



St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Lewes, Delaware

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 6, 2025, 10:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Aria

Charles Callahan (1951–2023)

▲ HYMN IN PROCESSION

Love divine, all loves excelling

The Hymnal 1982, # 657

*Celebrant*     ✙ Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People*        **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

▲ THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

▲ CANTICLE 13

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers

The Hymnal 1982, S 236

▲ THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

God of fresh beginnings, you make all things new in the wisdom of Jesus Christ. Make us agents of your transforming power and heralds of your reign of justice and peace, that all may share in the healing Christ brings. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

2 Kings 5:1–14

*Reader*        A reading from the second book of Kings.

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy." When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me." But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn

that there is a prophet in Israel.” So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha’s house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.” But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, “I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?” He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, “Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

*Reader*        Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 30** *Exaltabo te, Domine*

I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up \*  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

**O LORD my God, I cried out to you, \***  
**and you restored me to health.**

You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; \*  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

**Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; \***  
**give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.**

For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, \*  
his favor for a lifetime.

**Weeping may spend the night, \***  
**but joy comes in the morning.**

While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed. \*  
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.”

**Then you hid your face, \***  
**and I was filled with fear.**

I cried to you, O LORD; \*

I pleaded with the LORD, saying,  
**“What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? \***  
**will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?**

Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; \*  
O Lord, be my helper.”

**You have turned my wailing into dancing; \***  
**you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.**

Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; \*  
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

*Reader* A reading from the letter to the Galatians.

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised— only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule— peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

▲ HYMN

Come, labor on

The Hymnal 1982, # 541

▲ GOSPEL

Luke 10:1–11, 16–20

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' 'Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.'" The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Carol Flett

## ▲ THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the ✠ resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## ▲ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

by The Rev. Dr. Fred Day

*Deacon* Drawn into the embrace of the Holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness and unity of the church, the world, and all creation.

*Leader* We pray for the church. Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Send us, despite fear, hardship, and danger, to embody Jesus' presence wherever we find ourselves. May we offer healing, peace, forgiveness, and signs of God's reign. God of grace,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for the earth. Creation sings your glorious name. Inspire us to care for the Delaware Bay Estuary we are blessed to call home. When and where ecosystems are wounded by our abuse, call us to account and bring healing. When our actions endanger local species, thwart our greed and waste. God of grace,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We pray for St. Peter's Church. Build companionships and community in our church to strengthen every fiber of our being. Strengthen existing small groups, incite new ones where needed. Heal any divisions among us and open our hearts to receive one another as gifts. Bless the Open Door Project and the construction workers as it moves to completion. God of grace,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* You are at work in the world for the good of all. Give creative and determined resolve to all who lead and we who empower them. May they not grow weary in seeking what is right and just. End wars of aggression and bring ceasefires as paths to peace. God of grace,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* "O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord's steadfast love endures forever." God, thank you for the joys and blessings of this life. (*The people may offer thanksgivings, silently or aloud.*)  
For your love and goodness, O God,

*People* **We give you thanks.**

*Leader* As a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Console and encourage with your healing presence all who are ailing in body, mind, or spirit; especially \_\_\_\_\_, and those we now name silently or aloud. *(Pause)* When grief and loss is heavy, lift burdens of shame and self-doubt. Where we can make a difference, use us to be vessels of your love. God of grace,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* You have written our names in heaven, O God. We rejoice and give thanks for those who lived and died in your love; ✠ especially [\_\_\_\_\_, and] those we now name silently or aloud. *(Pause)* Accompany us on our life's journey and draw us at the last to life forever with you. God of grace,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### ▲ CONFESSION OF SIN

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is kept.* God of all mercy,

*People* **we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins ✠ through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

