



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

The Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King)

November 23, 2025

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



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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.

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## Christ the King

When the thief being crucified with Jesus asks him to “remember me when you come into your kingdom,” Jesus responds, “You will be with me today in paradise.” That’s not just later, when they’re both dead and gone, but right now. Jesus’ kingdom, Jesus’ reign of peace and shalom, isn’t just someplace far off. It is right here and right now, if we want to look for it, if we are willing to remember.

We surely live in that peaceable Kingdom when we gather around the communion table, even and especially with folks who challenge us, disappoint us, frustrate us, or have wronged us. The table is a sign that communion with God is possible for thieves and criminals, for people who are significant pains in the neck, and for every one of us. The Eucharistic table is the concrete possibility of communion with God in those previously unknown.

(The Rt. Rev. Katherine Jefferts Schori: ‘A Wing & A Prayer’, Morehouse Publ. 2007, pg. 15)

Faithfully,

Father Ron

# The Liturgy of the Word

**Opening Voluntary:** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* – arr. Anna Laura Page

**Opening Hymn:** *"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"* **Hymnal 460 (stanzas 1,3,4)**

## 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, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

## Jeremiah 23:1-6

*Reader:* A reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalms 46



1 God is our refuge and strength, \*  
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, \*  
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

3 Though its waters rage and foam, \*  
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.  
4 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

9 Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, \*  
what awesome things he has done on earth.  
10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; \*  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; \*  
I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be exalted in the earth."  
12 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

## The Second Lesson

## Colossians 1:11-20

*Reader:* A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Colossians.

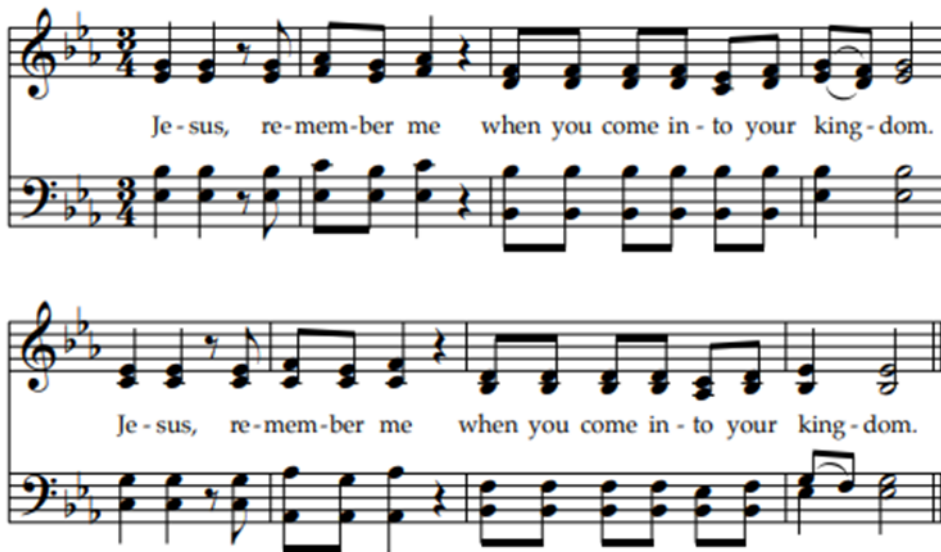
May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Sequence Hymn:

*"Jesus, Remember Me"*



Jaques Berthier, © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, OneLicense A-742587

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

## The Gospel (*standing*)

**Luke 23:33-43**

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

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

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we

indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

*Reader:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon**

**The Rev. Dr. Ron Taylor**

### **The Nicene Creed** (*standing*)

**BCP pg. 358**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate:  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **The Prayers of the People Form III**

**BCP pg. 387**

*(said responsively by celebrant and congregation)*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.  
*Silence*

The People may add their own petitions.

## **Confession and Absolution**

**BCP pg. 360**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Leader and 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.

