St. Peter's Episcopal Church

A parish in the Diocese of North Carolina

October 18, 2026, 11:00 AM

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to St. Peter's

This leaflet includes an order of service for worship and other important information.

Assistance. If you need any assistance, an usher or host can direct you to restrooms, space for nursing mothers, childcare, and other parts of our campus. Assistive listening devices are also available.

Parking. Free parking is available in the parking deck across 7th Street from the Church. Pick up a payment voucher from the 7th Street Lobby or the N. Tryon Street entry tower and scan it when leaving the parking deck. Handicapped parking is available in the 7th Street parking lot adjacent to the Parish House.

New to St. Peter's? Please complete a Connect Card and leave it in the offering plate or give it to an usher, host, or member of the clergy. You can also tell us about yourself online via the "Visit St. Peter's" tab at **st-peters.org**.

Giving. As Christians, we believe that all we have, from our talents, to our energy, to our financial resources, is a gift from God. Giving out of the abundance of those blessings is an act of faith, like worship, prayer, and service, and strengthens our relationship with God and with each other. If you would like to know more about how to give of your talents and energy, please let a member of our clergy know and they will gladly connect you with the various ministries of the parish. You can make a financial gift through the offering plate or on our website: **st-peters.org**.

You can also make a long-term pledge of support online, or by filling out a pledge form and dropping in the offering plate. A pledge is simply an estimate of what you plan to give in 2026, and helps our vestry, clergy, and lay-volunteers envision how we will answer God's call in the coming year.

Our Mission
To nurture a community of courageous followers of Jesus and inspire love of God and love of neighbor.

Our Vision
To be a place of unconditional welcome and a beacon of God's love in the heart of Charlotte.

Stewardship and Being the Village

"Everyone wants a village, but no one wants to be a villager." I've been hearing this a lot lately, especially online, about people who want a ride from the airport but tell their friends to just call an Uber, or who want help moving but tell their friends to just hire movers. It's an easy trap to fall into, especially in our age of social media and hyper-independence, when it's so easy to lean on apps and the gig economy instead of on one another.

When we began our 2027 Annual Giving Campaign a couple of weeks ago, this idea kept coming back to me as Fr. Jacob explained our goal: not a set amount of money, but a set number of pledges. I kept thinking, "We want a village!" Honestly, that's what a parish is meant to be: a place where we show up for one another, everyone belongs, and where nobody is just a spectator.

I remember the first time I was asked to pledge at my old parish. I had just begun a long and expensive divorce, and I had recently been laid off. I scoffed at the idea; I didn't even know if I'd have a home by the end of the year, and I couldn't imagine how the little I had to give could matter to anyone. A friend told me, "It isn't about how much you have or how much you give; it's about being a part of something bigger than yourself." So I decided to pledge $20 for the year, a promise I knew I could keep. I kept expecting some kind of shame, mostly from within myself, because I knew this gift wasn't making a dent in the budget. Instead, it made me feel even more like I belonged; "no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home."

At St. Peter's, we are blessed in so many ways, and it's easy to feel that what we have isn't enough next to what others bring, or that we're covered by those with more to give, whether time, talent, or treasure. But that couldn't be further from the truth! We are one body, and in a village, everyone is a villager in whatever way they can be. Ideally, every member of this parish would pledge, even if all they can promise is $0.12 or one day of volunteering with a ministry. Not because we need to keep the gears turning (although it definitely does that), but because we belong to one another, and everything we do touches everyone else. This house, this world, belongs to the Lord, and we are all called to be its stewards, from the most to the least. Every one of us has a voice, and every one of us has something to give.

However you are called to take part, I hope you'll prayerfully consider your place in this village. St. Peter's is better with you in it.

Kayla Newsome, Communications Associate

Taking Part in Worship

Worship in the Episcopal Church is based on old and established customs. Whether or not you are familiar with our worship style, this order of service includes details to help you participate with more ease. Generally speaking, we sit to listen to the scripture lessons and the sermon, and we stand to sing, to recite the Creed, and to listen to the Gospel Lesson proclaimed at the Eucharist. When it comes to prayer, both standing and kneeling are ancient and accepted practices—so please feel free to stand or kneel during our prayers, whichever most enriches your worship.

If you need assistance hearing the service, pick up a hearing assistance device from the basket just outside the Chapel.

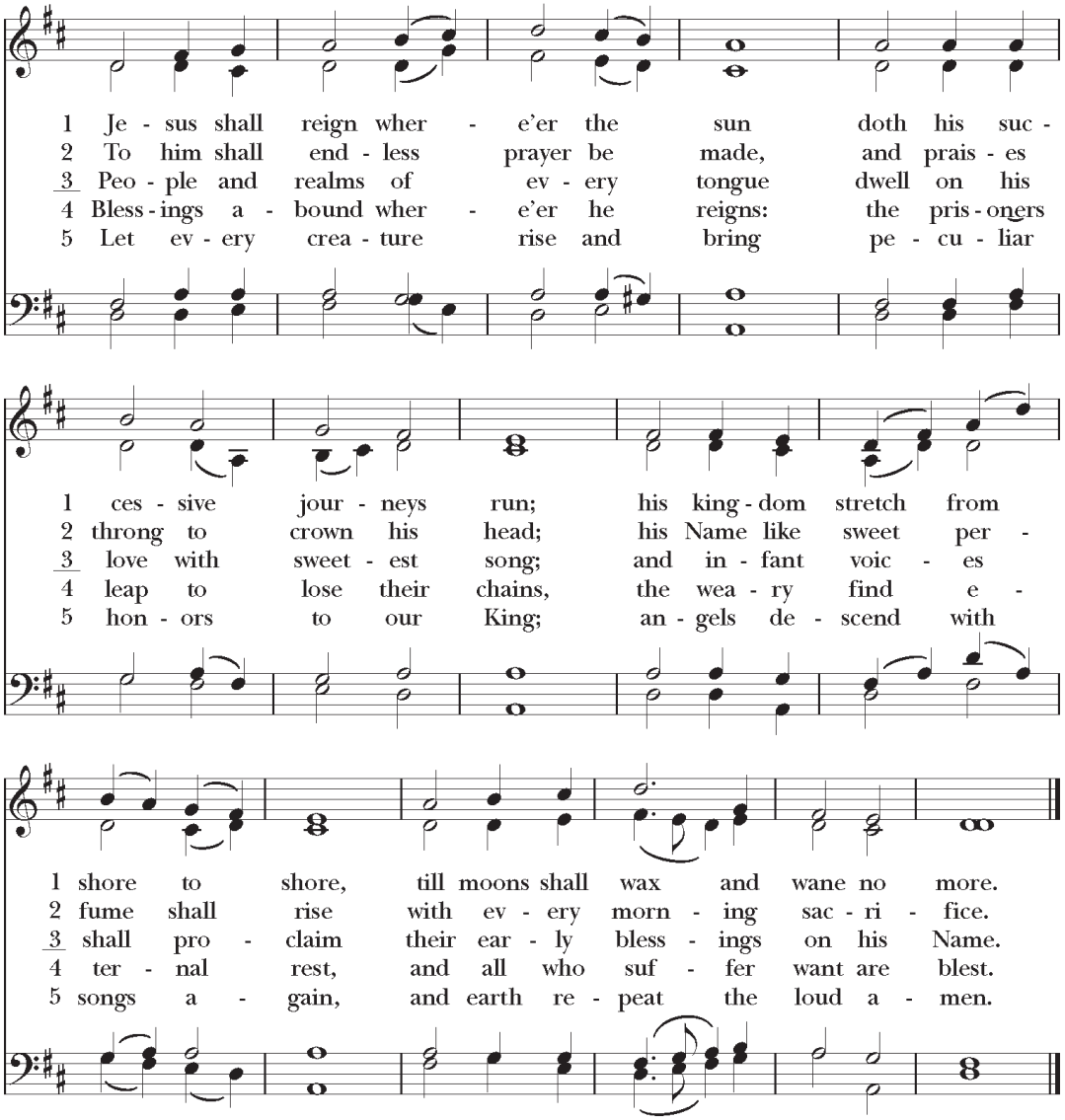
Before worship, please observe quiet for prayer and meditation, and silence any device that may disturb you or your neighbor.

