



ST. PETER'S
EST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1889

Family Mass

10:30 am | November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

Welcome to St. Peter's! From the moment you walk through these doors, you are part of our 136-year story. Many like you have come here before. Some seeking solace. Some seeking community. Some who are young. Some who are old. Some with deep faith. Some with deep doubt. Some who are here for a short time. Some who are here for their whole lives. Together, we are the saints of St. Peter's, and we share the story of this place.

It is Family Sunday! All families are welcome—large and small, families of birth and of choice. At St. Peter's, part of our mission is to “celebrate children and youth”, and Family Sunday is one way we do that. Today and every last Sunday of the month, children play an even greater role in our worship and our liturgy is adapted for younger participants

Restrooms are available in Bender Hall, through the north doors and down the ramp. There you will find individual restrooms on the left and men's and women's restrooms with changing tables through the second door and to your far right.



St. Peter's is equipped with a hearing loop for those using hearing aids.

This service is live streamed on YouTube. Please be aware you may be seen or heard by those worshiping with us online.

If you would like to learn more about St. Peter's or to have a prayerful conversation, please don't hesitate to reach out! You can find my contact information on the back of this leaflet. And again, welcome!

The Rev. Derek Larson, TSSF

The congregation, both children and adults, is invited to worship through art, if desired, by drawing a picture of one of the Scripture readings for the day. At the offertory the art will be brought forth to adorn the altar for Communion. Clipboards and coloring utensils may be found at each entrance.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. *Mark 13:35-36*

As we draw closer to the Nativity of Christ our Lord, today we light one candle of the Advent Wreath. Almighty God, prepare us for the Advent of your son.

We Explore God's Word

All are invited to stand as the service begins

As we gather to pray, the first thing we do is praise God for goodness and love.

Hymn: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ((H1982 #490)

I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus,

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever. Amen**

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.**

Holy God *Trisagion*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -

mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,

Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy

up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Setting: From *New Plain-song*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

In this prayer called the "collect," the priest "collects" or "gathers" the themes of the lesson, the season, and the congregation.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD (seated)

Now we listen to the story and lessons of God and God's people in Scripture.

The Second Lesson: Romans 13:11-14

You know what sort of times we live in, and so you should live properly. It is time to wake up. You know that the day when we will be saved is nearer now than when we first put our faith in the Lord. Night is almost over, and day will soon appear. We must stop behaving as people do in the dark and be ready to live in the light. So behave properly, as people do in the day. Don't go to wild parties or get drunk or be vulgar or indecent. Don't quarrel or be jealous. Let the Lord Jesus Christ be as near to you as the clothes you wear. Then you won't try to satisfy your selfish desires.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: Jesus Creed

D G A D

Je-sus said, "The first com mand-ment is this:___ Hear, O Is-ra-el: The

5 G A A(sus4) A⁷ G D

Lord our God is the on - ly Lord. Love the Lord your God___ with all___ your heart,

10 A Bm A G

___ with all___ your soul,___ with all___ your mind,___ and with all your strength.

13 D A G D A

___ The sec-ond is this:___ Love your neigh bor. as___ your self. There is___ no___

18 Bm A G A D

oth-er com mand ment great - er___ than. these.___ A - men.___

The Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Gospeller The ✠ Holy ✠ Gospel of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

No one knows the day or hour. The angels in heaven don't know, and the Son himself doesn't know. Only the Father knows. When the Son of Man appears, things will be just as they were when Noah lived. People were eating, drinking, and getting married right up to the day the flood came and Noah went into the big boat. They didn't know anything was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. This is how it will be when the Son of Man appears.

Two men will be in the same field, but only one will be taken. The other will be left. Two women will be together grinding grain, but only one will be taken. The other will be left. So be on your guard! You don't know when your Lord will come. Homeowners never know when a thief is coming, and they are always on guard to keep one from breaking in. Always be ready! You don't know when the Son of Man will come.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY - The Rev. Derek Larson *(seated)*

A moment of quiet reflection will follow the homily.

In the homily, the priest, deacon, or other minister helps us understand the stories and teachings of Scripture.

