



Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

August 9, 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

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost August 9, 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

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW 756

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

1 Kings 19:9-18

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

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

⁹ At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹ He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will

leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

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

Psalm 85:8-13

⁸ I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn
their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15

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

C: Our hearts and minds are open.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that
“the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the
righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who
will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will
descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But
what does it say?

“The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with
your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him
from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading
to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to
salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to
shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same
Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone
who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And
how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how

are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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 14:22-33

*P: ²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

Children’s Sermon

HYMN OF THE DAY

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW 773

***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, 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

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

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.

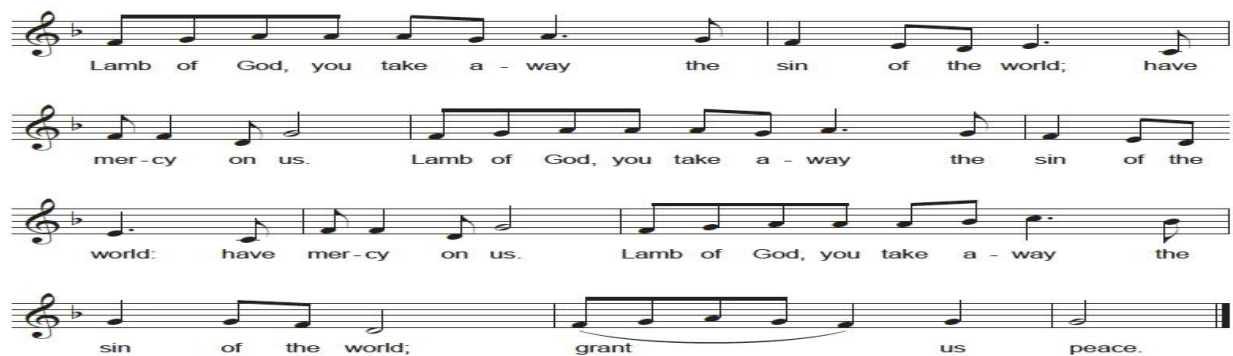
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

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 O God, Our Help in Ages Past ELW 632**

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.**