Further instructions are listed throughout this leaflet. Congregational responses for the service are printed in ***boldface*** *type.*

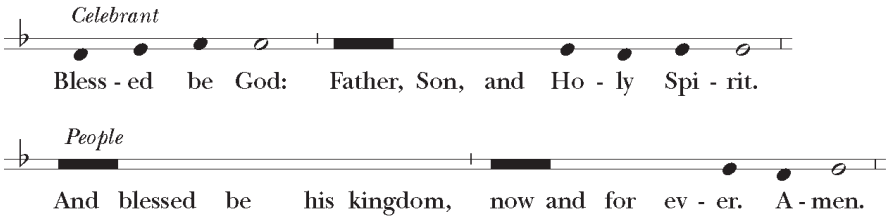
Voluntary *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr,* BWV 662 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

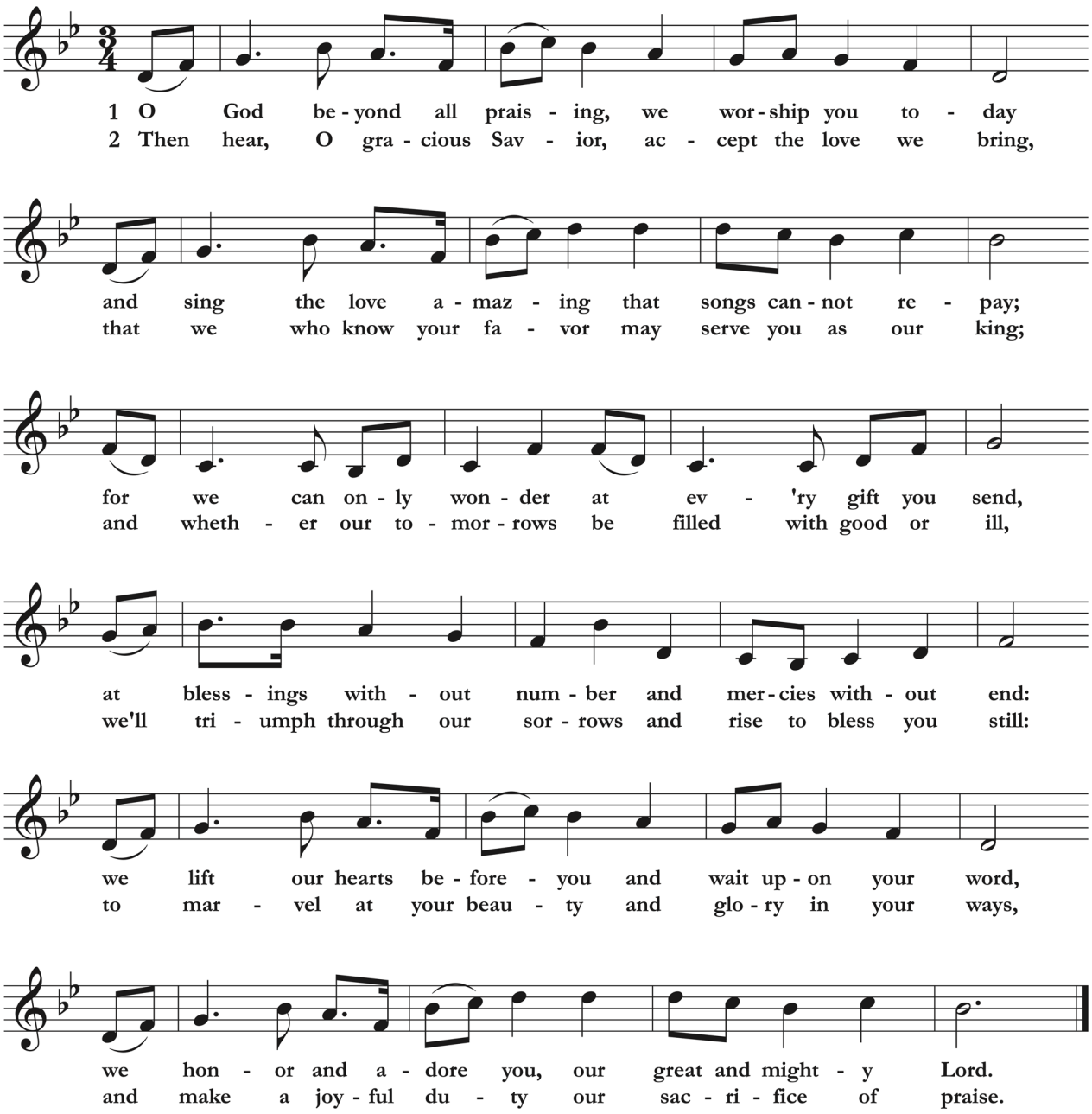
Stand and join in the singing of the opening hymn in procession.

Hymn 544 from *Hymnal 1982*. Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Duke Street*, John Hatton (d. 1793).

The people standing, the Celebrant says



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.**

The following song of praise is sung, all standing

Words: Michael A. Perry (b. 1942), © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Music: *Thaxted*, Gustav Holst (1874–1934), alt.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The people sit. Lessons, as appointed, are read.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 45:1–7.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
I will go before you and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the Lord do all these things.

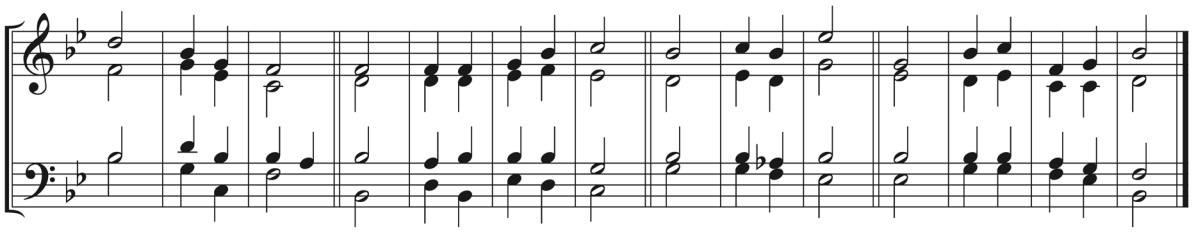
After the Reading, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Remaining seated, the choir and congregation sing the portion of the Psalter appointed. Four symbols guide you through singing the psalm to Anglican Chant. The vertical bars (|) correspond to measure lines; brackets (⌜⌝) connect two syllables to be sung to one note; two dots (••) identify one syllable to be sung to two notes; and a horizontal bar (—) indicates that the reciting note at the beginning of a line is skipped.

Psalm 96:1–9 *Cantate Domino* George Thalben-Ball (1896–1987)



1 O SING unto the Lord a | nëw | song *
sing unto the Lord, | all the | whöle | earth.

2 Sing unto the Lord, and | praise his | Name *
be telling of his sal|vation from | day to | day.

3 Declare his honour | unto the | heathen *
and his wonders | unto | äll | people.

4 For the Lord is great, and cannot | worthily be | praised *
he is more to be | feared than | äll | gods.

5 As for all the gods of the heathen, they | are but | idols *
but it is the | Lord that | made the | heavens.

6 Glory and worship | are be|fore him *
power and | honour are | in his | sanctuary.

7 Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye | kindreds of the | people *
ascribe unto the | Lörd | worship and | power.

8 Ascribe unto the Lord the honour due | unto his | Name *
bring presents, and | come in|to his | courts.

† 9 O worship the Lord in the | beauty of | holiness *
let the | whole earth | stand in | awe of him.

† *Repeat the second half of the chant.*

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10.