#### ▲ THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

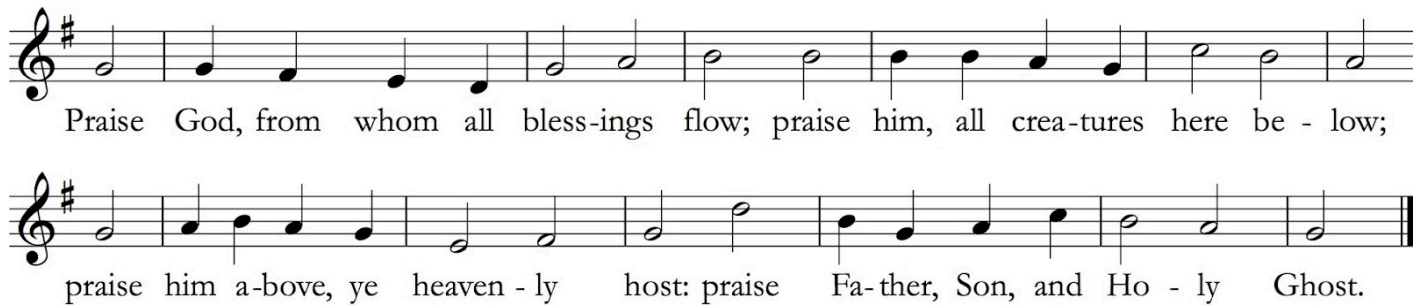
*People* **And also with you.**

#### BLESSINGS FOR BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

▲ PRESENTATION HYMN

Old 100th



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;  
praise him a-bove, ye heaven - ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

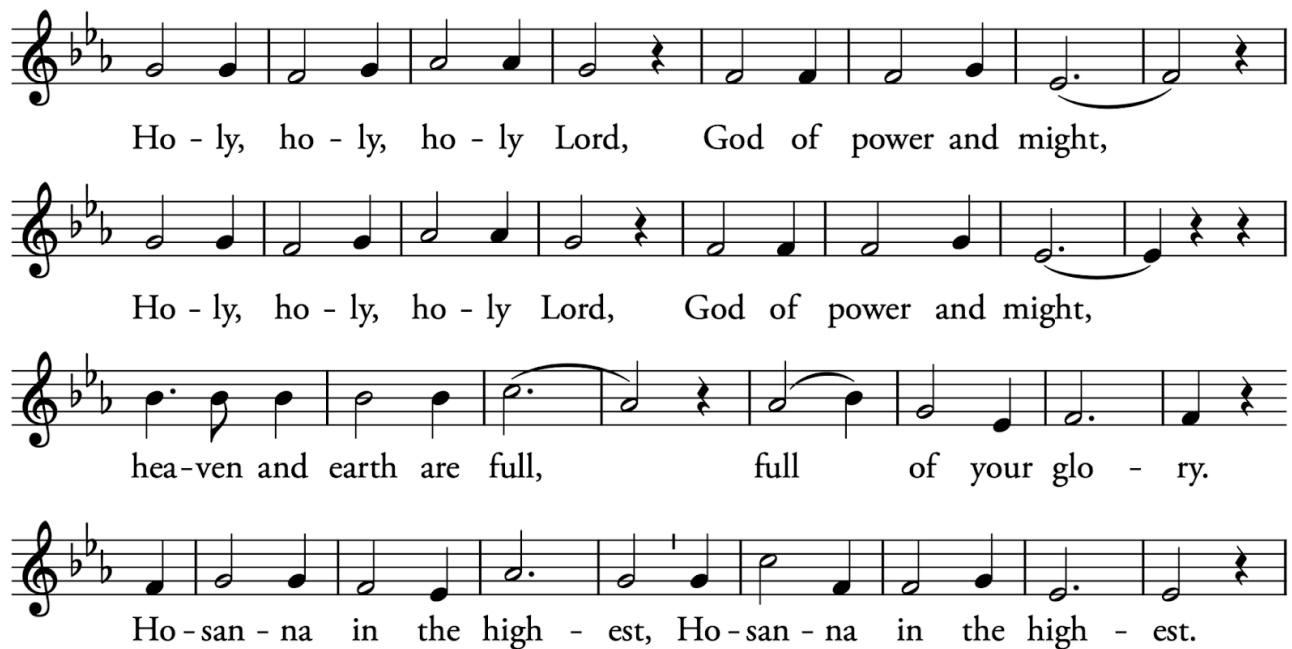
▲ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer 2, *Enriching Our Worship*

