathy Melesh	Michele Moss
Coffee Hour				
10:30	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE	SECOND SERVICE
Chalice Bearer	Scott Major, Beckye Smith	Mary Sansbury, Diana Mushill		Patty & Patrick Duggan
Usher	Roger Simpson, Dick Lunney	Duane Rinkus, Jim Racz		Walter & Frances Smith
Acolyte	Madison Ireland, Beckett Rinkus	Bonnie Grant, Audrey Prouty	Jenny Hunter, Lillian Finch	Ethan Graham, Ava Prouty
Reader	Matt Gustis	Lisa Anzalone	Elaine Jacobs	Hope Paasch
Livestream Tech	Walter Smith, Cha Wuerdeman	Andy Halasz, Bill Reid	Dick Lunney, Beth Lunney	Walter Smith, Cha Wuerdeman
Lay Reader	Diane Davis	Cyndi Jarvis	Jim Bowden	Emeka Eziri
Coffee Hour				
Altar Guild	A. Bowden	J. McPeak	C. Hatley	B. Smith
Flower	Pat Higbie	Michele & Dave Moss	Sherrree Brady	Karen & Ron Horne
Bread Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4



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: Jim Bowden

Ushers: Helen Lungwitz, Gary Johnston, David Plyler

Acolytes: Tracey Engel,

Readers: Susan Schuman, Andy Parton

Altar Guild Team 1 – Ann & Jim Bowden, Sherree Brady, Priscilla Foley,
Vickie Jordan, Lara Readling, Gloria Reid, Frances Smith, Katie Hamby

Livestream Tech: Walter Smith, Bill Reid

Coffee Hour:

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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Kate D’Amato, Parish Administrator

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Jim Heil, Treasurer

jheil164@yahoo.com

MISSION STATEMENT:



***BE DISCIPLES:
ENGAGE THE WORLD***