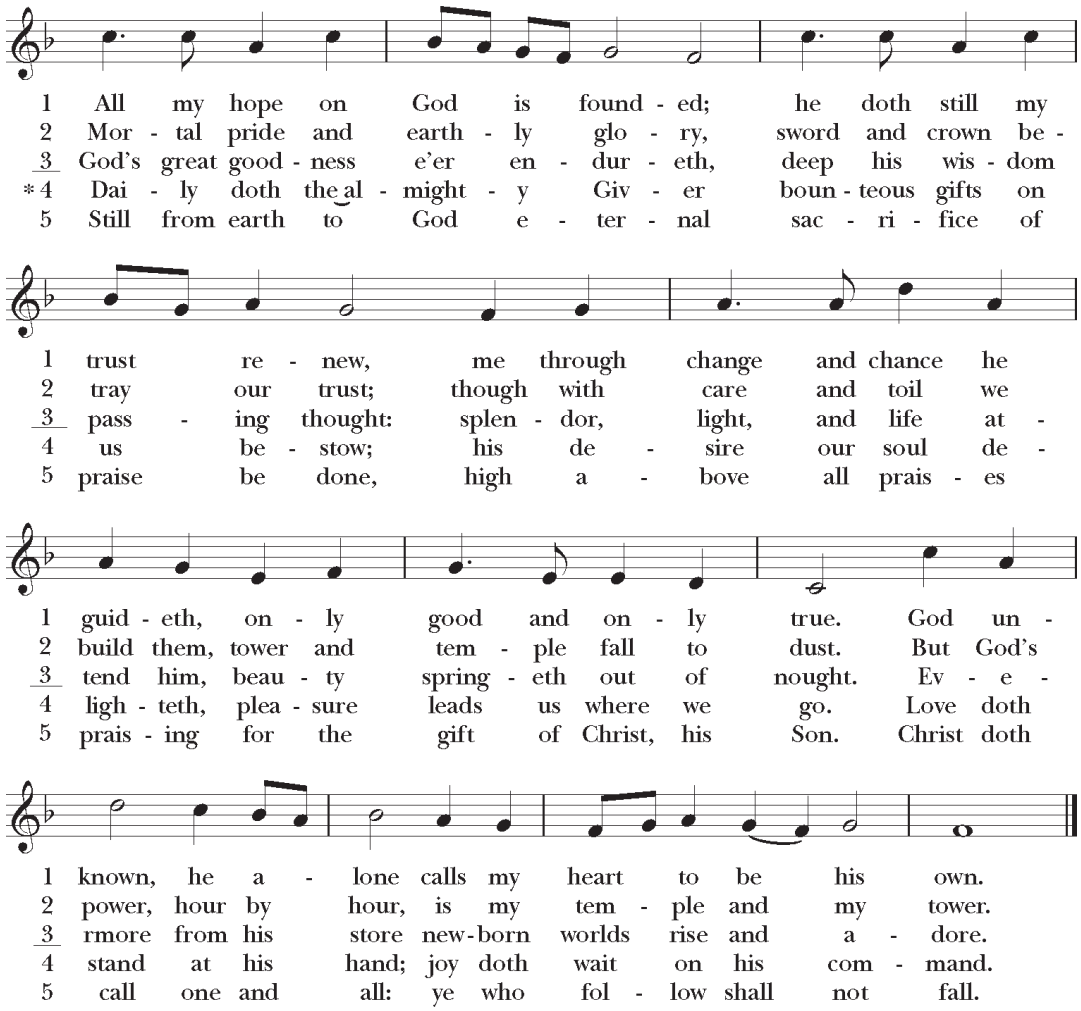
Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for

your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

After the Reading, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Stand and join in the singing of a hymn.

Hymn 665 from *Hymnal 1982*. Words: Robert Seymour Bridges (1844–1930, alt., after Joachim Neander (1650–1680).
Music: *Michael*, Herbert Howells (1892–1983).

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

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

Matthew 22:15–22.

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us,

then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Reverend Jacob E. Pierce

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing

The Nicene Creed

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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified.
Who 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.

Prayers of the People, Form IV

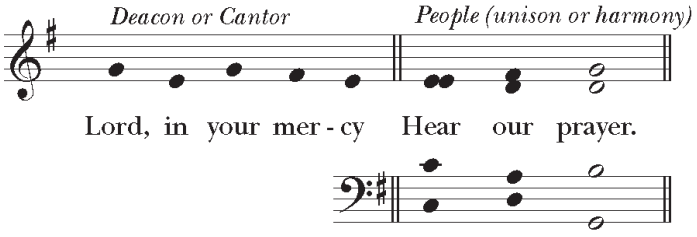
The Deacon reads petitions according to the concerns of the Congregation today. Then Cantor, Choir, and Congregation join in the singing of the Prayers.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory / in the wórld.

Silence

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the / common góod.

Silence



Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your hon- / or and glóry.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as / he loves ús.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of / your salvátion.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your e- / ternal kíngdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

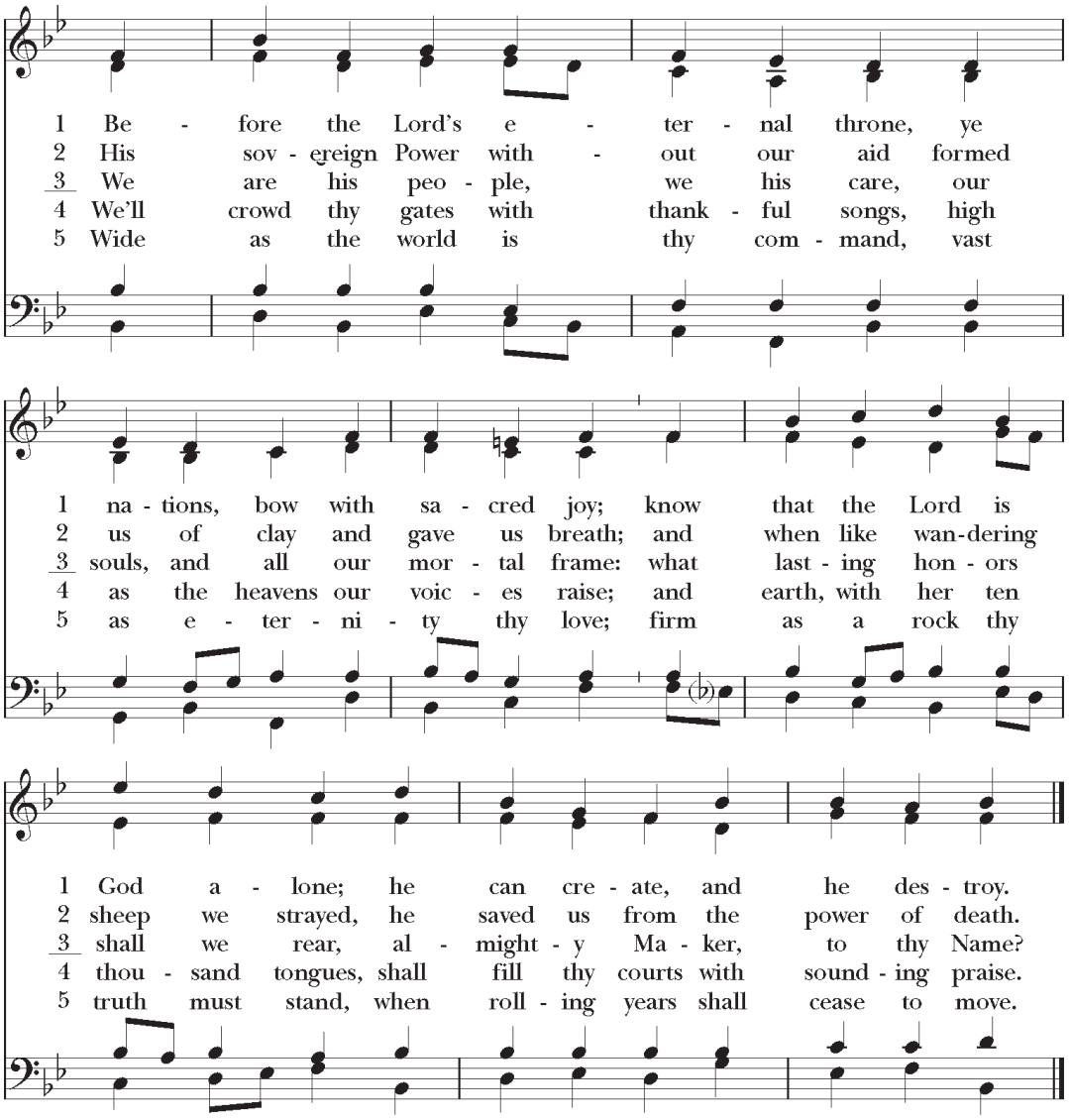
The Holy Communion

Offertory *A new song* — James MacMillan (b. 1959)

O sing unto the Lord a new song,
sing unto the Lord all the whole earth.
Sing unto the Lord and praise His Name,
be telling of His salvation from day to day.
For He cometh to judge the earth,
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the peoples with His truth.