The Nicene Creed
(standing)

The creed is a sacred teaching passed down to us for hundreds of years to remind us of the story of the triune God.

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

(standing or kneeling, as able)

Now we pray to ask God to support our common life. We name all the things that are important to us, and especially those people in our families and communities that are in need.

Deacon Let us join together in prayer, out loud or quietly.

Leader First, we pray for our church family and all those who help us remember the love of Jesus. Who helps you remember the love of Jesus?

[Pause – say out loud or think quietly of those people, places, and things that show you God’s love.]

Leader We say, “Help us follow you, God.”

People **Help us follow you, God.**

Leader Second, we pray for all those in our communities who lead us and keep us safe. Who keeps you safe?

[Pause – say out loud or think quietly of those who keep you safe.]

Leader We say, “Give them wisdom, God.”

People **Give them wisdom, God.**

Leader Third, we pray for people or situations that make us feel worried, afraid, mad, or sad. What hurts your heart?

[Pause – say out loud or think quietly of things that make you worried, afraid, mad, or sad. Hold them up to God.]

Leader We say, “Help us, God.”

People **Help us, God.**

Leader Fourth, we pray for those we know who are sick or hurt, or who have ✠ died, especially those on our parish prayer list. Who are you thinking of?

[Pause – say out loud or think quietly of the names of people—or animals—who are sick or hurt or who have died.]

Leader We say, “Give them strength, God.”

People **Give them strength, God.**

Leader Fifth, we say “thank you” to God for all the good things that happen in our lives. What are you thankful for today?

[Pause – say out loud or think quietly of things for which you want to say “thank you” to God]

Leader We say, “Thank you, God.”

People **Thank you, God.**

Celebrant God, hear and answer our prayers with your wisdom and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be
always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Before we share communion, we greet one another with the sign of peace. You can shake hands, give high-fives, wave, hug, kiss, or simply say hello.

Prayer for birthdays, anniversaries, and milestones:

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY



The congregation is invited to offer gifts to God through the mission of St. Peter's. Our ushers will pass an offering basin for your gifts, or you may give online using the QR code to your left or on our website. Thank you for your ministry of giving.

Now we offer to God our love and service through art, money, bread, and wine. We place them on the altar as a gift to God.

Offertory Sentence:

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn: The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns (H1982 #73)

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks;
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.

Not, as of old, a little child, to bear, and fight, and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.

The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past;
O haste the rising of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
and let the endless bliss begin, by weary saints foretold,
when right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings:
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come quickly, King of kings.

At the doxology, the congregation is invited to come forward with their art to adorn the altar as an offering of their creativity and prayer.

Doxology *(please stand) all singing together*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We Gather at God's Table

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Common Prayer, Additional Eucharistic Prayer One

At God's table, which is also called an altar, we pray a prayer of thanksgiving and remember all that God has done for us.

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Holy, holy, *People* **Holy!**

Celebrant It is always right to give you thanks, God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong. You made us and the whole universe and filled your world with life.

Celebrant Holy, holy, *People* **Holy!**

Celebrant You sent your Son to live among us, Jesus our Savior, Mary's child. He suffered on the cross; he died to save us from our sins; he rose in glory from the dead.

Celebrant Holy, holy, *People* **Holy!**

Celebrant You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world, and clothe us with power from on high. And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

All singing together (WLP, H858 Hymn tune: Land of Rest)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

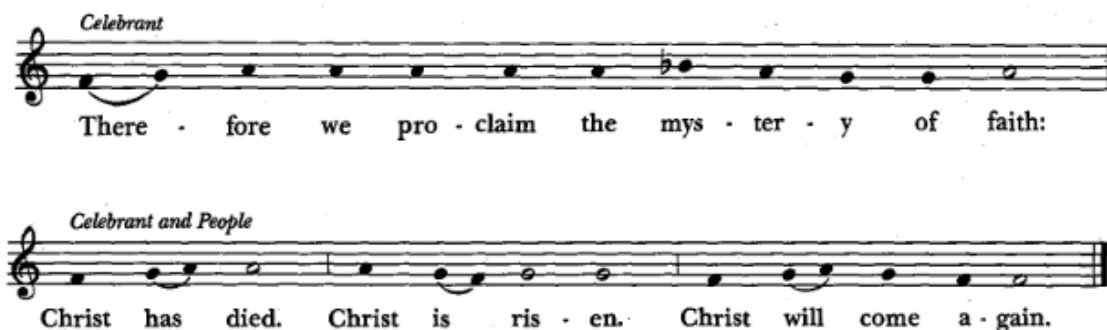
Blessed ✠ is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Father, on the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with his friends. He took the bread, and thanked you. He broke it, and gave it to them, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me. ✠

