



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

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 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.

Signs of the End Times & The Destruction of the Temple Foretold

Jesus has revealed to His disciples that He will be taken from them but will return. During the interim, believers cannot be misled by false messiahs who announce specific dates for the end of the age. Nor should they get overly concerned by political strife or natural disasters. People are always using these events as predictive signs, but they are nothing more than the death-pangs of a dying world.

These signs of the age serve as a time for testimony. During this time the church is to witness to Christ in gospel proclamation. The message we must proclaim will be Spirit-empowered in its authenticity and reliability.

It's hard for us to visualize what the end-signs will entail today, but we can be sure that when the tribulation finally comes upon the world, we will recognize it and so be able to protect ourselves from much of the Antichrist's fury.

In A.D. 68, the state of Israel rebelled against Rome. Somehow the believers in Jerusalem, at the time of the rebellion, knew that the abomination of desolation was upon them, so they fled to the safety of Pella in Transjordan. Within two years, Jerusalem and the Second Temple lay in charred ruins.

In our age, the "desolation" will most likely involve a concerted persecution of the church at the time of the revealing of the Antichrist. All we can say is that, by faith, we will know when this Day is upon us. While we watch and wait, exercising discernment, trust, and patience is the name of the game.

Faithfully,

Father Nick McDonald

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Voluntary:

Opening Hymn: *"Praise to the Lord the Almighty"*

Hymnal 390

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 Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 65:17-25

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

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain,
or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord--
and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent-- its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6



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 water 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 among 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 for ever. Amen.

The Second Lesson

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

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

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not

idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn: *"O Master Let Me Walk with Thee"*

Hymnal 660

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

The Gospel (*standing*)

Luke 21:5-19

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

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

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be

betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Rev. Nick McDonald

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

(said responsively by celebrant and congregation)

BCP pg. 392

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

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) – Matt Redman



Verse 1

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. (Chorus)

Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (Chorus)

Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. (Chorus)

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At the Presentation

Doxology

Hymnal 380

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Bidding Prayer

Celebrant: This is the table of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is made ready for all.
So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,
You who have been here often and you who have not been here long,
You who have tried to follow and those who struggle to find the path.
Come, because it is God who invites you.
It is God's will that those who desire to do so should meet God here.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP pg. 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Preface of the day.) Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

S - 129

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or sit.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and

for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, 10 that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father,

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.**

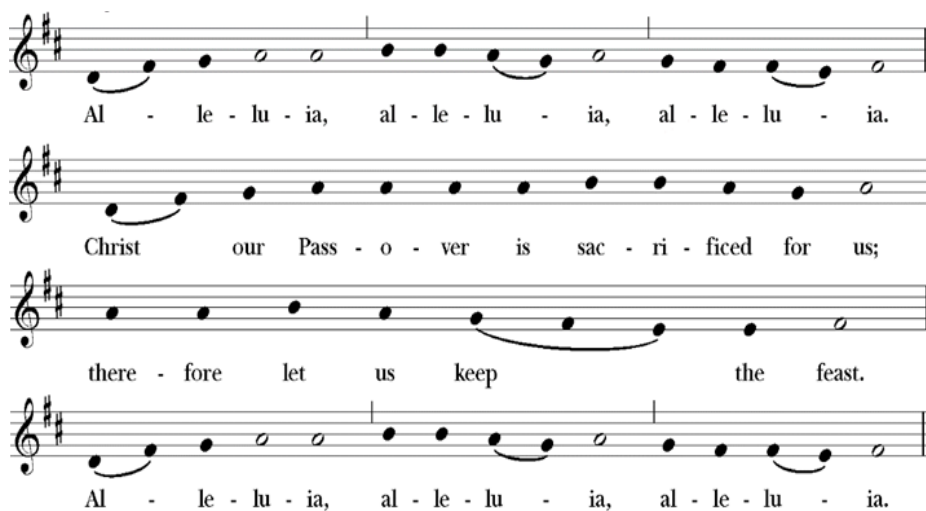
The Breaking of the Bread

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 *"It Is Well with My Soul"*

Songbook 49

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: *"On Christ the Solid Rock"*

Songbook 80

The Dismissal

BCP pg. 366

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary:

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.

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 FESTIVAL: Sign up in Fotinos Hall if you are interested in helping in advance or day of the festival. We are also in need of some basic supplies such as floor pillows. See the next page for details on the event. We are going back in time —hope you will join us!

Angel Gift Outreach for East Lincoln Christian Ministry! : We invite you to participate in our annual gift giving opportunity to help the less fortunate in East Lincoln. We'll have 50 tags hung in the narthex starting today. Please choose a tag (or 2!), write your name and phone number beside the appropriate gift wish on the sheet next to the hanging tags, purchase the designated gift (\$25-30) and bring back your unwrapped gift before November 29th. Full details are on the back of each angel tag.

O you may want to consider picking up one of the red tags for ELCM's Home Meals Program. Just \$30 covers a week of meals for elderly and homebound persons in our area. Please make your check payable to ELCM, noting Home Meals in the memo line and place in Marilyn Saunders mailbox at church. Your generosity could bring Christmas joy and hope to someone who may not have much of that in their life right now. **Contact Marilyn Saunders; email address- saundersm2022@gmail.com** with any questions or concerns.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Frances and Walter in thanksgiving for Weston, Kristi, and Tucker, and Roy, Lindsay and Walter II.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS —- Please check your calendars in advance so we don’t have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 11/23/25:

8:30 AM

Chalice Bearer— Cathy Melesh
Usher— Jennifer Baker
Acolyte - Michele Moss
Reader - Susan Schuman

10:30 AM

Chalice Bearers— Diane Davis, Frances Smith
Ushers - Kathy Campbell, Dick Lunney
Acolytes - Isabelle Dalton, Zachary Ireland
Reader - Priscilla Foley
Lay Reader - Stephanie Heil
Livestream - Walter Smith, Andy Halasz

<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.



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!

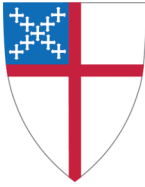
An Interactive Event Including:

- 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: Jim Heil

Ushers: Helen Lungwitz, Gra Wagner, Roger Simpson

Chalice Bearers: Michele Moss, John & Michelle Stewart

Acolytes: Libby Motto, Greta Gustis, Beckett Rinkus

Readers: Michele Moss, Bonnie Grant

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, Cathy Maslow

Livestream Tech: Walter Smith, Cha Wuerdeman

Coffee Hour: Mike & Vickie Levi, 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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financeadmin@spbtl.com

Jim Heil, Treasurer

jheil164@yahoo.com

MISSION STATEMENT:



BE DISCIPLES:

ENGAGE THE WORLD