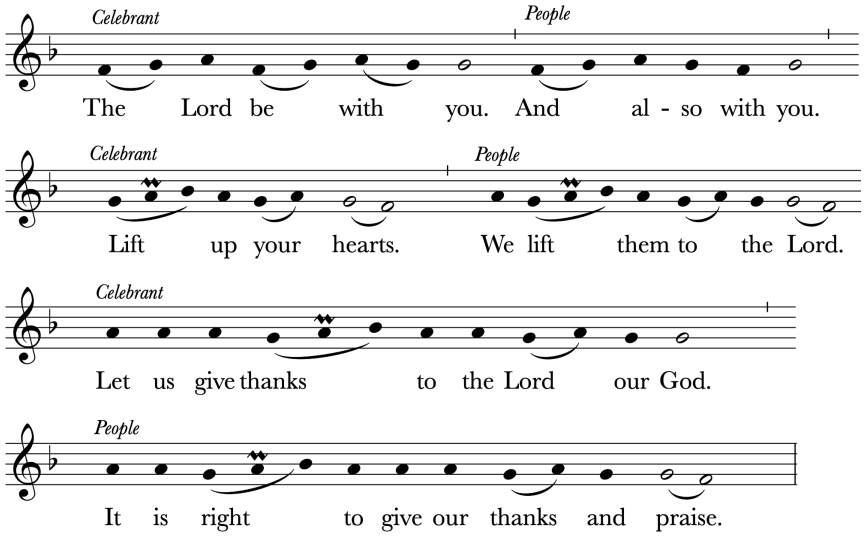
– Psalm 96 vv. 1, 2, 13

The people stand while the offerings are presented and blessed.

Join in the singing of a hymn.

Hymn 391 from *Hymnal 1982*. Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 100.
Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889).

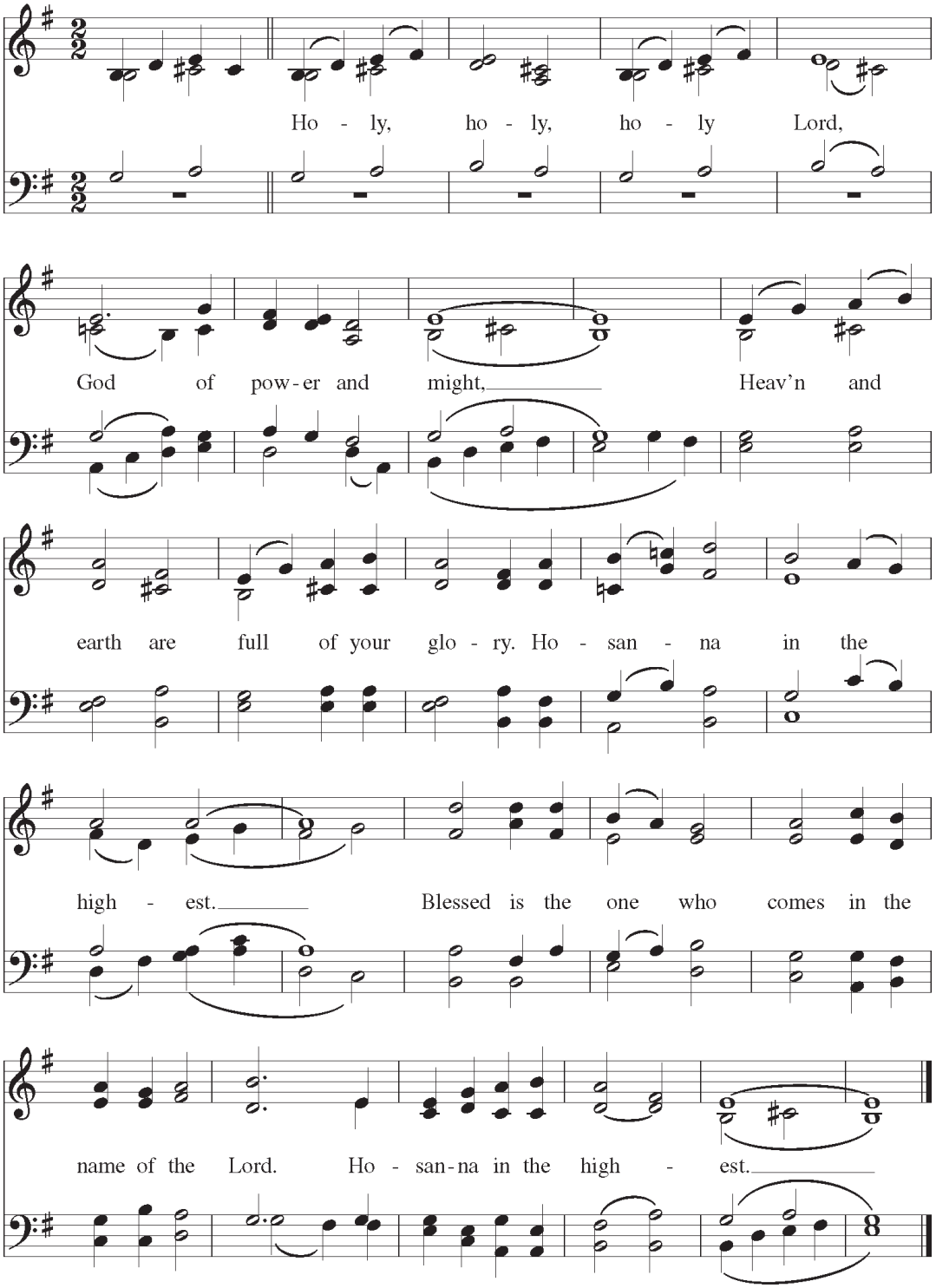
The Great Thanksgiving, *Eucharistic Prayer A*

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings



Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Music: W852 from the *Wonder, Love and Praise* supplement to *Hymnal 1982*. William Bradley Roberts (b. 1947).

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

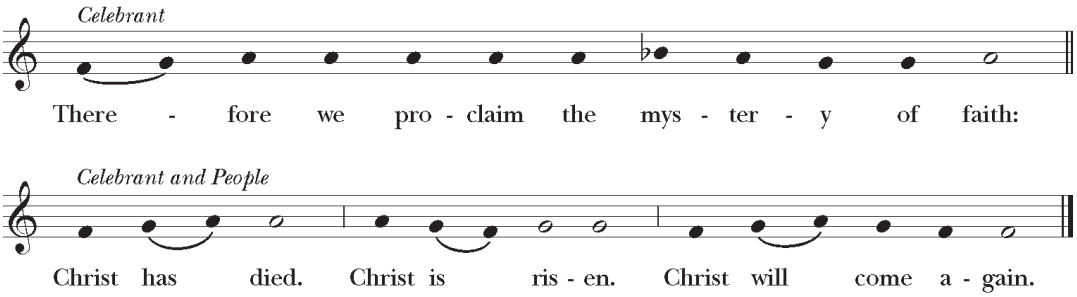
Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



