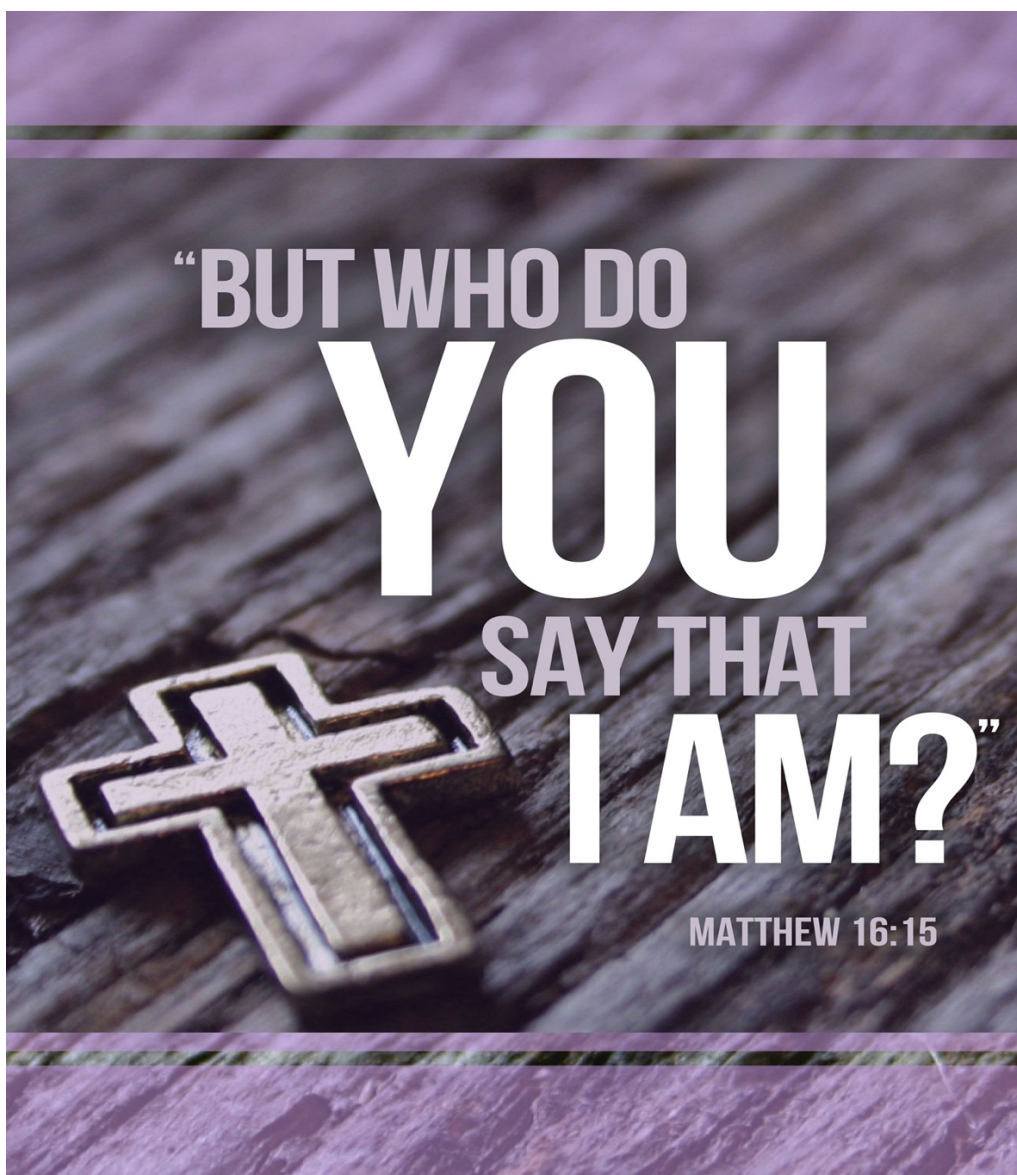




Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

August 23, 2026

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

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

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Pastor Sue Lynn White

(cell 770-833-1922) (pastorsuelynn@gmail.com)

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost August 23, 2026

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

***C: Amen.**

*P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

***C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

*P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

***C: Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

ELW 654

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 God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

***C: Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US

First Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

L: A reading from Isaiah the 51st chapter.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

Psalm 138

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,**

**because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your
right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
works of your hands.**

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-8

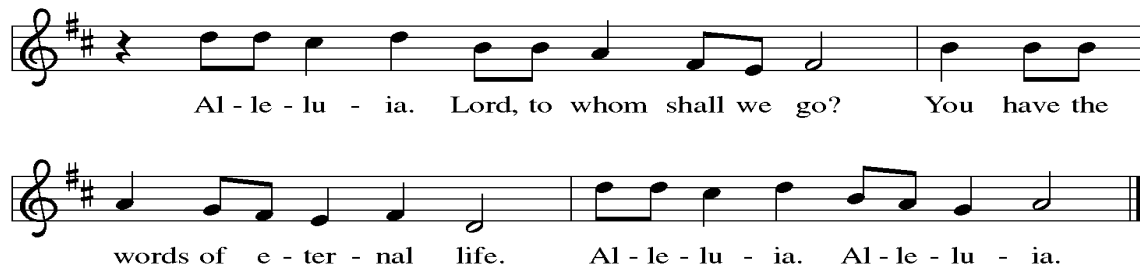
L: A reading from Romans the 12th chapter

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.