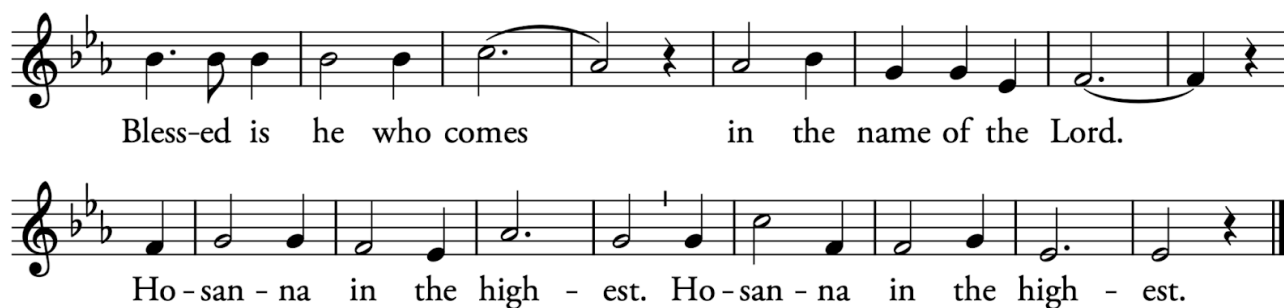
*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

The Hymnal 1982, S 130



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
hea-ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
Ho-san - na in the high - est, Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

#### ▲ THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### ▲ THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

*People* **Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**



Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. (Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.)

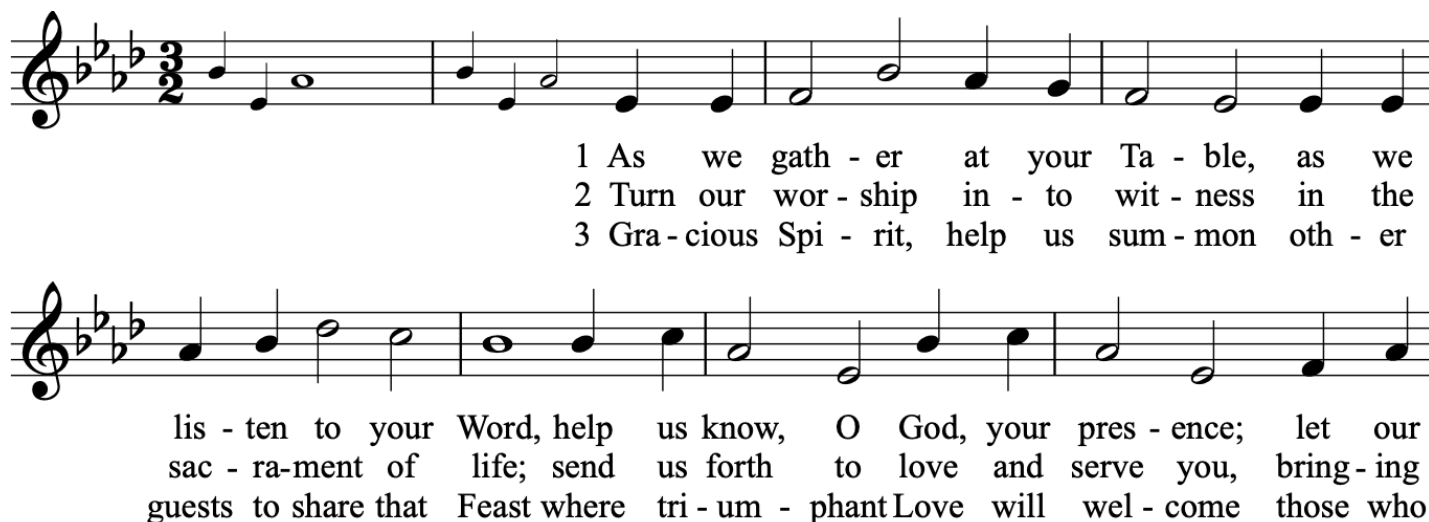
The Sacrament is distributed at the communion rail; you are welcome to kneel or stand to receive. Please grasp the chalice at the base and guide it to your lips. Gluten-free wafers are available, please ask the priest if you need one. Communion is full and complete in either the host or the chalice. If you desire to receive a blessing instead of communion, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