The Celebrant continues

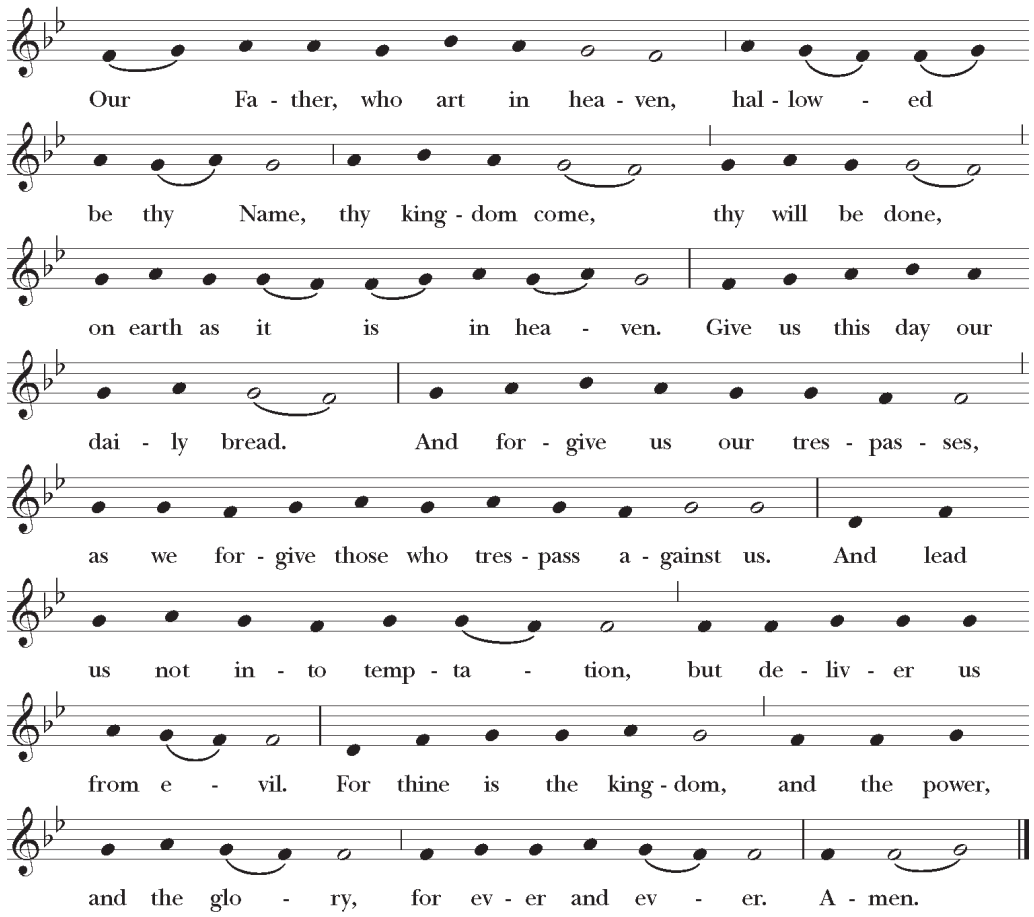
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,



Music: S119 from *Hymnal 1982*, Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867–1944).

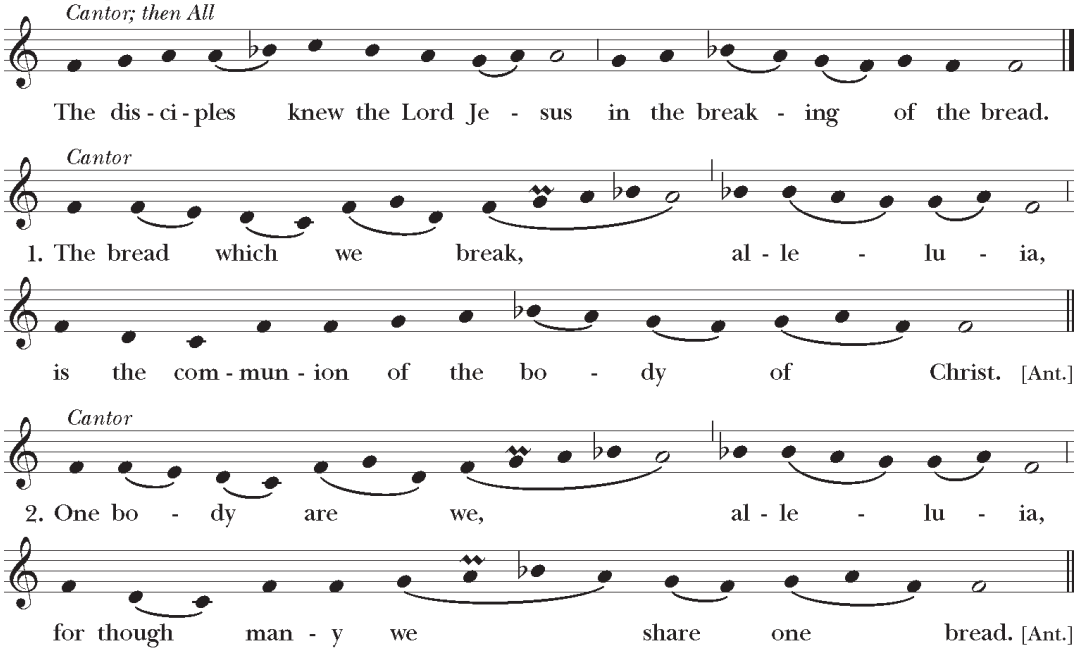
The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

This setting is not used in Lent.

Antiphon

Cantor; then All



Music: S167 from *Hymnal 1982*, Mason Martens (1933–1991).

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion is available in both kinds: consecrated bread and sacramental wine from a common cup. A Priest or Eucharistic Minister will place the consecrated bread in your open palms. Gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request. To receive the sacramental wine, assist the Eucharist Minister by guiding the chalice to your lips and taking a small sip.

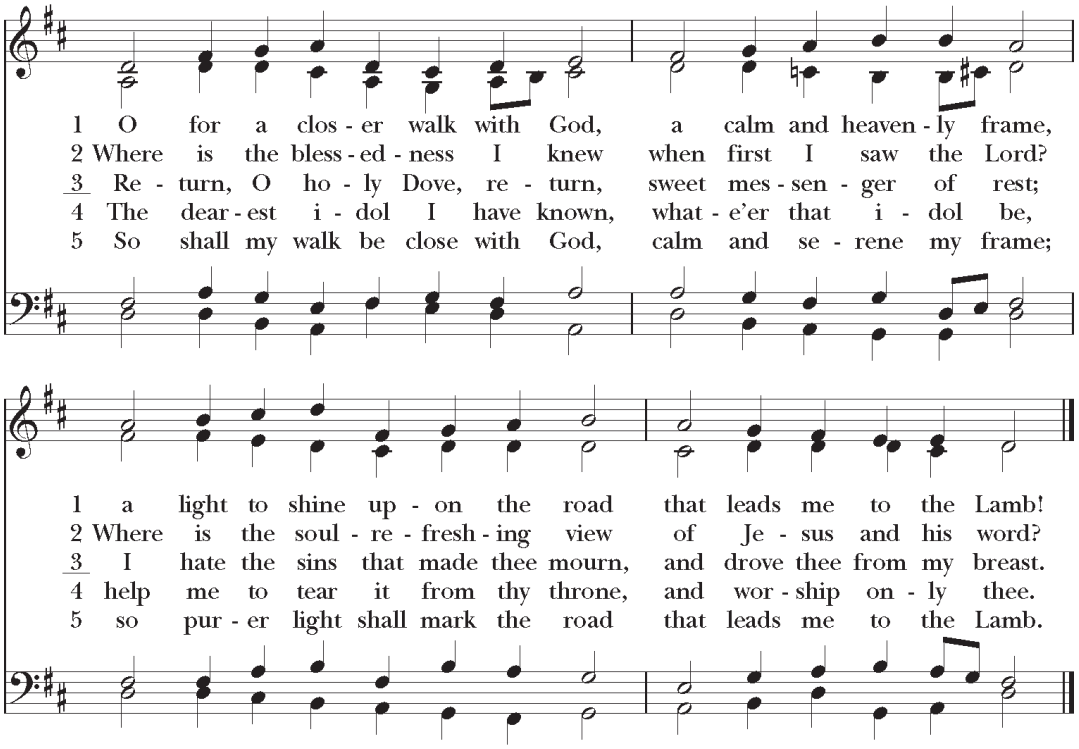
We do not recommend dipping the bread into the wine (intinction) for reasons of hygiene. However, if intinction is important to your personal faith, you may do so. Reception of sacramental wine is not a requirement for full communion.

