



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

The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

November 9, 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.

Praise & Declare

As I was looking over the scripture lessons for today, one verse from Psalm 145 leapt out at me from the page – “One generation shall praise your works to another, and shall declare your power.” (Psalm 145: 4)

When I was born, in 1958, the American Church was at it’s apex of influence in our society. The vast majority of people identified as Christian, and going to Church on Sunday mornings was for the most part, a given. Some went out of deep faith, others out of a sense of duty, but churches and Sunday schools were more often than not busting at the seams. Times have changed. In 2025 the fastest growing group of folks in our country identify religiously as the ‘Nones’. They have no particular religious identity and many from that group have no desire to explore the world of faith. Church attendance and allegiance have become one choice among many in our increasingly secular culture.

Rather than lament this sea-change in our world, perhaps this can be where we as people of faith can witness best to the truth of Christ’s love and healing power – from the margins. Perhaps we can see clearly now that witnessing to our faith in both word and deed is our responsibility. If we really want the next generation to grow up to follow Jesus as Savior and Lord, then we must set the example by praising the work of God in our lives – and declaring that reality to our children, and our children’s children.

Faithfully,

Father Ron

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn: *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"* **Hymnal 376**

GENERAL ACCLAMATION **BCP pg. 355**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

The Collect for Purity **BCP pg. 355**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

8:30 am: *Celebrant:* Lord have mercy **BCP Pg. 356**

People: **Christ have mercy**

Celebrant: Lord have mercy

The Gloria (10:30 am) **Hymnal S 280**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Haggai 1:15b-2:9

Reader: A reading from the book of the Prophet Haggai.

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 145:1-5, 18-22

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 18 The Lord is righteous in all his ways *
and loving in all his works.

- 19 The Lord is near to those who call upon him, *
to all who call upon him faithfully.
- 20 He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; *
he hears their cry and helps them.
- 21 The Lord preserves all those who love him, *
but he destroys all the wicked.
- 22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; *
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.

The Second Lesson

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Reader: A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn:

“Be Thou My Vision”

Hymnal 488

Children, Preschool—5th grade may leave for Kingdom Kids

The Gospel (*standing*)

Luke 20:27-38

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

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

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

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

"Lead Me to the Cross"

Savior, I come
Quiet my soul, remember
Redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled
For my ransom
Everything I once held dear
I count it all as lost

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord, I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross

You were as I
Tempted and trialed
Human
The word became flesh
Bore my sin and death
Now you're risen

Everything I once held dear
I count it all as lost

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord, I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross

To Your heart
To Your heart
Lead me to Your heart
Lead me to Your heart

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord, I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross

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

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!**

Administration of the Sacrament

Communion of the People

Communion Hymn *"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"*

Songbook 58

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: *"They'll Know We are Christians"*

Songbook 108

The Dismissal

BCP pg. 366

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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• Thank you to the St. Peter's Project •
• for providing the wonderful music •
• at today's service! •
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•
•••••

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by John and Michelle Stewart
in celebration of their family's fall birthdays and in memory of those
loved ones that they miss daily.*

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.

SPBTL Theater Group: The Green Room Theater 2025-26 Season

Sundays at 3:00 p.m. w/lunch \$16.00/ticket \$10.00/person lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Shrek 11/16/25

All are welcome! If you have not participated in the past, please join us for good food, fellowship, & entertainment Contact Cathy Littlejohn @ 704-650-4947 with any questions.

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!

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**. 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 !

THANKSGIVING/CHRISTMAS FOOD DONATION **LIST OF NECESSARY ITEMS (we are specific for consistency's sake)**

- 15 plastic jars of jelly (30 oz)
- 5 plastic jars of jelly (20 oz)
- 45 Chunky Beef Soup (18 oz)
- 30 Chunky Chicken Soup (18 oz)
- 20 boxes Mac & Cheese
- 25 jars (plastic please) pasta sauce
- 30 boxes of pasta
- 84 Cans peas (15 oz)
- 52 Cans green beans (15 oz)
- 33 Cans corn (15 oz)
- 33 jars (plastic) Applesauce
- 50 Cans peaches (15 oz)
- 54 cans mixed fruit (15 oz)
- 54 Cans pears (15 oz)
- 20 Individual envelopes instant grits

***Or make a financial contribution—
indicate Backpacks in memo.***



**ANNUAL ALTAR GUILD DINNER—THIS COMING THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 13TH AT 6PM IN FOTINOS HALL**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 11/16/25:

8:30 AM

Chalice Bearer— Michele Moss
Usher— Helen Lungwitz
Acolyte - Libby Motto
Reader - Michele Moss

10:30 AM

Chalice Bearers— John & Michelle Stewart
Ushers - Gra Wagner, Roger Simpson
Acolytes - Greta Gustis, Brady Rinkus
Reader - Bonnie Grant
Lay Reader - Jim Heil
Livestream - Walter Smith, Cha Wuerdeman

<u>Sept YTD</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance YTD</u>
Revenue	\$393,779	\$377,335	\$16,445
Expenses	\$389,769	\$377,236	-\$12,533
Net Total	\$4,010	\$99	\$3,912

Note: Budget figures are adjusted to reflect Mother Tara's departure starting in June.

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





HOLIDAY CRAFT-A-THON

JOIN ME!

WE'LL CREATE 3 TO 4 FESTIVE CRAFTS, WHILE
CONNECTING WITH OTHER WOMEN IN A
JOYFUL ATMOSPHERE. ENJOY FESTIVE SNACKS,
DRINKS AND MAKING MEMORIES WITH OLD AND
NEW FRIENDS! \$5.00 CRAFT FEE AND REGISTER
AT GEDWARDS@SPBTL.COM

November 15th
1:00 p.m.
Fotinos Hall
8433 Fairfield Forest
Denver, NC 28037

FIND OUT MORE AT
SAINTPETERBYTHELAKE.NET

St. Peter By-the-Lake Episcopal Church
invites you to
OH LITTLE
Town
ADVENT FESTIVAL



DECEMBER 7TH 2025
5:00-7:30 P.M.

Join us on an exciting journey as we travel back 2,000 years to witness the year Jesus was born in a quaint little town: Then, we'll move forward in time to visit St. Nick and reignite the warmth of your childhood spirit. Finally, we'll embrace the enchanting magic of Christmas as it is celebrated today!

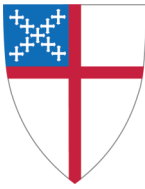
An Interactive Event Including:

- Dinner
- Authentic Food
- Skilled Tradesmen
- Themed Crafts

Admission:
Non-Perishable
food for local food
pantry

St. Nick will be
stopping by to
say hello and
take in the night





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: Steve & Cathy Hiney, Gary Johnston, David Plyler

Chalice Bearers: Sherree Brady, John & Michelle Stewart

Acolytes: Cathy Melesh, Freya Gustis, Grace Finch

Readers: Cathy Melesh, Jenny Hunter

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

Bread Guild Team 2: Vicki Levi, Diana Mushill, Rene Sliwoski

Livestream Tech: Bill Reid, Beth Lunney

Coffee Hour: Fred & Cathy Littlejohn,
Marsha & Cha Wuerdemen

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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financeadmin@spbtl.com

Jim Heil, Treasurer

jheil164@yahoo.com

MISSION STATEMENT:



BE DISCIPLES:

ENGAGE THE WORLD