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine. He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you. This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love. Do this to remember me. ✠

S133



Setting: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1938)

Celebrant Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and remember his death and resurrection, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts may be fed by Christ's body and blood. Pour your Spirit on us ✠ that we may love one another, work for the healing of the earth, and share the good news of Jesus, as we wait for his coming in glory. For honor and praise belong to you, Father, with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit: one God, for ever and ever.

This part is called the "Epiclesis," where we ask God to send the Holy Spirit upon the bread and wine and upon us, God's people.

All singing together (S146)

Amen



Setting: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943)

Celebrant And now, in the words that Jesus taught us, we are bold to say,

Lord's Prayer

G C D G C D

Our Fa-ther, who art in heav - en, hal-low-ed be thy Name, —
Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for give us our tres-pass - es,

9 Em D/F# G Am⁷ G D/F# 1. 3

thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav'n.
as we for- give — those — who tres pass a- gainst — us.

19 2. Am⁷ Bm⁷ C D

And lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us — from e - vil.

28 D(sus⁴) D G Gmaj⁷ G Am⁷

For thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry,

36 Am¹³ Am⁷ C Cmaj⁷ D D⁷ G(sus⁴) G(add²) G

for — ev - er and ev - er. A - men. —

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Celebrant This is God's table. Jesus is the host. We are the guests.

✠ Share in God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

You are invited to receive communion this morning, an ancient practice intended for all baptized Christians, no matter your tradition. You may receive just the bread (which is full participation in the sacrament), or both the bread and the wine by sipping directly from the chalice. You may also receive by intinction, in which case the minister will dip the bread in the chalice for you. You may receive the bread in your hand or on your tongue.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

If you would prefer not to receive communion, you may also come forward and cross your arms over your chest for a blessing.

Communion Hymn: Be Thou My Vision (H1982 #488)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be;
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong, they are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

A FINAL PRAYER AND A BLESSING

All **Holy God, we thank you for being present here in the Communion we shared, and for this taste of your feast. We pray that you will be in our minds and hearts as we leave this place, showing us the best way to go and giving us the strength and courage to follow it. Amen.**

The Priest blesses the people

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Invitation to Mission *Please be seated*

Some brief announcements for the mission of the church are offered.

Our Parish Mission *(Please stand)*

We, at St. Peter's, strive to be a welcoming Christian community of all ages that embodies God's word and sacraments, invites spiritual curiosity, celebrates children and youth, and embraces the world with God's Love.

Hymn: We Are Marching in the Light of God

We are marching in the light of God (4 times)

We are singing ...

We are dancing ...

We are waving ...

We are clapping ...

THE DISMISSAL – SENDING US INTO THE WORLD

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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Ministers serving today:

Celebrant: The Rev. Derek Larson Deacon: The Rev. Denise Healy

Organist: Helen Jones St. Peter's Choir Altar Guild

Readers: Rose Price, Piper Stevens, & Charlotte Weronik

Crucifer: Christy Lyle Acolytes: Elizabeth Lyle, Glenn Lyle

Eucharistic Minister: Mark Conner

Ushers: Sally Fuhrman, Glenn Mathias

Advent Wreath Readers: The Everett Family

By the Numbers:

Last Sunday's Attendance (including 11 online): 115

Average Sunday Attendance in 2025: 112

Weekly Income and Expenses Budgeted: \$7,000 (\$1,000 a day).