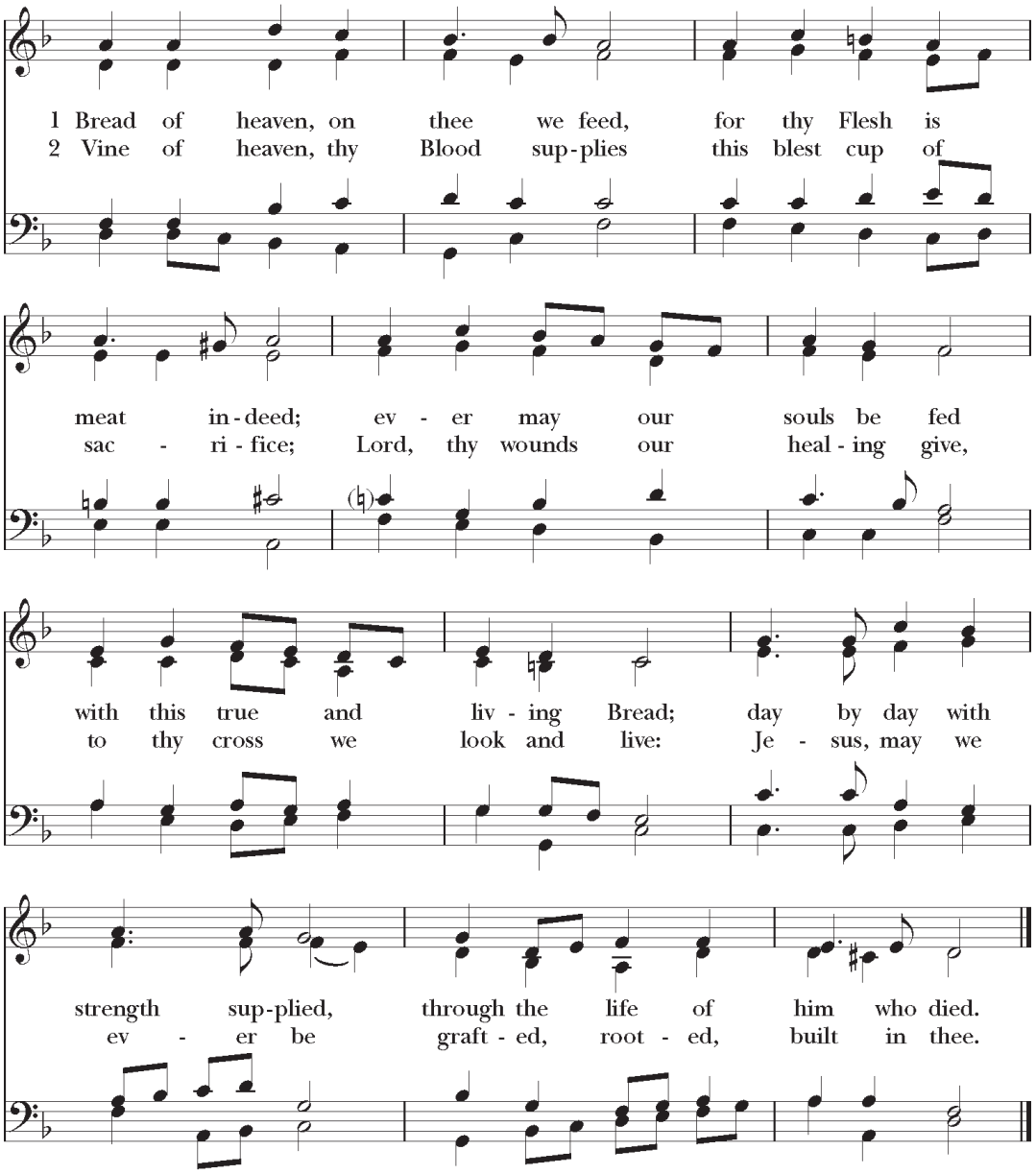
Music at Communion

Give almes of thy goods — Christopher Tye (c. 1505-c. 1572)

Give almes of thy goods,
and turn never thy face from any poor man,
and then the face of the Lord
shall not be turned away from thee.

Join in the singing of hymns during Communion.



Hymn 684 from *Hymnal 1982*. Words: William Cowper (1731–1800), alt.
Music: *Caithness*, from *The Psalmes of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

Hymn 323 from *Hymnal 1982*. Words: Josiah Conder (1789–1855), alt.
Music: *Jesu, Jesu, du mein Hirt,* melody Paul Heinlein (1626–1686); harm. *The English Hymnal,* 1906.

The congregation stands or kneels.

The Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors *(Offered when visitations are scheduled.)*

The Deacon or a priest sends forth Eucharistic Visitors.

People **We, who are many, are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

Then the Celebrant says

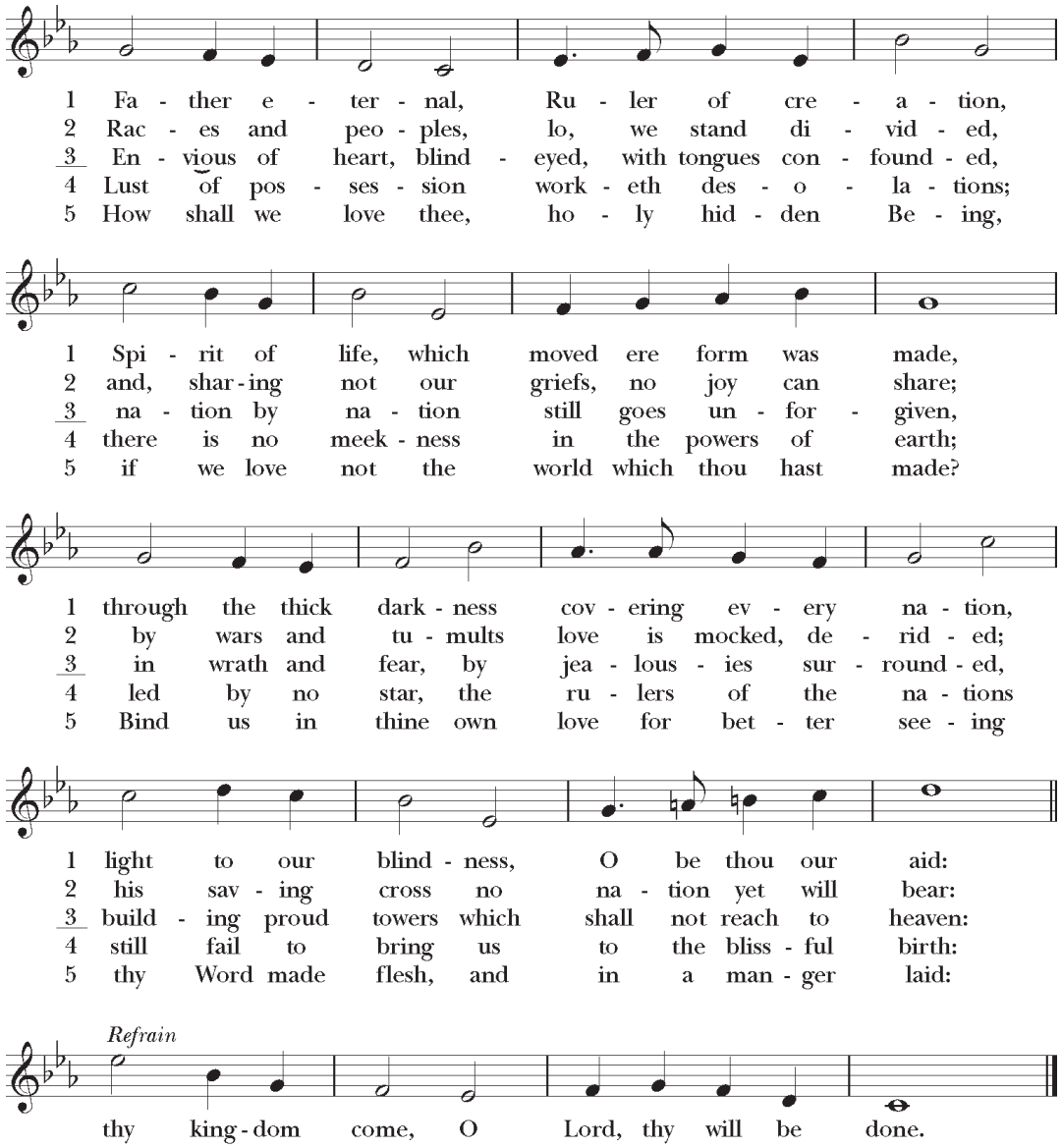
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant 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 among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Stand and join in the singing of a hymn.

Hymn 573 from *Hymnal 1982*. Words: Laurence Housman (1865–1959), alt. Music: *Langham,* Geoffrey Turton Shaw (1879–1943).

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the Congregation.