My God, thy table now is spread

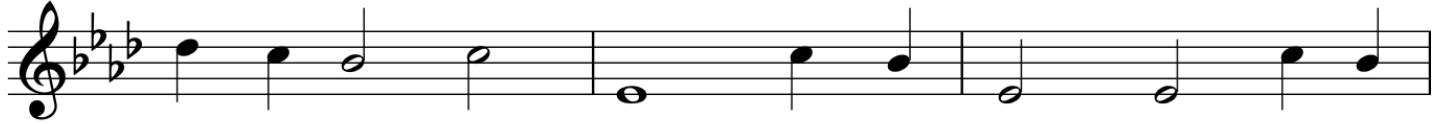
The Hymnal 1982, # 321

Wonder, Love, and Praise, # 763





hearts and minds be stirred. Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we  
peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for  
had been last and least. There no more will en - vy blind us nor will



claim it as our own; teach us through this ho - ly  
give as you for - gave; may we still be - hold your  
pride our peace des - troy, as we join with saints and



ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
im - age in the world you died to save.  
an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

Music: *Raquel*, Skinner Chavez-Melo (1944–1992)

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### ▲ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### ▲ THE BLESSING

May the blessing of the God ✠ of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### ▲ HYMN IN PROCESSION

O beautiful for spacious skies

The Hymnal 1982, # 719

### ▲ THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**All are welcome to sit and enjoy the postlude.  
If you wish to leave, please do so quietly in respect for others.**

**CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY**

Eternal Father, strong to save

arr. Charles Callahan

*Please note that this service is being live streamed on Facebook and YouTube. You might be visible on the video feed.*

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**The flowers on the altar today are given by** James W. Lewis in celebration of Charles Graham's 94th birthday.

**Prayer List:***(names usually stay on for about a month):* Helen Abrams, Mary Ellen Adams, The Alumno family, Brian Atchison, Frank & Vicki Ball, Bill Beihl, Sharon Bembry, Patty Bennett, Olga Brocco, Charles Brown, Dave Canan, Tom Carlson, KC Carmine, Lorraine Carr, Rebecca Carr, Pat Casadei, Diane Clark, Zeke Clark, Mike Clemmer, Guy Corriero, Rebekah Crager & Richard Sweeney, Mike Davitt, Carol Decatur, Angelique Devlin, Stephanie Donato, Jody Ebert, Jim Elsner, Paul Evanoff, Dean Ferris, Robert Fields, Olga Fitch, Susan Fortier, Ann France, Pere Yvan Francois, Pamela Gallamore, Al Gensch, Patty Gibler, Emily Gibson, Tanya Gilden, Carlyle Gill, Bernie Gilmore, Paul Goebel, William Golding, Charles Graham & Ray Myrtle, Bill Granger, Nancy Grasing, Mary Beth & John Grau, Pete & Betsy Hansot, Don Harlan, Alice Harris, Laurie Hawkins, Bruce Heisler, Ginny Holthaus, Beth Hoolehan, Bob Howard, Vernon Huber, Margaret Isaminger, Chloe Jackson, Rebecca Jackson, Brian Jenkins, Mary Kane, Jerry Kayatta, Charlotte King, Casen Kirk, Danny Klasnick, Christine Layden, Kerri Layton, David Levin, Charles Lewis Jr., Joyce Lindsay, Charles LoPresto, Chris Long, Jack Lord, Ruth Macintire, Eleanor Martchmont, Joseph Marcin, Greg Martin, Mary Alice Martus, Don Matthews, Penny McCaffrey, Gibson Alula McDade, Brian McQuilkin, Bernadette Michaels, Jo Miller-Marcin, Dan Mulveny, Josey Mulveny, Tracy Mulveny, Helen Murphy, Michelle Norelli, Brian North, Melissa Nowell, Michael Overbey, Debbie Padgett, Penny Pagano, Joe Parker, Susan Portalupi, Steve Portalupi, Valerie Providenza, Theresa Pugh, Jim Ralston, Linda Reiter, Angie Rummel, Paul Rummel, Vicky Satz, Levi Shorter, Linda Simeone, Beth Smith, Beth Snyder, Carolyn Snyder, Steve Spofford, Arthur Sutton, Andrew Taylor, Doug Thomson, Gary Tice, Pat Vallese, Myra Vanderwerker, Rebecca Vasan, Tom Waite, Irving Walls, Patty Warden, Tom Welch, Bob & Mary Ellen Werner, Don Wessel, Ken Wheeler, Louise White, Suzette Whiting, Marianne Wiedmann, Sara Wilkinson, Jerry Williams, Roberta Williams, Carol Wzorek, Andy, Anita and Hailey, Anne, Ben, Bill D., Bob, Bonnie, Brucie, Carol, Caroline, Charlie, Chase, Chris, Christa, Christopher, Clayton, Cynthia Jean, Daniel, Deb, Debi, Derek, Diane, Dina, Doug, Eleanor, Fran, Garrett, Gillian S., Hazel, Heather, Helen & Carol, Helena, Jacqueline C., Jaxon, John, Julian, Juliana, Karen K., Kathy W., Kerry, Larry, Leo & Donna, Liz, Lynn, Marje, Marjory, Mark, Mark Thomas, Maryann K, Mandy, Maverick, Nancy, Ned, Nicholas & Steve, Paul, Pierson, Raymond, Rowan, Ruth, Sam, Sarah, Sarah P, Stephanie, Susan, Tammy, Tara, Tess, Thomas, Tosha, Vicki, William K.