Finances Week of November 23, 2025: Income: \$3,517.72.

2025 Budgeted Revenue: \$368,296

2025 Revenue to Date: \$321,697.89.

Mind the Gap: \$46,598.11 needed to meet 2025 budget

2026 Pledge Goal: \$312,000 (312 days of ministry)

2026 Pledges to Date: \$241,621.74 (241 days of ministry)

Mind the Gap: \$70,378.26 (70 days of ministry) needed to meet goal

Readings for next Sunday, December 7:

Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

Are you on our email list? More announcements can be found in our weekly "This Week at St. Peter's" email. Remember that you can also check <https://www.stpetersplantcity.com/calendar> for up-to-date calendar listings.

Take note:

- Today at 9:15am – Family Sunday School: The First Day of Advent
- WEDNESDAYS at 10:30am – Lectionary Bible Study with the Rector.
- NO Engage Café Wednesday, December 3.
- Be sure to see TW@SP for our many Outreach opportunities.
- We are currently receiving nominations for the vestry and delegates for 2026. For more information, see Fr. Derek or a vestry member.

Please Pray For:

- Amanda, Bernie, Bill, Bill, Billie, Bernice, Betty, Betty, Bruce, Bud, Carol, Carolyn, Casey, Charley, Chris, Dale, Daryll, David, David, David, Don, Dorothy, Drex, Ellie, Evelyn, Evon, Frank, Fred, Glen, Gregg, Hugh, Jackie, James, Jane, Janet, Janice, Janice, Jason, Jeff, Jenna, Jim, JoAnne, John, John & Jane, Karen, Linda, Luke, Lyn, Marcie, Marilyn, Mary, Mary, Mary Katherine, Nancy, Nora, Priscilla & Robert, Richard, Rodney, Sally, Sally, Sarah, Shirley, Stephanie, Su, Teri, Thomas, Tim, Tracey, Vernetta, Our Neighbors at Laundry Love, Friends in the Park
- The victims of violence and injustice in our own country and around the world.
- People of the Middle East
- Those celebrating birthdays: Kevin Brown 12/01, Billy Williams 12/02, Charlotte Weronik 12/02, Rebecca Ham 12/04, Tom Sistrunk 12/04
- Those expecting a child and their families: Breanna Clark (2/26), Kelly Gutowski (2/26), Grace Everett (3/26), LauraAnn Larson (5/26), Brittany Eukovich Wilhelm (5/26).
- St. Peter's Vestry: Christy, Cindy, Eda, Mark, Patti, Patty, Ron, Sandy
- Our Shared Parish: St. Peter's 2026 Pledge Campaign.
- Members of our community serving in the armed forces:
Aden, Andrew, Austin, Brendan, Christopher, Dayna, Forrest, Kyle, Logan, Matt, Matthew, Nick, Paul, Robert, Scott, Timothy, Trace, Yasmine

Parish Administration:

Rector: The Rev. Derek Larson, TSSF

Deacon: The Rev. Denise Healy

Parish Administrator: Sarah Dean

Director of Music Ministries: Helen Jones

Treasurer: Trey Stevens

Sexton: Tony Wilson

**Vestry: Sandy Black, Patti Booher (Senior Warden), Mark Conner,
Ron Everett (Junior Warden), Cindy Gutowski,
Patty Linder (Clerk), Christy Lyle, Eda Snyder, Neal Ward**



**Holy Eucharist every Sunday at 8am and 10:30am
TruthWalkers (Godly Play-style Sunday School),
Youth and Preschool Sunday School at 9:15am**

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church
302 N. Carey St | Plant City, FL 33563**

Office Phone: 813-752-5061 Office Email: st.peterspc@verizon.net

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 9am–3pm

Fr. Derek Larson email: rector@stpetersplantcity.com

Deacon Denise Healy email: revdzz@gmail.com

Patti Booher/Senior Warden email: stpetersseniorwarden@gmail.com
www.stpetersplantcity.com



**Did you find our church mice?
John Mousely is the one preaching. Thomas Cracker is
the one praying. Find them both and tell Fr. Derek
where they are for a cute sticker.**