The People respond **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary *Fugue in C Major,* BWV 547 Bach

Today

Holy Eucharist, 8:30 a.m., Church
Holy Chow, 9:00 a.m., Community Room
Formation for All Ages, 9:45 a.m.
Choral Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m., Church and Livestream
Coffee Hour, 12:15 p.m., Lobby

Weekdays

Weekday Worship in the Chapel
Monday – 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Tuesday – 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
Wednesday – 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Thursday – 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

The 2027 Annual Giving Campaign

Grounded in Grace, Growing in Faith

The 2027 Annual Giving Campaign is underway, and thanks to your generosity we have already raised more than $200,000. This year, our goal is 250 pledges, and we are asking each household to prayerfully consider raising your pledge by 3%. If you give $50 a week, it's about a dollar and a half more. If you give $100 a month, it's three more dollars. This small increase will help us keep up with increases in the cost of ministry so we can be a constant and consistent beacon of God's love in the heart of Charlotte.

As you consider making an annual pledge please remember that every gift, regardless of size, plays an essential role in keeping our church community operating at its best now and in the future.

You can make a confidential pledge to the 2027 Annual Giving Campaign online or by returning the pledge card you received by mail. You can also find pledge cards at both entrances to the church.

This Is Our Time

The Campaign for St. Peter's.

If you have not yet made a pledge to the Campaign for St. Peter's, now is the time to make an impact by helping us cross the finish line. We only have about $350,000 of our $5,600,000 goal left to raise. Together, we're making it possible to increase accessibility in our worship spaces, enhance our youth and music ministry areas, and to address urgent repairs to our historic property. Your gift will also support outreach and social justice as we share our abundance with the wider community.

For more information about our plans and how you can support them, contact Director of Development Allison Elrod (elrod@st-peters.org).

This Week at St. Peter's

Social Justice Listening Session, Sunday, October 18, 12:30 p.m., Parish Hall. The Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) is launching in Charlotte and wants to hear from our congregation. IAF mobilizes communities to address local needs through citizen-led action. Share what matters to you—your input will shape IAF's focus on critical community issues. Sign up: bit.ly/IAFListeningSession.

The Sunday Party of Readers, Sunday, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Zoom. The Sunday Party of Readers will meet today to discuss *Beloved*, by Toni Morrison (pages 159-235). All are welcome. Contact Deje McGavran (dhmcgavran@gmail.com) for a Fall schedule. Join the Zoom at bit.ly/SundayReadersParty.

Senior Class Luncheon, October 20, 11:30 a.m. Join the Senior Class for their monthly luncheon at Burton's Grill and Bar, 1601 E. Woodlawn Road in the Park Road Shopping Center. Contact Sue Martin (suewmartin123@gmail.com) for more information.

Galilee Center "Power of 11" Breakfast, October 21, 10:00 a.m. All are invited for a special morning at the Galilee Center (3601 Central Avenue) on Wednesday, October 21, 10:00–11:00 a.m., celebrating the journey we've shared and looking ahead to the future we're building together! Enjoy fellowship, breakfast, live music, remarks from Bishop Sam Rodman, and a short video honoring Galilee and the East Charlotte community. There's no cost to attend, but you must RSVP by October 9 at bit.ly/ThePowerof11. Donations of shelf-stable food, cleaning supplies, dignity products (including diapers), or a monetary gift are welcome to help Galilee continue its outreach. Contact Emily Parker(EDGalileeEast@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Learn.

Adult Formation

The Adult Forum, Sundays, 9:45–10:45 a.m, in the Community Room. The Adult Forum covers a variety of topics and this year our main theme is "Grounded in the past and looking to the future." We will explore what it means to be Christians in our current time by both drawing on our history and looking at how we can make a difference in the future. Specific topics will be published in the eNews a few weeks in advance as we move through the year.

Today: Our three-part forum series on preparing for the end of life continues, including how we can prepare for our own funerals and make plans that will be helpful to those we love, concludes this week. Fr. Jacob will lead a session on "What Are Funerals in the Episcopal Church, and How Do You Plan Yours?" I'll talk about the meaning and structure of an Episcopal funeral, the choices available, and how you can make plans for your own funeral.

October 25: Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson will be here for our annual Bishop's Visitation. She will lead the forum that day on topics relevant to the ongoing mission and ministry of the Diocese of N.C.

Contemplative Prayer Groups, Tuesdays, 2:00–3:00 p.m., in person in the Parlor, and Wednesdays, 5:30–6:30 p.m., on Zoom. Contemplative prayer invites us to rest in God's presence and listen for the movement of the Spirit within through practices such as Centering Prayer and *Lectio Divina*. Contact Mother Amanda Stephenson (astephenson@st-peters.org) for more information. You can join the Wednesday Zoom meetings at bit.ly/ContemplativePrayerGroup.

Wednesday Night Bible Study, Wednesdays, 7:00–8:00 p.m., on Zoom. This fall we will look at parallel stories in the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). We will use the book *Gospel Parallels* by Burton H. Throckmorton, Jr. for our side-by-side comparison of various passages. Participants are encouraged to purchase the book. Financial assistance is available by contacting Mother Amanda. For more information and the schedule of passages we will look at please contact Mother Amanda Stephenson (astephenson@st-peters.org). You can join the Zoom meetings at bit.ly/WedsBibleStudy.

Theology for Our Times, Wednesdays, 6:30–8:00 p.m., in the Parlor. This year we will read *The Triune God: An Essay in Postliberal Theology*, by William Placher. In considering the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, which is both central to our faith and difficult to comprehend, this book will introduce us to new and fresh ways of understanding. Led by Elliott Hipp, a retired Presbyterian minister, class meetings will

be Wednesday evenings 6:30–8:00 p.m. in the Library. For more information, contact Elliott (deh46@columbia.edu) or Ruth Woodend (rbwoodend@gmail.com).

Children and Youth Formation

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd registration for the 26–27 program year is open. Our Montessori-based children's formation program (ages 3–12) takes place at 9:45 a.m. on the parish house main floor. For a tour of the atria or to learn about volunteer opportunities, contact Anna Hurdle (ahurdle@st-peters.org). To register your child visit bit.ly/GoodShepherd26-27.

Journey to Adulthood Youth Formation. Our Rite 13, J2A, and Pilgrim Classes (ages 12–18) began with lots of excitement. All youth are invited to join us each Sunday morning as we explore the 3 "S"s of a teen's journey—Spirituality, our place in Society, and how to know and love one's Self. We meet from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in the youth space on the basement level of the parish house. Contact Lyn Holt (lholt@st-peters.org) to learn more about our youth program and/or to register for any of the levels of the program: Rite 13 (grades 6 and 7), J2A (grades 8 and 9), Pilgrim Class (grades 10 and 11), and the 4Ward Class (12th grade).

Engage.

Charlotte Choir School Greenery Sale. Charlotte Choir School's annual greenery sale to raise funds for its program is well underway. All purchases directly support the musical education of the choristers. You can purchase wreaths online, through a chorister family, by contacting Jessica Walton, Program Coordinator (jwalton@charlottechoirschool.org), or between church services in the lobby at St. Peter's during the months of October and November. The sale continues through November 8. Order online at store.charlottechoirschool.org.

October 24, 9:00 a.m., 20s/30s Hike at Crowders Mountain. Join the 20s/30s Group for a hike up Crowders Mountain! Meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. to carpool together. Contact Mario Camarillo (mariocamarillo13@gmail.com) to let him know you're coming.

Really Really Free Market, Saturday, October 24, 1:00–4:00 p.m. Come, donate, and shop at Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte. Everything is completely free—no cash, bartering, or trading allowed. Clothes, books, toys, kitchen supplies, knick-knacks, and even small pieces of furniture are welcome donations. But if you wouldn't give it to a friend, please don't give it to us. If you'd like to donate or volunteer, contact Micah Belong (micah.belong@proton.me) for more information.

Trouble So Hard: Songs & Stories of Slavery, Freedom, and Civil Rights. Join us Saturday, November 14 at 3:00 p.m. in the church for an afternoon of songs and stories tracing the road from slavery to freedom and the struggle for civil rights. Admission is $15, and parking is available in the 7th Street garage. Tickets are available at bit.ly/TroubleSoHardTix.