**Deaths:**

**Mystic Mondays** The next service is July 21 at 7 pm. This will be a Taize service with an emphasis on peace. To participate as a liturgist, please contact Rebecca Brenner. If you wish to sing with the choir (which rehearses earlier that same evening) or offer other musical talents, please contact Annie Freeman.

## CALENDAR

Morning and Evening Prayer are offered daily at 9 am and 5 pm on our Facebook page

### Sunday, July 6

8 am Holy Eucharist  
10 am Holy Eucharist

### Monday, July 7

1 pm Yoga  
6 pm Pack One Committee  
7 pm AA  
7 pm Parish Nurses

### Tuesday, July 8

10 am Mystic Spirituality Class  
Noon AA  
2 pm Green Team

### Wednesday, July 9

9<sup>30</sup> am Clergy Group  
10<sup>30</sup> am Centering Prayer  
11 am Invite\*Welcome\*Connect

### Wednesday (continued)

3 pm Eucharist at The Moorings  
4 pm Eucharist at The Lodge  
7 pm AA  
7 pm Holy Eucharist

### Thursday, July 10

9<sup>30</sup> am Bible Study  
7 pm Summer Spirituality Series

### Friday, July 11

### Saturday, July 12

5 pm Holy Eucharist

### Sunday, July 13

8 am Holy Eucharist  
10 am Holy Eucharist

### Today's Servants

| Acolyte    | Lector          | Chalice Bearers                   | Ushers                |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Joe Milani | Ned Criscimagna | Jackie Ferris &<br>Candy Williams | Bill & Ann Lyn Martin |

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED** The second most important hour of our week together at St. Peter's (after Holy Eucharist) is our fellowship/coffee hour. **Sunday's Host:** St. Peter's Readers

**Vestry Nomination Season is Here!** The Vestry serves as the governing body of St. Peter's. It works with the Rector and other clergy, the administrative staff and parishioners to achieve the church's goals and missions. Twelve parishioners serve on the Vestry, divided into three classes of four persons each. Nominees to fill the four Vestry terms which will commence at the end of the year are now being sought. Members of St. Peter's will vote on the nominees. The new terms will begin in January 2026. To serve on St. Peter's Vestry one must be confirmed in the Episcopal Church, a member of St. Peter's for at least one year, and have made an annual pledge. Inasmuch as the Vestry meets monthly and its duties involve a wide range of ministries—including stewardship, youth and family, property, worship and music, missions and outreach, parish life and newcomers, pastoral care—Vestry members should be full-time local residents. If you are interested in serving on the Vestry or wish to nominate someone, please contact the office.

**St Peter's Readers** are continuing to meet in person in the church conference room. Our meetings are on the third Sunday of the month at 5 pm.

**Upcoming Sessions:**

- **July 26 - 5 pm** *Classic* - "The Outermost House" by Henry Beston
- **August 17- 5 pm** *Non Fiction* - "Travels With George" by Nathaniel Philbrick

Come when you can, leave when you must.

**Summer Spirituality Series - Thursday, July 10th at 7 pm** Come join us as The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Kaeton offers a presentation on a decade of Marriage Equality in the United States. In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide (*Obergefell v. Hodges* on June 26, 2015), the Episcopal Church's General Convention passed resolutions on July 1, 2015, to provide marriage equality within the denomination. The Rev'd Dr. Elizabeth Kaeton, a religious activist and change-leader in Episcopal organizations including Canon Missioner to The Oasis, Board member of Integrity and Beyond Inclusion, President of The Episcopal Women's Caucus, and member of The Consultation, and four time deputy to General Convention will take us through some of the history of the 50 year struggle for equality in Marriage Rites and Rights as we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of full sacramental inclusion for LGBTQ+ people in our church and culture, even in the midst of challenges and threats to our progress. Following her presentation, we will all share ice cream from King's Ice Cream.