*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**                      Immortal, Invisible – Arnold B. Sherman                      **Handbell Ringers**

*Blessing of 2026 Pledges/Time & Talent Sheets*

### **At the Presentation**

**Doxology**                      Immortal Invisible – stanza 3                      **Hymnal 423**

Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render, O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

### **The Bidding Prayer**



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

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer C)

BCP pg. 369

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

*Celebrant:* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People:* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant:* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People:* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Celebrant:* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People:* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Celebrant:* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People:* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Celebrant:* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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:* And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
 On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and

gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."  
 Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*Celebrant and People:* **We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
 as we await the day of his coming.**

*Celebrant:* Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rachel, and Rebekah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*Celebrant and People:* **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant:* Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

**Danish 3-fold (10:30)** And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

## 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 "Lord of the Dance"

Songbook 65

**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:**

*“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

**Hymnal 494**

**The Dismissal**

**BCP pg. 366**

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

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

Immediately following the 10:30am service, please join us in the courtyard for the blessing and dedication of the new firepit area. An Eagle Scout Project by Evan Graham.

**Closing Voluntary:** *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* - arr. Anna Laura Page

## **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 Pamela Weed, in honor of her mom, Kathleen King's 85th Birthday.*

**Note from the Finance Office: Current Giving Statements**

Giving statements for January-October 2025 are now available in your church mailboxes. For those who don't have a church mailbox, your statements will be placed in the US Mail the week of Nov 17th. Please take a close look at your statements to ensure they match your personal giving records. If you find any discrepancies, or if you have any questions, please notify the Finance Office immediately at [financeadmin@spbtl.com](mailto:financeadmin@spbtl.com). We want to make sure everything is correct before yearend statements are generated in late January.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** — Please check your calendars in advance so we don't have missing servants. We will see these Special Servants next week, 11/30/25:

**8:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearer*— Jennifer Baker  
*Usher*— Emily Gentry  
*Acolyte* - Michele Moss  
*Reader* - Libby Willis

**10:30 AM**

*Chalice Bearers*— Scott Major, Beckye Smith  
*Ushers* - Duane Rinkus, Jim Racz  
*Acolytes* - Madison Ireland, Beckett Rinkus  
*Reader* - Georgia Rummage  
*Lay Reader* - Sherree Brady  
*Livestream* - Beth Lunney, 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.



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



**DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 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!

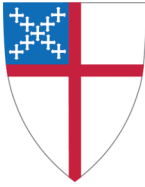
**An Interactive Event Including:**

- 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:** Stefanie Heil

**Ushers:** Jennifer Baker, Bob Tracy, Dick Lunney

**Chalice Bearers:** Cathy Melesh, Diane Davis, Frances Smith

**Acolytes:** Michele Moss, Isabelle Dalton, Zachary Ireland

**Readers:** Susan Schuman, Sherree Brady

**Altar Guild Team 4** – Beckye Smith, Karen Horne, Pamela Weed, Jenny Hunter, Chuck Hunter, Scott Major, Emily Gentry, Kathryn Graham, Patsy Roosa

**Bread Guild Team 4:** Karen Horne, Cynthia Martin, Pamela Weed

**Livestream Tech:** Walter Smith, Andy Halasz

**Coffee Hour:** Marilyn & Ian Saunders

### **THE VESTRY**

**Senior Warden – Jessica Gustis**

**Junior Warden – Stephanie Heil**

Tracey Engel, Pat Higbie, Gary Jarvis, Connie Mathis, Bill Reid, Mary Sansbury, Pamela Weed

Clerk of the Vestry: Daphne Wagner

### **THE STAFF**

**The Rev. Dr. Ronald B. Taylor, Rector**

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**David Wilcox, Director of Music**

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**Kate D'Amato, Parish Administrator**

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**Sherree Brady, Finance Administrator**

financeadmin@spbtl.com

**Jim Heil, Treasurer**

jheil164@yahoo.com

### ***MISSION STATEMENT:***



***BE DISCIPLES:***

***ENGAGE THE WORLD***