



ST. PETER'S
EST **EPISCOPAL CHURCH** 1889

Family Mass

10:30 am | September 27, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to St. Peter's! From the moment you walk through these doors, you are part of our 137-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! Our Visitor Form can be found by scanning the QR code. 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! O 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.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee;
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

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

All

See pew card for music

**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, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your
promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

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

Christ encourages you, and his love comforts you. God's Spirit unites you, and you are concerned for others. Now make me completely happy! Live in harmony by showing love for each other. Be united in what you think, as if you were only one person. Don't be jealous or proud, but be humble and consider others more important than yourselves. Care about them as much as you care about yourselves and think the same way that Christ Jesus thought:

Christ was truly God. But he did not try to remain equal with God. Instead he gave up everything and became a slave, when he became like one of us. Christ was humble. He obeyed God and even died on a cross.

Then God gave Christ the highest place and honored his name above all others.

So at the name of Jesus everyone will bow down, those in heaven, on earth, and under the earth. And to the glory of God the Father everyone will openly agree, "Jesus Christ is Lord!"

My dear friends, you always obeyed when I was with you. Now that I am away, you should obey even more. So work with fear and trembling to discover what it really means to be saved. God is working in you to make you willing and able to obey him.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: Jesus Creed

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

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

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

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

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

The Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

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

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

Jesus had gone into the temple and was teaching when the chief priests and the leaders of the people came up to him. They asked, "What right do you have to do these things? Who gave you this authority?"

Jesus answered, "I have just one question to ask you. If you answer it, I will tell you where I got the right to do these things. Who gave John the right to baptize? Was it God in heaven or merely some human being?"

They thought it over and said to each other, “We can't say God gave John this right. Jesus will ask us why we didn't believe John. On the other hand, these people think John was a prophet, and we are afraid of what they might do to us. That's why we can't say it was merely some human who gave John the right to baptize.” So they told Jesus, “We don't know.”

Jesus said, “Then I won't tell you who gave me the right to do what I do.”

Jesus said:

I will tell you a story about a man who had two sons. Then you can tell me what you think. The father went to the older son and said, “Go work in the vineyard today!” His son told him he would not do it, but later he changed his mind and went. The man then told his younger son to go work in the vineyard. The boy said he would, but he didn't go. ³¹ Which one of the sons obeyed his father? “The older one,” the chief priests and leaders answered.

Then Jesus told them:

You can be sure tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you ever will! When John the Baptist showed you how to do right, you would not believe him. But these evil people did believe. And even when you saw what they did, you still would not change your minds and believe.

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

The Nicene Creed *(standing)*

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, 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.**

Special Prayers for Families and Individuals

Families and individuals are invited to come forward for special prayers and blessings for various occasions, including birthdays, anniversaries, milestones, travel, births, pregnancies, surgeries, etc.

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 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.

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:

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalms 50:14*

Offertory Anthem: This Little Light of Mine – Mark Hayes

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

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 Saviour, 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 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. ✠

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.

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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. **Amen.**

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.

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

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.