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

***The Holy Gospel**

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

***P:** The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Children's Sermon

The Sermon

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 596

***APOSTLES' CREED**

***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:** With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

***A:** God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God, ***C: receive our prayer.**

***A:** You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God, ***C: receive our prayer.**

***A:** You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God, ***C: receive our prayer.**

***A:** You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day. 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, 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*).
Merciful God, ***C: receive our prayer.**

***A:** You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God, ***C: receive our prayer.**

***A:** Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God,
***C: receive our prayer.**

***P:** Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
***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

Now the Feast and Celebration

ELW 167

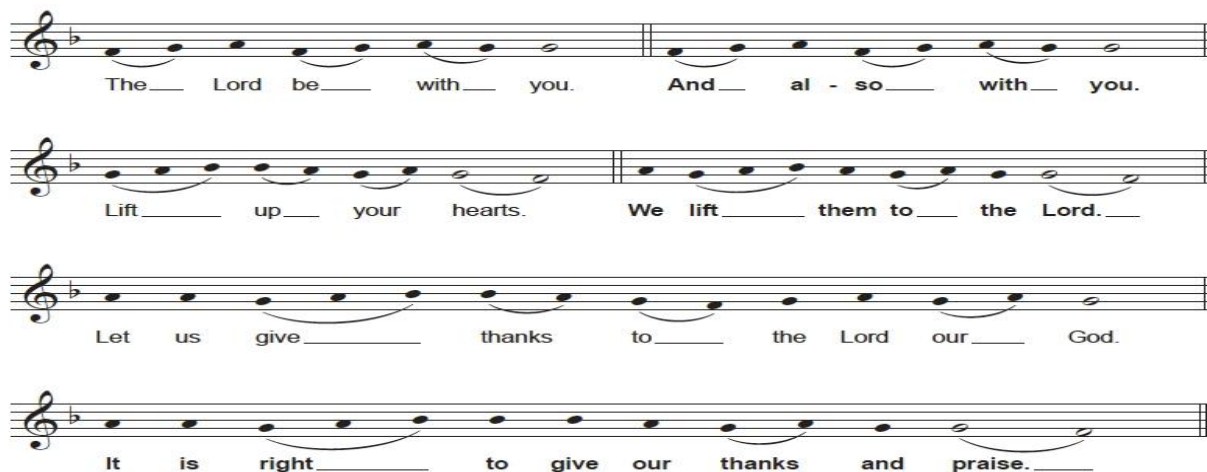
OFFERING PRAYER

***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.**

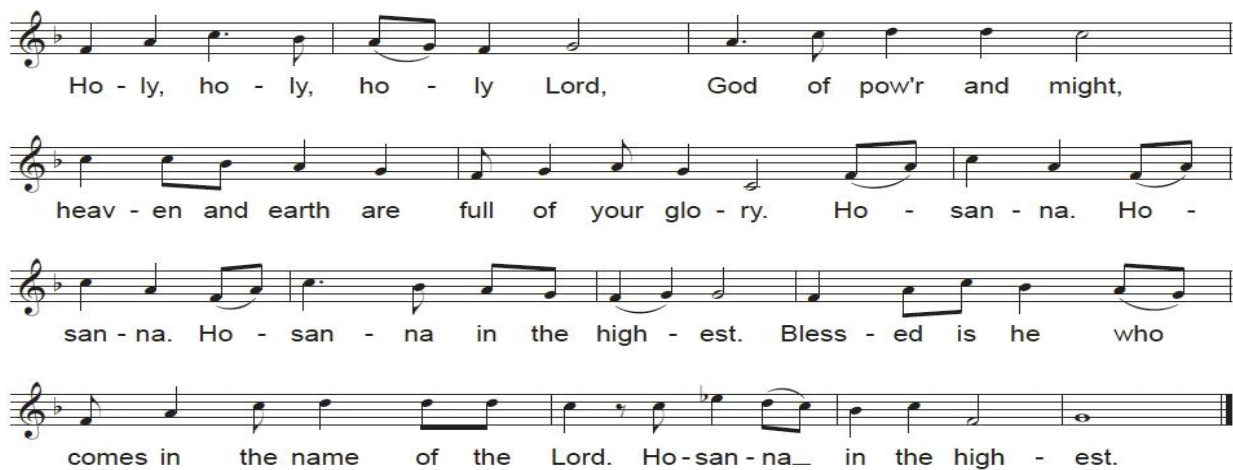
MEAL

PREFACE DIALOGUE



*P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name 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: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

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. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

*C: Amen.

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

BLESSING

*P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

***C: Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN**

We All Are One In Mission

ELW 576

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.**