Save the Date: Parish Retreat at Montreat Conference Center, March 5–7, 2027. In March of 2027 we will return to the beautiful North Carolina mountains for our Annual Parish Retreat. More details will come out in the next few weeks and registration will open towards the end of October. For now, save the date!

Serve.

Feed the Red Bins. Bring food to church on Sundays, or Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., to help address the growing issue of hunger in our community. Your donations will be contributed to area organizations that provide assistance, including the emergency food pantry at Galilee Center of East Charlotte. The red donation bins are located in the Parish House Lobby.

Diaper Ministry. A Baby Bin is in the lobby for donations of diapers and wipes of all sizes. Items will be delivered weekly to Nourish Up and Lydia's Pantry at the Galilee Center. Contact Ruth Woodend (rbwoodend@gmail.com) with any questions.

Buy Autobell cards to help support our youth program. Keep your car clean and help keep our rivers clear of soap and grime. Autobell cards cost $20 each, with half going to our mission trip and pilgrimage fund. Contact Lyn Holt (lholt@st-peters.org) to purchase yours!

Our Daily Bread & Soup Ministry at Galilee. Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte is piloting a Bread and Soup Ministry—a Tuesday morning gathering where neighbors come together in their kitchen to learn, make, and share. Kitchen sessions will run each Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. No experience required, just a willingness to show up, roll up your sleeves, and be with the community. You can sign up at https://bit.ly/OurDailyBreadandSoup or contact Emily Parker (edgalileeeast@gmail.com) with any questions.

Keep in Mind

Special Parking. On Sunday mornings parking for those with physical accessibility needs is available in the 7th Street parking lot adjacent to the Parish House (Sunday mornings only. Note that this lot is owned and maintained by Discovery Place.)

Valet Parking services are available for persons with limited mobility circumstances on Sundays, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at the Parish House/W. Seventh Street entrance.

Wear your name buttons. Wearing name buttons is one of the best ways for us to get to know one another and to welcome visitors and newcomers. If you need a button made, sign up at the welcome table.

Stay Connected with St. Peter's eNews. Don't miss weekly updates! Sign up on our website to receive the eNews every Thursday morning. If you don't see it, check your spam folder and mark it "Not Spam," or add news@st-peters.org to your contacts so you never miss what's happening.

Email and Texting Scams. Online attackers may pretend to be members of the clergy and parish staff in an attempt to steal. Staff members will only communicate with you using their official @st-peters.org email addresses. Clergy and staff will never ask for money or gift cards by email. Report any strange emails or texts to your email and cell phone providers.

Your belongings. Being an urban parish is a great blessing which encourages many visitors to our space. Keep your personal belongings with you at all times. Do not leave coats, purses, bags, or other items anywhere on parish grounds. Help us keep our building and your belongings safe.

Donating Altar Flowers and Eucharistic Supplies. To honor or remember the life of loved ones or celebrate special occasions, you may donate to the Altar flowers and Eucharistic supplies fund. Altar flowers (two arrangements) are $150 per Sunday and Eucharistic supplies (bread, wine) are $35 for one month or $20 for two Sundays. Donate Altar flowers or Eucharistic supplies online or contact Leigh Dixon (ldixon@st-peters.org, 704-749-6142).

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Reverend Jacob E. Pierce *Rector*
The Reverend Amanda C. Stephenson *Associate Rector*
The Reverend Robin O. Sands *Deacon*
Micah Belong *Discernment Intern*
Rob Burlington *Assistant Choirmaster*
Leigh Dixon *Parish Administrator*
Scott Dixon *Facilities Manager*
Allison Elrod *Director of Stewardship*
James Gary *Facilities Assistant*
Lyn Holt *Director of Youth Formation*
Anna Hurdle *Director of Children's Formation*
Elizabeth Lenti *Director of Music and Organist*
Kayla Newsome *Communications Associate*
Andrew Pester *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*
Marty Reep *Sunday Front Desk*
Michael Talbert *Clergy Assistant*
Efrem Teare *Facilities Assistant*

Affiliated Clergy

The Right Reverend Mary Gray-Reeves; the Reverend Stuart H. Hoke, ThD; the Reverend Keith C. Lane; the Reverend L. Murdock Smith, PhD; the Reverend A. Donald Wiesner, STM.

To reach a member of the parish staff via email, use the secure form on our website: www.st-peters.org/staff.

Office Volunteers

Candace Armstrong, Bob Atkins, Diana Gibbs, Sue Martin, Phyllis Ferguson.

Prayer List and Prayer Requests

To submit a prayer request for the Prayer List, complete the "Prayer Request" card in the pew rack, visit www.st-peters.org, or contact Clergy Assistant Michael Talbert (mtalbert@st-peters.org, 704-749-6141). Names will be listed, after consent, for two weeks, unless a longer period is requested. Intercessions are offered during Sunday and weekday worship, and daily by the Clergy and Pastoral Care Team.

Pastoral Care Administration

The Clergy and Pastoral Care Team collaborate on a variety of pastoral ministries offered to parishioners. While certain concerns may be confidential between the Clergy and the individual, other concerns may not be. If you wonder about or are missing a parishioner, please contact the individual directly or a member of the Clergy. Pastoral Care Team Members are Jo Anne Blackstone, Lauren Burn, Ginny Brien, Neil Broncaccio, Phyllis Ferguson, John Hall, Pat Markel, Steve White.

Parish Office Hours and Clergy On Call

Clergy and Staff, Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m–4:30 p.m. Clergy On Call: For pastoral emergencies or hospitalizations concerning a parishioner, please call 704-749-6175 to reach a member of the Clergy.

The Vestry

Class of 2026 John Buric, Susan Cooper, Mike Hickman, Peter Morgan
Class of 2027 Aubrey Gilleran, Maria Long, Grant Mitchell, Gary Wald
Class of 2028 Mark Boyd, Abigail Cudabac, John Hall, Deje McGavran
Treasurer David Lavoie (non-Vestry member)

Online

Find us online at www.st-peters.org.

Serving Today

Celebrant The Reverend Amanda C. Stephenson
Preacher The Reverend Jacob E. Pierce
Subdeacon Jim Shannonhouse
Eucharistic Ministers Jeffrey Mason, Jo Anne Blackstone, Mike Hoffman
Lectors Judy Wiesner, John Frederick
Acolytes Gemma Crimmins, Faith Saunders, Ilan Vasquez, Zia Vasquez
Verger Matthew Wolke
Ushers John Budall, Tom Allen, Susan Cooper, Derek Macauley
Vestry Persons on Duty Gary Wald, John Hall

In our Prayers

For friends of the parish: Connie Pester; Lee Berdick; Ron Lawrence and family; Sarah and Gabriel Torres; the Lott family; Dolores Corbin; Erica Boutwell; Sarah Hoke Long; Kira; Sarah Holman; the people of Gaza; for all victims of gun violence; for those communities and nations experiencing violence and war; for peace among all nations.

For members of the parish: Joanne Stevenson Jenkins and family; LaVon Bauer; Lucinda Thomas; Betty Payne; Jennifer Meece and Emmalee and Isaiah Wright; Brian Burden and family; The Yale family; Anne Jaeger; Mary Virginia Woodall; Ann Stigall; Willie Thomas; Joy Floyd; Jackie Stanley; Betty Little; Trey Owen and Wesley Thompson; Rob Carpenter.

We pray for those who have died: Naomi Lydia Alexander Stevenson; Dolores Corbin.

In the St. Peter's Cycle of Prayer throughout the year we remember each parish household on the prayer list, and during the coming week we pray for Anna and Clark Barrett; Debra Barrett; Adelaide Barringer; Cole, Winn, Weezie, and Edie Baucom; Laura Bauer; LaVon Bauer; Bobby and Judy Beaird; William and Joanne Bellamy; William, Cassandra, and Desiree Benjamin; Steve Bentley and David Deal.

Scan this Code to Make an Online Donation

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
A parish in the Diocese of North Carolina
115 W. Seventh Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202
704-332-7746 | news@st-peters.org | www.st-peters.org

The Right Reverend Samuel Sewall Rodman III *Bishop Diocesan*
The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson *Assistant Bishop*
The Reverend Jacob E. Pierce *Rector*
The Reverend Amanda C. Stephenson *Associate Rector*

The doors of the church are open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM for private prayer, reflection, and meditation.