**Women's Spirituality Group** meets once in July, on July 18, to finish the book by Cole Arthur Riley, "This Here Flesh". It has been a wonderful journey discussing the various themes in this book. We won't meet in August, and will resume meeting on Friday, September 5. Next book, "See No Stranger", by Valerie Kaur. We meet on the 1st & 3rd Fridays at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall. For questions, email [revflett@gmail.com](mailto:revflett@gmail.com)

**St. Peter's Mission & Outreach Committee Challenges You to a Match!** The M&O Committee is supporting the Shoes That Fit program again this year. Here's our challenge to you: the M&O Committee will donate \$1,020 to Shoes That Fit, which is enough for 34 pairs of shoes (at \$30 each). We challenge the congregation of St. Peter's Church to match (perhaps even exceed) that amount, ultimately providing at least 68 pairs of shoes to high school students in our two local districts, Cape Henlopen and Indian River. Our challenge runs through the months of June and July so that we can provide our funds in time for Shoes That Fit to meet the needs of students entering the 2025-2026 school year in September. Donations can be made via the online giving page on the Parish website, in the offering plate, or by stopping at the Church Office with your donation. Please specify "Shoes That Fit Challenge" on the memo line of your check or in the "This donation is for" block on the website. NOTE: we are collecting a monetary donation; Shoes That Fit volunteers will purchase and distribute the shoes.

**Spiritual Companionship Group** We held our organizational meeting, and will be meeting the first and third Saturdays of the month, 9 to 10:30 am at the Moorings beginning July 19. This is an ongoing, mostly "quiet" group, an opportunity to do some personal work and share with others. For more information, contact Rebecca Brenner.

**DEEPENING YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH WITH CENTERING PRAYER** Most of us want to deepen our experience of the presence of God. Centering Prayer, a form of Christian meditation, is a way to do just that. It is a simple prayer practice that requires no prior experience or knowledge – just a willingness to go deeper in our relationship with God. We began a new Centering Prayer Group in January that meets at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Parish Hall. You are invited! We always welcome newcomers and are happy to take time to introduce or review practices so all feel comfortable. We are going to start reading “The Heart of a Calling” by Stuart Higginbotham on April 23. For more information, contact Mother Carlyle Gill at [jcarlylegill@yahoo.com](mailto:jcarlylegill@yahoo.com).



## You're Invited to Vacation Bible School Hosted by St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Join us for five days of faith-filled fun at this year's Carnival-Themed VBS! Kids will enjoy games, storytelling, crafts, snacks, and more—while learning meaningful lessons of kindness, justice, inclusion, and how to live their faith every day.

**Dates: Mon, July 28 – Fri, August 1, 2025**

**Time: 4:00 – 6:00 PM**

**Ages: 4–12 welcome**



**Register  
Today!**



**Questions? Contact: [Jessica@stpeterslewes.org](mailto:Jessica@stpeterslewes.org)**

**S.T.a.R. Daytime**

Tuesday 1pm to 3pm

Year 1–Old Testament

Year 2–New Testament

Year 3–Church History

Year 4–Church Doctrine

*With Jackie Ferris &*

*Robert Gotwalt*



**S.T.a.R.**

*Scripture, Tradition and Reason*  
*a program of Christian study*

**S.T.a.R. Evenings**

Wednesday 5pm to 7pm

Year 1–Old Testament

*With Fr. Jeff Ross &*

*Deacon Chris Miller-Marcin*

*Beginning September 2025 Call the office today to sign-up or find out more*

**CLERGY & PASTORAL STAFF**

The Rev. Jeffrey Austin Ross, *Rector*

Kelley Mallon, *Parish Administrator*

Jessica Potter, *Family Ministry and Communications*

T. J. Thomas, *Minister of Music*

†

The Rev. Kathy Andonian, *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Deacon Paula Waite, *Chaplain to Beebe Hospital*

Robert Reehorst, *Sexton*

Helen Waite, *Garden Manager*



**Give online**



**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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