



Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

June 21, 2026

2570 St. Peter's Church Road, Salisbury, NC 28146

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Order for worship June – August comes from the
Iona Abbey Book of Worship, Iona Scotland

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost June 21, 2026

* Indicates to stand as you are able. P=Pastor, C=Congregation, A=Assisting Minister, L=Lector

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

OPENING RESPONSES

*P: Thanks be to you, O God, that we have risen this day to the rising of this life itself. The purpose of God be between us and each purpose,

***C: the hand of God between us and each hand;**

*P: the pain of Christ between us and each pain,

***C: the love of Christ between us and each love.**

*P: O God, you brought us to the light of this new day;

***C: bring us to the guiding light of eternity.**

GATHERING HYMN

How Firm A Foundation

ELW 796

CALL TO PRAYER

*P: We gather in God's name;

***C: We claim Christ's promised presence.**

*P: My sisters and brothers, not out of dread and fear, but believing in the understanding and forgiveness of God, let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RESTORATION

*P: Let us pray. Eternal Maker of the endless heavens, lowly Christ, befriender of the changing earth, Holy Spirit, wind over the flowing waters, in earth, sea and sky you are ever present.

***C: O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul within all souls, in everything we touch, in everyone we meet you are there, and we give you thanks.**

*P: But where we have not touched but trampled you in creation, where we have not honoured but avoided you in one another, where we have not received but rejected your goodness, forgive us, and hear our plea for your pardon. Holy God,

***C: holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*P: Know that God is good, and that to those who are truly sorry God forgives what is past and enables us to begin again. Once we were no people, now we are God's people. Once we were beyond God's mercy; now that mercy has been given to us. So let us live as those who treasure God's costly generosity, by safeguarding God's earth, delighting in its people, and loving our Maker + to whom be glory forever.

***C: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US

L: First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-13

L: Listen for God's word coming to us in Holy Scripture

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

⁷ O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.

⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;

I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.

"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him."

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.

¹² O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³ Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

L: God be in our listening, God in our understanding **C: Amen.**

Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

⁸ **I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰ **I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

[¹¹ I put on sackcloth also,
and became a byword among them.

¹² **Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set,

O LORD:

"In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

¹⁴ **Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep
waters.**

¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep
swallow me up;
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

] ¹⁶ **Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant;

be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸ **Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

Second Reading

Romans 6:1b-11

L: And again, listen for God's word coming to us in Holy Scripture

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L: God be in our listening, God in our understanding **C: Amen.**

*P: We greet the Gospel of Jesus the Christ by standing to sing Alleluia.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39

*P: [Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,
³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

*P: This is the Gospel of Christ. ***C: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Sermon

The Sermon

Pastor Sue Lynn White

HYMN OF THE DAY Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

***C: We believe in God, Who conceived all that is created, God, who fathers and mothers all people.**

We believe in Jesus Christ God's firstborn and only Lord of the earth. He came from both heaven and the womb of the virgin Mary; he lived in solidarity with humankind, befriending, teaching, healing and restoring; he was denied and betrayed by his friends; and was done to death by the state. He descended to the place of oblivion, rose to life again on the third day, and ascended to heaven where he sits at God's right hand. This same Jesus will come again in glory to judge the living and dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, whose dynamic presence can make all things new. And we believe in the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF CONCERN

*A: Let us pray. Holy God, who, in Jesus, touched the earth, admiring its beauty and blessing its people, we honour you for the gift of life and all the gifts that life brings us: food, shelter, company, the experiences that make us think, the people that bring out the best in us. Hear our prayers for the places in this world where beauty has turned to ugliness, food has been replaced with famine, friendship has been forgotten and fear, hostility and hopelessness have the upper hand. (*pause*) God, in your mercy,

***C: bring healing, bring peace,**

*A: Hear our prayers for people who cannot pray because of pain, loss or worry; and for those who will not love themselves and so cannot love their neighbor. We especially pray for Guy & Betty Puckett, Jim & Phyllis Cornelison, Jerry Sides, Ernie & Linda Cooper, Phil & Carol Boyette, Brenda H. Trexler, Judy Peeler, Lynn DeBerry, Marcia Ritchie, Jean Holshouser, Phyllis Trexler, Sue Misenheimer, Thelma Barger, Buddy Waller, Ronnie Pierce, Bobby Lambirth, Mary Miller, Barbara & Frank King, friends of St. Peter's, and those we hold in our hearts or speak aloud now... (*pause*). God, in your mercy,

***C: bring healing, bring peace.**

*A: Hear our prayers for ourselves – our private yearnings, our secret hopes and any doubt, jealousy or anger to which we hold too tightly. God, in your mercy,

***C: bring healing, bring peace.**

*P: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

***C: Amen.**

PEACE

*P: The peace of Christ be with you always. ***C: And also with you.**

*P: Let us share the peace with one another.

THE OFFERING

Anthem

Offering Hymn

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 182

OFFERING PRAYER

*A: Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

***C: Amen.**

MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*P: The Lord be with you.

***C: And also with you.**

*P: Lift up your hearts.

***C: We lift them up to God.**

*P: Let us give thanks to God.

***C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*P: For you, Creator God, the valleys laugh and sing and the trees of the field clap their hands. Your earth summons us to break silence and be one with the song of creation.

***C: We give you thanks and praise.**

*P: For you, God of all, the church in its myriad forms and countless languages honours its Savior. Millions upon millions invite us to be one with them in the drama of worship.

***C: We give you thanks and praise.**

*P: In heaven, beyond our seeing, the angels and saints are caught up in song. And those we have loved and lost are part of that great company. They call us to be one with the harmony of heaven.

***C: We give you thanks and praise.**

*P: So, gladly, we join our voices to those of earth, sea and sky, in the universal hymn of praise which echoes through time and eternity:

***C: SANCTUS**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

*P: Come now, O Christ, bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh, forever bound to us in promise and mystery; breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine. Let them become, for us, the seal and sign of your love healing, redeeming, making us whole. And through them let us together become, for you, your body, loving the world as God loves, serving its people as God wills and always being transformed until we and all humanity resemble the One whose food we now share. As Jesus broke bread, we break this bread. (*bread is broken*) As Jesus shared wine we share this cup. (*cup is raised*)

LORD'S PRAYER

*P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught.

***C: 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,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*P: As those who have been invited to his table, feed on this holy food through which God comes to us so that we can come to God.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION BLESSING

*P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*A: Let us pray. O Brother Jesus, we have been guests at your table; come with us wherever we go and be present in all we share.

*C: **Summon out in us, whom you have fed, generosity of spirit to ensure that all the hungry are nourished and earth's barren places are fertile with food, faith, hope and love. Amen.**

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

BLESSING

*P: Now go in peace, do what God wills, follow where Christ calls, pray for the gifts of the Spirit; and may the blessing of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer + rest on and remain with you now and always.

***C: Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN How Can I Keep From Singing? ELW 763**

THE DISMISSAL

*A: Rooted in the love of Christ;

***C: We grow in grace and joyfully branch into a broken world!**

*P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

***C: Thanks be to God.**