



**Saint Peter's Lutheran Church
May 18th, 2025**

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

***Church Website:* <https://www.saintpeterslc.org/>**

***Church Email:* saintpetersnc@gmail.com**

**Pastor Sue Lynn White
(cell 770-833-1922) (pastorsuelynn@gmail.com)**

Fifth Sunday of Easter: May 18th, 2025

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

***C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

*P: In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

***C: Amen.**

*P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. (*pour water*)
Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

***C: make us one as you are one.**

*P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

***C: make us one as you are one.**

*P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

***C: make us one as you are one.**

*P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

***C: Amen.**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

*P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. ***C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*P: Let us pray. O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

***C: Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US

First Reading.....Acts 11:1-18

L: A reading from Acts 11th chapter.....(Lector:)

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If

then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

² **Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³ Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

⁹ mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰ **wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

¹² **young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for
all faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading.....Revelation 21:1-6

L: A reading from Revelation the 21st chapter.....()

¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

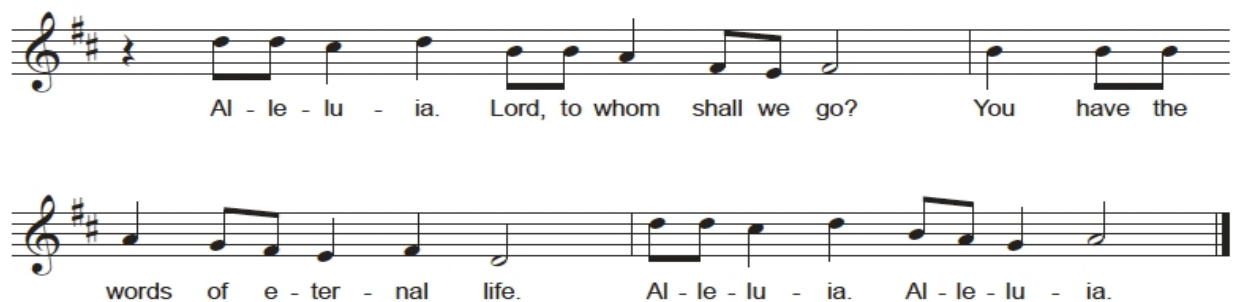
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

L: The word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation



*P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

***C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Holy Gospel.....John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just

as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

*P: The Gospel of our Lord.

***C: Praise to you, O Christ**

Children’s Sermon

The Sermon.....Pastor Sue Lynn White

***Hymn of the Day**

Bind Us Together

WOV 748

***APOSTLES’ CREED.....(Assistant Minister:)**

*A: Let us profess our faith using the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

***C: I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*A: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and who are in need.

Glorious, creating and sustaining God; who made and cares for the world with love and mercy; hear and answer the prayers of your people. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Encourage and embolden us, your people, that we might fully live into our potential and take up Christ’s healing mission with courage and persistence. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Open the hearts of those who hold authority in the world that they might focus their gaze and attention on. Policies that promote peace, wellness, and the relief of suffering. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Help us to see the needs of those we encounter in our daily lives and grant us a desire for generosity that we might respond with love and mercy. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Bring your healing presence to all who suffer in any way. Give them strength to cope and bring skilled and healing caregivers into their lives. We especially pray for Marlene Shue, John Trexler, Guy & Betty Puckett, Jim & Phyllis Cornelison, Jerry & Carolyn Sides, Ernie & Linda Cooper, Phil & Carol Boyette, Brenda H. Trexler, Judy Peeler, Lynn DeBerry, Marcia Ritchie, Lucy Shue, Jean Holshouser, Phyllis Trexler, Sue Misenheimer, Thelma Barger and those we hold in our hearts and lift before you now. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Grant us wisdom and determination to respond effectively to climate change; help us reclaim our intended role as stewards, and not destroyers, of your wonderfully created world. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Be with those who are in their last days, those who watch over them, and those who will grieve their loss. Take them into your eternal care and reunite us with them in your new age. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

*P: Lord, Creation sings your praise in its very being. Help us to hear the song and to add our own voices. Be present to us and guide us on the Way of your Son, our Lord, Jesus, through whom we pray and give thanks.

***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

We Are an Offering

The Gift of Love
ELW 692

We Are An Offering

ELW 692

The musical score is written for a single voice part in 4/4 time. It consists of ten staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some triplets indicated by a '3' over the notes. The lyrics are: 'We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. we are an offering.'

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our
voic - es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of - fer - ing.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we
give to you. We lift our voic - es, we lift our
hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of - fer - ing, we are an of - fer - ing.

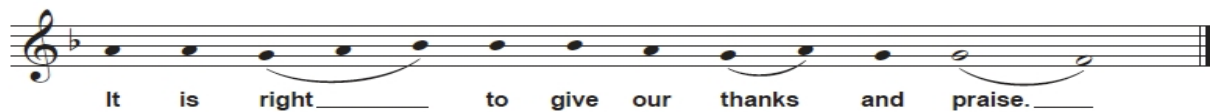
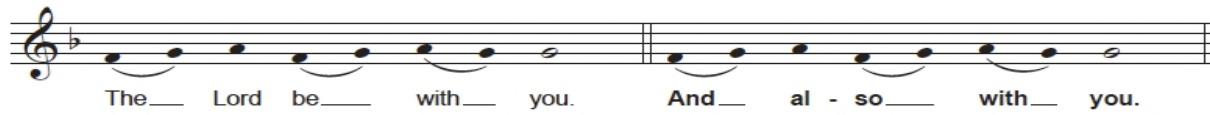
OFFERING PRAYER