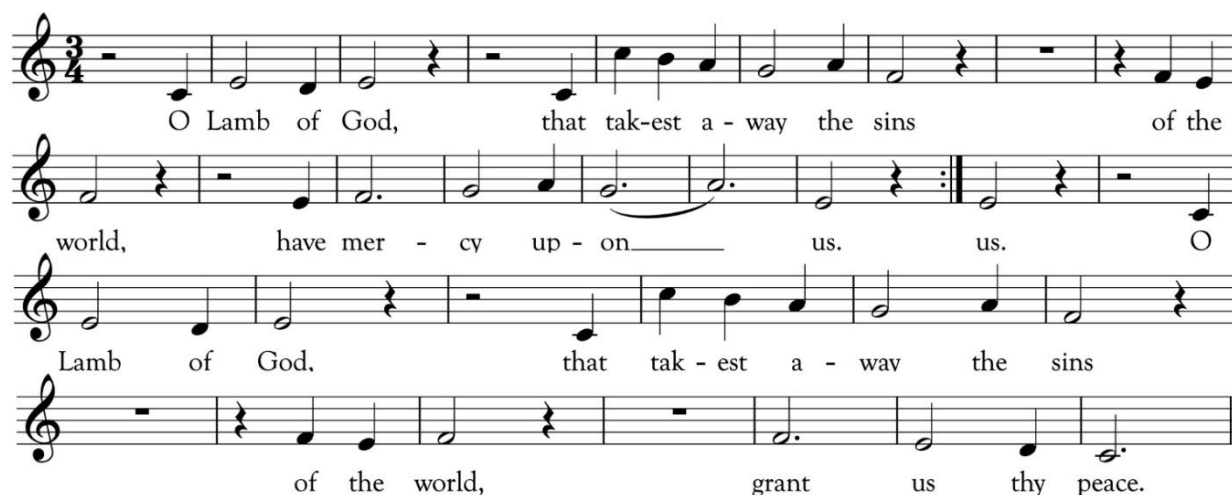
28 D(sus⁴) D G Gmaj⁷ G Am⁷

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 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: 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**

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

A FINAL PRAYER AND A BLESSING

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.

Invitation to Mission

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.

The Priest blesses the people

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the ✠ blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn: He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got you and me sister in His hands, He's got you and me sister in His hands,
He's got you and me sister in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got you and me brother in His hands, He's got you and me brother in His hands,
He's got you and me brother in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the little tiny babies in His hands, He's got the little tiny babies in His hands,
He's got the little tiny babies in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got everybody here in His hands, He's got everybody here in His hands,
He's got everybody here in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

THE DISMISSAL – SENDING US INTO THE WORLD

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
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

Altar Guild

Readers: Rose Price, Piper Stevens

Eucharistic Ministers: Mike Booher, Mark Conner

Ushers: Ron Everett, Fred Johnson

By the Numbers:

Attendance Last Week: 110 (including 16 online)

Average Sunday Attendance: 114

Readings for next Sunday, October 4:

Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80:7-14, Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46

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.
 - Tuesday, September 29th at 8:00am- Special Mass for the Feast of St. Michael.
 - Bible Study with the Rector Wednesday at 10:30 in the Guild Room.
 - Engage Café Wednesday at 5:30pm in Bender Hall. RSVP by noon Monday.
 - Help us update our parishioner list! We ask everyone at St. Peter’s, newcomer or longtimer, to fill out the form at this QR code. You can also submit prayer requests and/or ask questions with the same link. Thank you!
- 
- Be sure to see the TW@SP weekly email for our many Outreach opportunities.

Please Pray For:

- Alyssa, Amanda, Anthony, Bernice, Bernie, Beth & Tim, Betty, Bruce, Bud, Carol, Carolyn, Chad, Charley, Chris, D.J., Daryll, David, Don, Dorothy, Drex, Eda, Eddie, Ellie, Evelyn, Evon & Jason, Frank, Fred, Glenn, Glenn, Gregg, Jack, Erika & Nate; Jackie, James, Janet, Janice, Jeff, Jenna, John & Dianne, John & Jane, Jonathan & Leslie, Julynn, June & Don, Katherine, Linda, Luke, Marcie, Marilyn & Jim, Mary, Mary, Mary, Nora, Odin & the Sepe Family, Ollie, Paulette, Priscilla & Robert, Richard, Rosemary, Sally, Sandra, Sarah, Sarah, Shirley, Shirley & Johnny, Stephanie, Steve & Jennifer, Su, Sue, Susan, Susan, Terry, Thomas, Tim, Tim, Tracey
- Our Neighbors at Laundry Love and Friends in the Park
- For wisdom and discernment as we seek to expand our campus with the purchase of 1205 W Baker Street.
- The victims of violence and injustice in our own country and around the world.
- People of the Middle East
- Those celebrating birthdays: Hayes Hunt 09/27, Josh Brown 09/30, Gemma Sicignano 10/03
- Those celebrating anniversaries: Tammy & Fred Johnson 09/29
- Those expecting a child and their families: Isis Jones (12/26), Miranda Wilson (01/27), Sara Larson (01/27)
- Our School of Ministry Lay Preaching Students: Patty Linder and Meredith Prokuski
- 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, Brantley, Brendan, Conor, Forrest, Matt, Sarah, 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

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



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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.