St. Peter's Episcopal Church

A parish in the Diocese of North Carolina October 18, 2026, 8:30 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 and valet parking are also available for those needing additional assistance.

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 I

The Word of God

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

Hymn 544 *Jesus shall reign where'er the sun* *Duke Street*

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

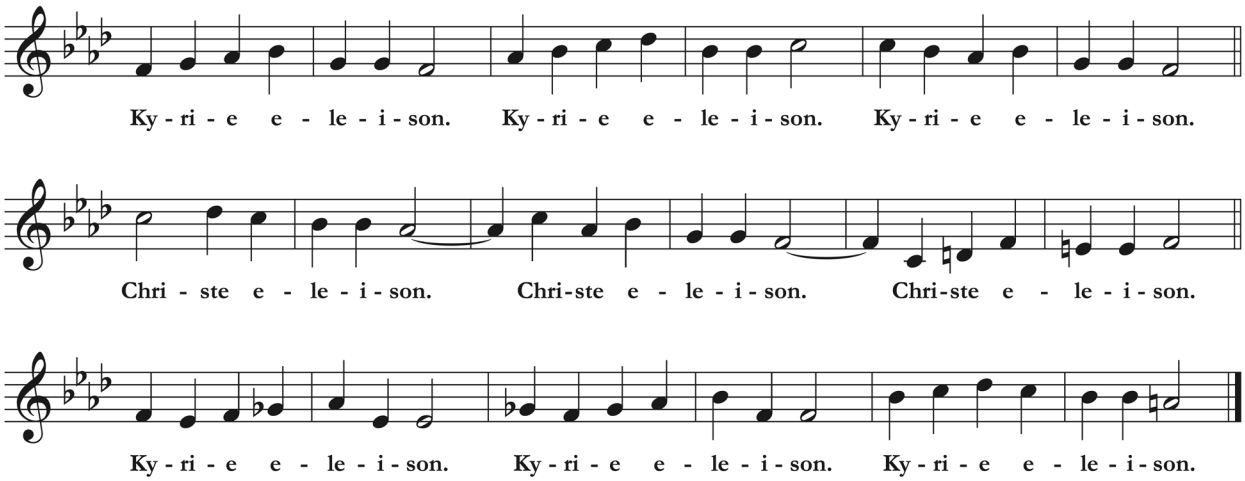
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The service continues with the Kyrie Eleison, "Lord have mercy."



Music: *Kyrie*, S89 from *Hymnal 1982*, James McGregor (1930–2022), after *Verbum caro factum est*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564–1612).

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in Christ hast revealed thy glory among the nations: Preserve the works of thy mercy, that thy Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of thy Name; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee 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 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.**

The Reader introduces the Psalm appointed.

Psalm 96:1–9 *Cantate Domino.*

1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

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 be to thee, O Lord.**

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 be to thee, O 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 Celebrant says

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

The intercessor reads petitions according to the concerns of the Congregation today.

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 world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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 good.

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 honor and glory.

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 us.

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 salvation.

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 eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1–2*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

