



ST. PETER'S
EST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1889

Family Mass

10:30 am | April 26, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter

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 worshipping 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.

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: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (H1982 #686)

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure; hither by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

*My God is so great, so strong and so mighty, There's nothing my God cannot do.
My God is so great, so strong and so mighty, There's nothing my God cannot do.
The mountains are His, the rivers are His, The stars are His handiwork, too.
My God is so great, so strong and so mighty, There's nothing my God cannot do.*

Celebrant Welcome in the name of God who is
Thoughtful Creator, Good Shepherd, and
Guiding Breath.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

We gather in the name of the triune (three-in-one) God with a greeting, saying hello to God and one another.

All (H1982 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.**

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.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

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

They spent their time learning from the apostles, and they were like family to each other. They also broke bread and prayed together.

Everyone was amazed by the many miracles and wonders that the apostles worked. All the Lord's followers often met together, and they shared everything they had. They would sell their property and possessions and give the money to whoever was in need. Day after day they met together in the temple. They broke bread together in different homes and shared their food happily and freely, while praising God. Everyone liked them, and each day the Lord added to their group others who were being saved.

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: John 10:1-10

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

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

Jesus said:

I tell you for certain only thieves and robbers climb over the fence instead of going in through the gate to the sheep pen. But the gatekeeper opens the gate for the shepherd, and he goes in through it. The sheep know their shepherd's voice. He calls each of them by name and leads them out.

When he has led out all of his sheep, he walks in front of them, and they follow, because they know his voice. The sheep will not follow strangers. They don't recognize a stranger's voice, and they run away.

Jesus told the people this story. But they did not understand what he was talking about.

Jesus said:

I tell you for certain that I am the gate for the sheep. Everyone who came before me was a thief or a robber, and the sheep did not listen to any of them. I am the gate. All who come in through me will be saved. Through me they will come and go and find pasture.

A thief comes only to rob, kill, and destroy. I came so everyone would have life, and have it fully.

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 Bill Carr, and 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:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn: Shepherd Me, O God

**Refrain: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, from death into life.**

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace. **Refrain**

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name. **Refrain**

Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. **Refrain**

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. **Refrain**

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 us your Son Jesus Christ, who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; who by his suffering and death became the author of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

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 the one 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

Celebrant

There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

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 "Epicicles," 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

A - men. A - men. A - men.

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

O Lamb of God, that tak-est a - way the sins of the
world, have mer - cy up - on — us. us. O
Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sins
of the world, grant us thy peace.

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: Alleluia, Alleluia,

Give Thanks to the Risen Lord (H1982 #178)

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. **Refrain**

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. **Refrain**

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. **Refrain**

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our savior. **Refrain**

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

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **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: Hymn: He's Got the Whole World in His Hand

He's got the whole world in His hand ... *(three times)*

He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got the wind and the rain in His hand ... *(three times)*

He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got the sun and the moon in His hand ... *(three times)*

He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got all the little children in His hand ... *(three times)*

He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got everybody here in His hand ... *(three times)*

He's got the whole world in His hand.

THE DISMISSAL – SENDING US INTO THE WORLD

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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Ministers serving today:

Celebrant: The Rev. Derek Larson Deacon: The Rev. Denise Healy
Organist: Helen Jones St. Peter's Choir
Readers: Jory Price, Rose Price
Eucharistic Ministers: Mark Conner
Ushers: Maureen & Bruce Nichols Altar Guild

By the Numbers:

Last Sunday's Attendance (including 16 online): 129
Average Sunday Attendance in 2026: 127

Readings for next Sunday, May 3:

Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

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 is our monthly intergenerational Family Sunday School at 9:15am for all ages. Join us as we learn and grow together.
- Join us for Evensong Wednesday at 5:15 in the Church.
- Engage Café Wednesday at 5:30 in Bender Hall. RSVP by noon Monday.
- Be sure to see the TW@SP weekly email for our many Outreach opportunities.
- Our Books for Kids program collects new books to distribute to local second graders and runs April 12-May 13, 2026. You can participate by:
 - Making a financial contribution: Please ensure you note the donation as "Books for Kids."
 - Donating physical books: Purchase age-appropriate books and place them in the Books for Kids basket in Bender Hall.
 - Ordering online: Use our QR code or Amazon link to purchase books from a prepared list. You may have these books sent directly to Tracy Everett using the address provided on the list.More detailed directions can be found in TW@SP and on social media. Additionally, orange business cards featuring the Amazon QR code are located at each exit.

Please Pray For:

- Alyssa, Amanda, Amber, Anthony, Belinda, Bernice, Betty, Bill, Bruce, Bud, Carol, Carolyn, Charley, Chris, Darlene, Daryll, David, David, Don, Dorothy, Drex, Ellie, Evelyn, Evon & Jason, Fred, Glenn, Gregg; Jack, Erika & Nate; Jackie, James, Janet, Janice, Jeff, Jenna, Jimmie, John, John & Jane, Jonathan & Leslie, June & Don, Linda, Luke, Marilyn & Jim, Mary, Mary, Mary Katherine, Nora, Paulette, Priscilla & Robert, Richard, Rosemary, Sally, Sandra, Sarah, Shirley, Stephanie, Steve & Jennifer, Su, Susan, Susan, Susanne, Thomas, Tim, Tim, Tracey, Vernetta
- Our Neighbors at Laundry Love and Friends in the Park
- The victims of violence and injustice in our own country and around the world.
- People of the Middle East
- The recently departed: Bill Carr
- Those celebrating birthdays: Timothy Brown 04/27, Amy Brown 04/27, Mike Dellwo 04/30.
- Those celebrating anniversaries: Pamela & Steven McCall 04/29, Meredith & Thomas Prokuski 04/29, Maureen & Bruce Nichols 05/02
- Those expecting a child and their families: LauraAnn Larson (5/26), Brittany Eukovich Wilhelm (5/26), Laura Booher Benton (7/26), Carley Sicignano (7/26)
- St. Peter's Vestry: Brian, Chris, Christy, Diana, Eda, Lindsay, Mark, Ron, Sandy
- Members of our community serving in the armed forces: Aden, Andrew, Austin, Brendan, Brandon, Brantley, Christopher, Conor, Dayna, Forrest, Kyle, Logan, Matt, Matthew, Nick, Robert, Scott, Timothy, Trace

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, Mark Conner, Ron Everett (Junior Warden),
Lindsay Hunt, Diana Johnson, Christy Lyle (Senior Warden),
Brian Reid, Eda Snyder, Chris Thomas**



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

Weekdays: Morning Prayer at 8:00am and Evening Prayer at 5:15pm

Sundays: Spoken Mass at 8:00am and Choral Mass at 10:30am

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm

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

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Deacon Denise Healy email: revdzz@gmail.com

Christy Lyle/Senior Warden email: seniorwarden@stpetersplantcity.com

www.stpetersplantcity.com

DID YOU FIND OUR CHURCH MICE?



St. Peter's has three resident mice clergy
for our mouse congregation! Find all
three and after mass tell Fr. Derek where
they are for a cute sticker.