



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

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 5, 2025

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



Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent; for this is the house of God.
Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you;
after the service (and during the peace) speak to one another.

Stewardship 2026: "Do Justice-Love Mercy-Walk Humbly

Today at St. Peter by-the-Lake marks the beginning of our annual journey together to seek the ministry funding of 'time, talent, and treasure' for the upcoming year. It's a time to remember and celebrate all the ministry that together we have rendered to God's glory, and to continue to build on foundations that have been laid here for over 50 years.

Our 'theme' this year comes directly from the words of the Prophet Micah. When asked what the Lord requires from God's people, Micah is very straightforward. We are to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk with humility in relationship to God and neighbor.

Doing justice includes many of the ministries that spring forth from this parish. Our work with the Answered Prayers ministry with St. Mark's in Gastonia to help with the needs of the unhoused. It includes feeding those in need through The Corner Table Soup Kitchen in Newton. It means supporting through donations and through volunteer hours the East Lincoln Christian Ministries here in Denver. Those are just a few examples. There are many more.

To love mercy is to understand that all of us have fallen short in our relationships with God and our neighbors, that no one is perfect. It means extending grace and forgiveness to others as the same has been given to us in our lives.

Walking with humility is understanding that giving back is for the follower of Jesus a way of life. We don't do it for attention or accolades, we give out of our deep thankfulness for all that God has given us in our lives. In our Gospel lesson today, the apostles request to have their faith increased. Faith increases as faith is exercised. It's kind of like a muscle. If one does not use it, it atrophies. But using it causes it to strengthen every day. Faith begets faith.

Faithfully,
Father Ron

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Voluntary: *Offertory* – John Ness Beck

Opening Hymn: *"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"*

Hymnal 460

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 and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Micah 6:6-8

Reader: A reading from the Book of the prophet Micah.

With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 137:1-6



- 1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, *
when we remembered you, O Zion.
- 2 As for our harps, we hung them up *
on the trees in the midst of that land.
- 3 For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,
and our oppressors called for mirth: *
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion.”
- 4 How shall we sing the LORD’S song *
upon an alien soil.
- 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, *
let my right hand forget its skill.
- 6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, *
If I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

The Second Lesson

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Reader: A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God-- whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did-- when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn:

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Hymnal 691

The Gospel *(standing)*

Luke 17:5-10

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

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

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**** Kid Chat with Fr. Ron**

(Following the Kid Chat, Children Preschool—5th grade may leave for Kingdom Kids)

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

May Your Roots Go Deep – David Lantz

May your roots go down deep into the soil, the soil of God's marvelous love.
And may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should,
how long how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is.
And so at last you will be filled up with God himself!

Text: based on Ephesians 3:17-19 by Herb Frombach © 2004 Lorenz Publishing Corporation, 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 A)

BCP pg. 361

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. _____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The people kneel or sit.

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and

Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

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

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 *‘What Does the Lord Require’*

Hymnal 605

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: *Improvisation on Houston*

SPBTL NEWS AND EVENTS

CENTERING PRAYER 10AM, Meets downstairs every Wed. Please join us!

COFFEE HOUR Sign up in Fotinos Hall or call the office.

MUSIC MINISTRY: **Chancel Choir** rehearsals, Wednesday 7PM in the Nave. **Handbell Choir** rehearsals Wednesdays @ 6:00 PM downstairs in the choir room.

ROADSIDE CLEANUP: October 4th @ 8am Creation Care Roadside Cleanup Fairfield Forest Road. Meet at 8am in the parking lot across the street from the Food Lion on Fairfield Forest Road. SUPPLIES: Bags, gloves, pickup devices, and reflective safety vests will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own. CONTACT: Michelle Stewart (704) 661-6007 or mzstewart@bellsouth.net with question or to volunteer. Or see the Sign up Genius on the Weekly Blast.