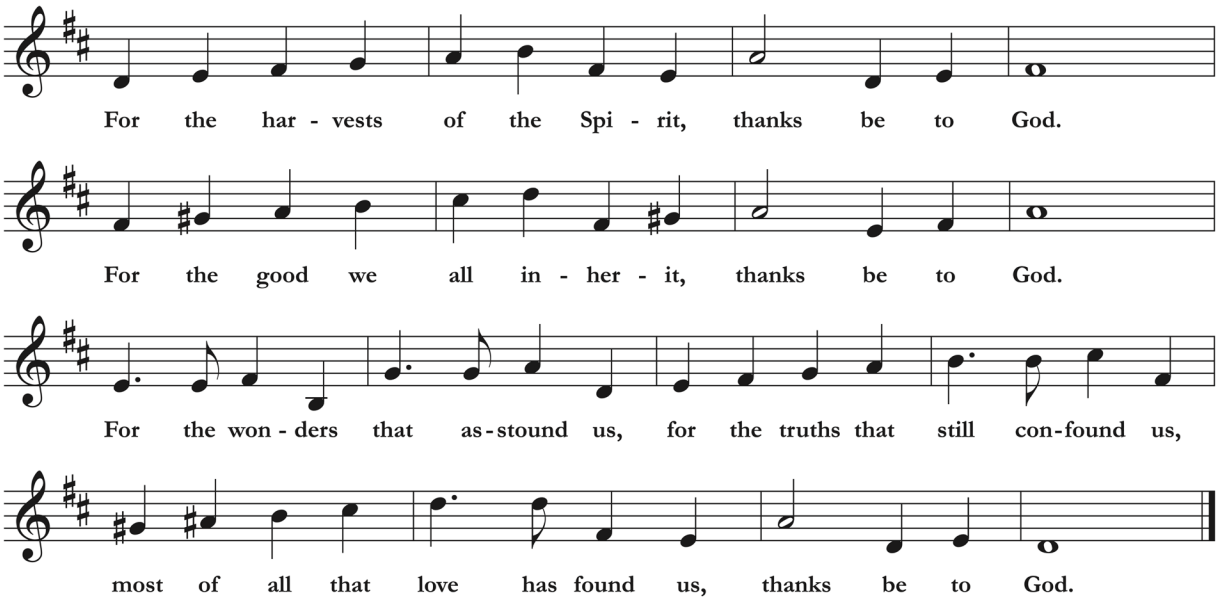
People **And with thy spirit.**

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

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

After the organ meditation, all stand and sing



Hymn 424, v. 3 from *Hymnal 1982*. Words: F. Pratt Green (1903–2000), alt. Music: *East Acklam,* Francis Jackson (1917–2022).

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer II

The people stand. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

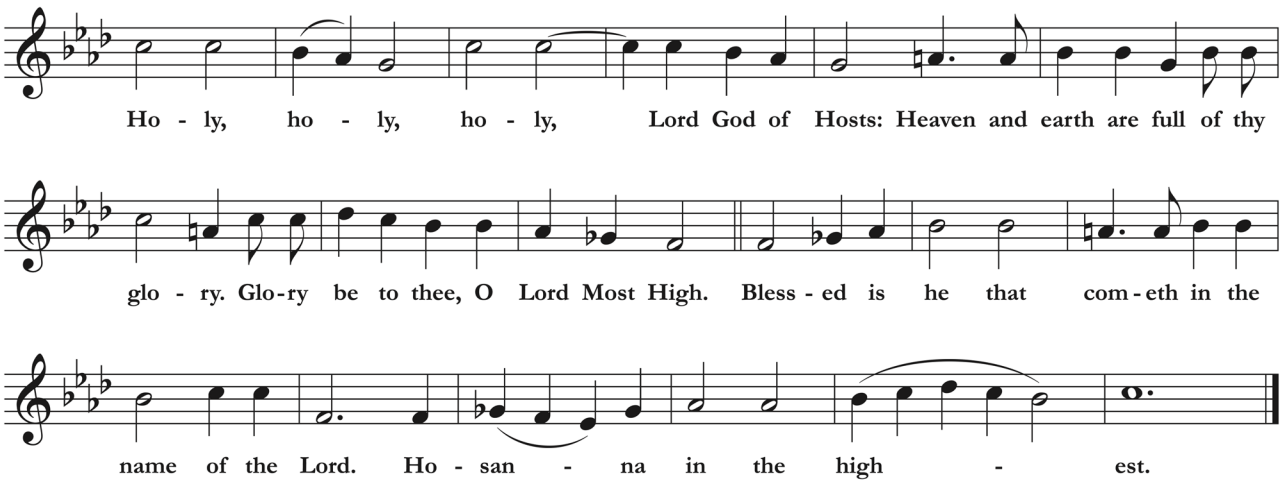
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Then the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People



Music: *Sanctus*, S117 from *Hymnal 1982*, James McGregor (1930–2022), after *Verbum caro factum est*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564–1612).

The people kneel or stand. The service continues on page 341 of the Book of Common Prayer until

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

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.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Celebrant blesses the people.

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

Hymn 573 *Father eternal, Ruler of creation* *Langham*

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 & Preacher The Reverend Jacob E. Pierce
Subdeacon Marie Cook Irving
Acolyte Matthew Wolke
Lector Roberta Farman Stein
Ushers Phyllis Ferguson, Nicole Lashley

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.