***A:** Let us pray. Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

***C: Amen.**

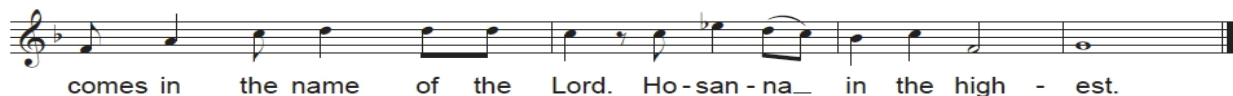
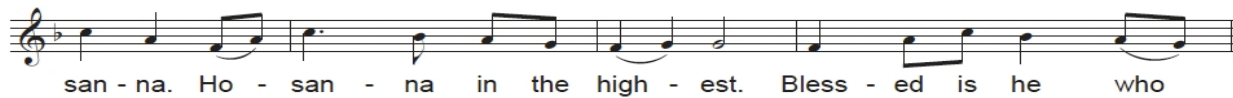
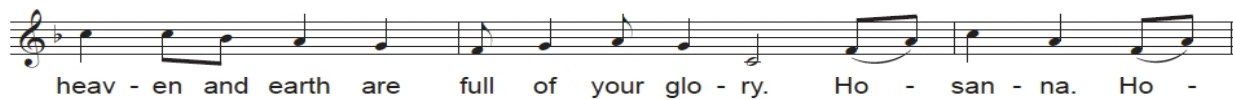
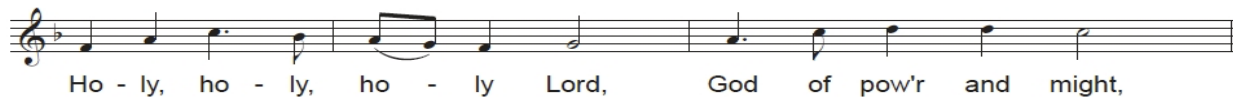
MEAL

PREFACE DIALOGUE



*P: It is indeed our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

***C: Holy, Holy, Holy**



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

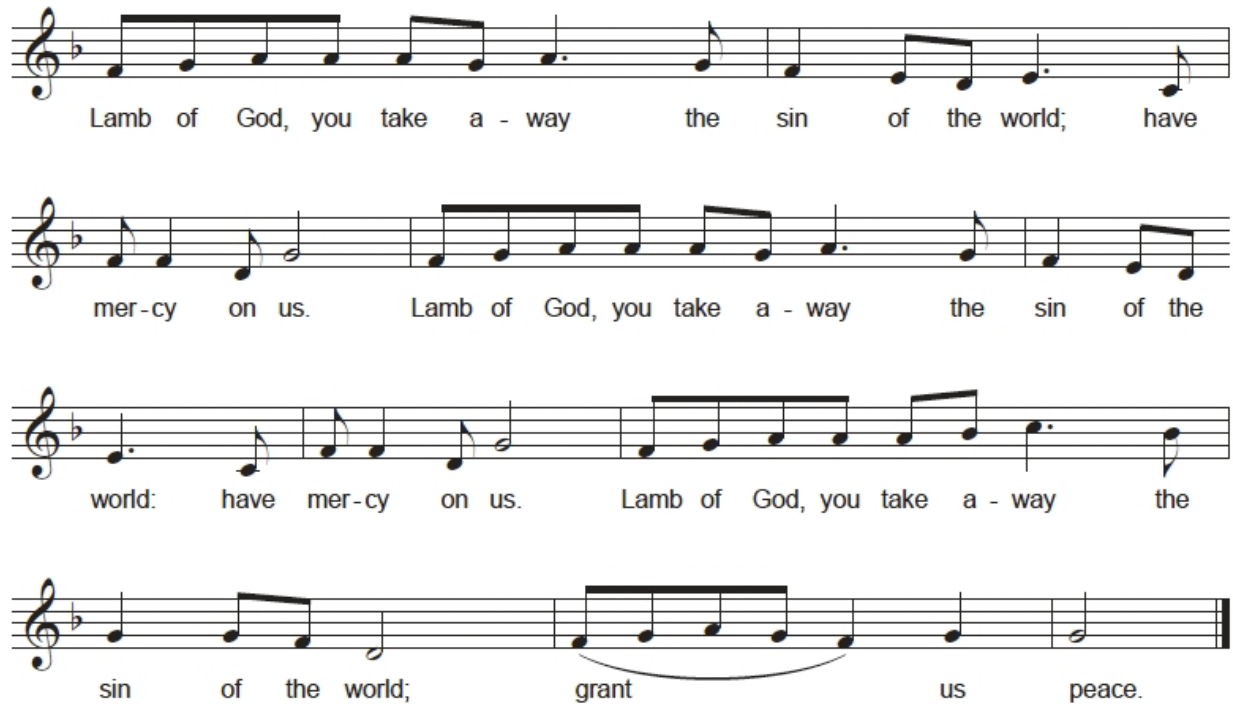
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

*C: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION

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.

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. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

*C: Amen.

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

BLESSING

***P:** The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ☩ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now
and always.

***C:** Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW 379

THE DISMISSAL

***A:** Rooted in the love of Christ

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

***P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

***C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

***P:** Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

**Silent Prayer and Chiming of the Trinity Postlude*