COFFEE WITH THE CLERGY is back! Gather in Fr. Ron's office at 9:30am on Sunday mornings for a relaxed, casual conversation based on questions you may have regarding faith, church, and society. We hope you can join us!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS —- Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 10/12/25:

8:30 AM

Chalice Bearer— Michele Moss

Usher— Cathy Melesh

Acolyte - Libby Motto

Reader - Libby Motto

10:30 AM

Chalice Bearers— Mary Sansbury, Diana Mushill

Ushers - Duane Rinkus, Jim Racz

Acolytes - Bonnie Grant, Audrey Prouty

Reader - Lisa Anazlone

Lay Reader - Cyndi Jarvis

Livestream - Andy Halasz, Bill Reid

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Pat Higbie. Happy birthday to my loving husband, Bill, in heaven! Forever in our hearts!

Fellowship Bible Study Circle!

This fall we will be diving into the book Half Truths by Adam Hamilton.

They are simple phrases. They sound Christian—like something you might find in the Bible. We've all heard these words. Maybe we've said them.

They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways.

Join Adam Hamilton in this 5-week Bible study to search for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés with the wisdom found in Scripture. The clichés include:

- ⇒ Everything happens for a reason.
- ⇒ God helps those who help themselves.
- ⇒ God won't give you more than you can handle.
- ⇒ God said it, I believe it, that settles it.
- ⇒ Love the sinner, hate the sin.

We will gather every other Wednesday evening from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the City Room, located downstairs in the Church. Just look for the room filled with cozy couches. Begins October 1st. Meeting dates: October 1st, 15th, & 29th. November 12

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL Advent Season will be starting in a few weeks, and we are looking forward to celebrating the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. We are starting preparations to publish the **25th edition of the Advent Devotional**. We would really like to have you participate by writing a devotion about memorable past Christmases / traditions, Advent Season thoughts, and favorite scriptures. So please take a few moments and write a devotion it does not have to be long or a "Biblical Epistle" just from you !

This year we would like to make an extra special request to help your children write a devotion also! Devotions written by our youth are "special" and enriches our Advent experience. Please complete and submit by November 11th. **If you have any questions, please contact us. (704) 663-9004. Jeanne & Bud Hawkins**

P.S. Please place devotion in our Church mailbox, or transmit via E-mail, word format to budhawkins@charter.net Thanks, in advance, for your support !

P.S. Continuing from last year. We are also asking the SPBTL artistic community to create Nativity Artwork of various forms which will be included in this year's devotional. (We are not looking for "Hallmark card art" Just productions of Nativity scenes / Christmas artwork created by you or your family). Artwork from your children are very special treasures to include and share with all.



Foot Praise

Celebration Dance

Starting September-21& 28

09.30 am ——— 10.15 am

Furr Hall

What's Foot Praise, you ask? It's a toe-tapping extravaganza where kids get to unleash their energy with 'interpretive dance' and 'sign language! Happening most Sundays from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., right alongside Adult Coffee with Clergy. So, drop off your little ones for a joyous, footloose celebration of praising God!



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.





ST. PETER BY THE LAKE
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fall FESTIVAL

TRUNK OR TREAT

GAMES | MUSIC | FOOD | VENDORS



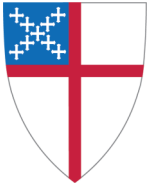
25 OCT
2025

START AT 02.00 -5.00 PM

SPBTL

8433 FAIRFIELD RD DENVER, NC

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A VENDOR? EMAIL [GINIA EDWARDS @
GEDWARDS@SPBTL.COM](mailto:GINIA.EDWARDS@SPBTL.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION



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: Diane Davis

Ushers: Mike & Angela Matousek, Roger Simpson, Dick Lunney

Chalice Bearers: Sherree Brady, Scott Major, Beckye Smith

Acolytes: Cathy Hiney, Madison Ireland, Beckett Rinkus

Readers: Jennifer Baker, Freya Gustis

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

Bread Guild Team 1: Vickie Jordan, Libby Barger, Tracey Engel

Livestream Tech: Beth & Dick Lunney

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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Jim Heil, Treasurer

jheil164@yahoo.com

MISSION STATEMENT:

BE DISCIPLES:

ENGAGE THE WORLD

