



Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

July 12, 2026

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)

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

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost July 12, 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

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

ELW 533

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 55:10-13

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

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13

[¹ You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

² **To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

³ Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out ¹ our transgressions.

⁴ Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!

They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

⁵ Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶ You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.

⁷ You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸ Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

] ⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Reading

Romans 8:1-11

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

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For

this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot,⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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 13:1-9, 18-23

*P: ¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the

path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

*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

For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW 679

***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

The image shows four staves of musical notation for the 'Lamb of God' prayer. The music is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: '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.' The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

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**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW 547

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.**