



Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

July 19, 2026

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

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Pastor Sue Lynn White

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

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost July 19, 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

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW 689

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

Isaiah 44:6-8

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

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

Psalms 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent
people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your
handmaid.**

¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see
it and be put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:12-25

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

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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



The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

*P: ²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?'²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man;³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

*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 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come ELW 693

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

***A:** Let us together affirm our faith with the following creed:

***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.

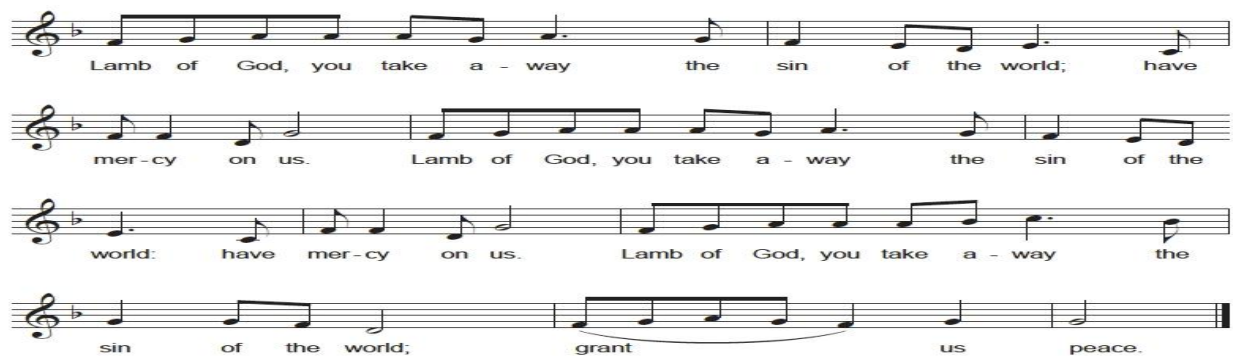
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

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



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 Bringing in the Sheaves (Insert)**

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.**