

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Glenside, Pennsylvania
July 26, 2026
10 a.m.

Gathering in Joy

Prelude: Rhosymedre

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Opening Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82)*, #635 If thou but trust in God to guide thee

The Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Presider says to the people

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Listening for God's Word

The First Reading - 1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle - *Romans 8:26-39*

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82), #302* **Father, we thank thee who has planted**

The Gospel – *Matthew 13:31-33,44-52*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Barbara Ballenger

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

**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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

Prayers of the People

adapted from Intercessions for the Christian People

Made righteous through faith in Christ, asking that we may be faithful to the gift of God's grace, let us now pray to our God in the power of the Spirit, **with the response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Presider concludes with this prayer:

Eternal and compassionate God, receive and fulfil all that we ask according to your will. Give us the grace to welcome your word who is Christ. We ask this through Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Presider says:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Presider and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

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

The Peace

Please greet other members of the congregation with a sign of peace.

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrating Holy Communion

Offertory Music: Adagio in A Minor, RV 522

Antonio Vivaldi

The Presentation Hymn: *Lift Every Voice and Sing II (LEVAS)*, #152 Let us break bread together

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B (*inclusive language*)

Presider God is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

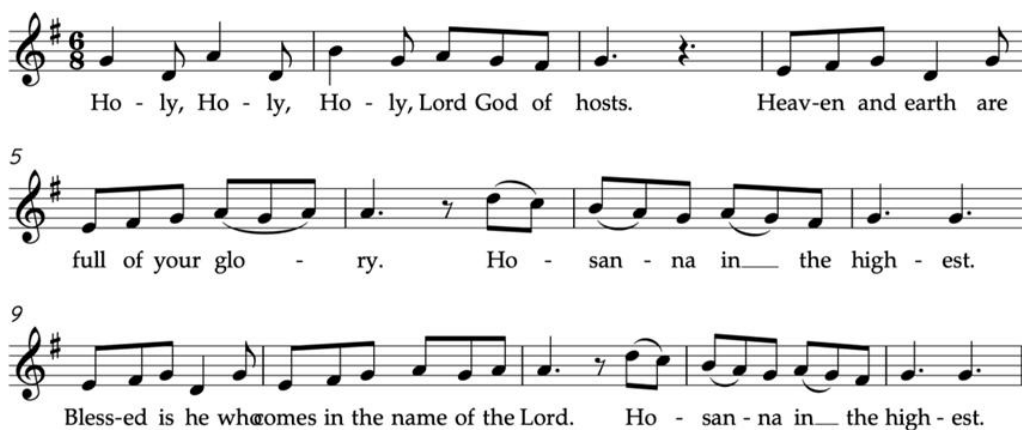
Presider says

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Who by water and the Holy Spirit hast made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth thy glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy

Norah Duncan



Music: Unity Mass, Norah Duncan IV, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
Presider and People

We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you,

from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Peter and Philip and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

The Lord's Prayer (*traditional language*)

BCP 364

**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

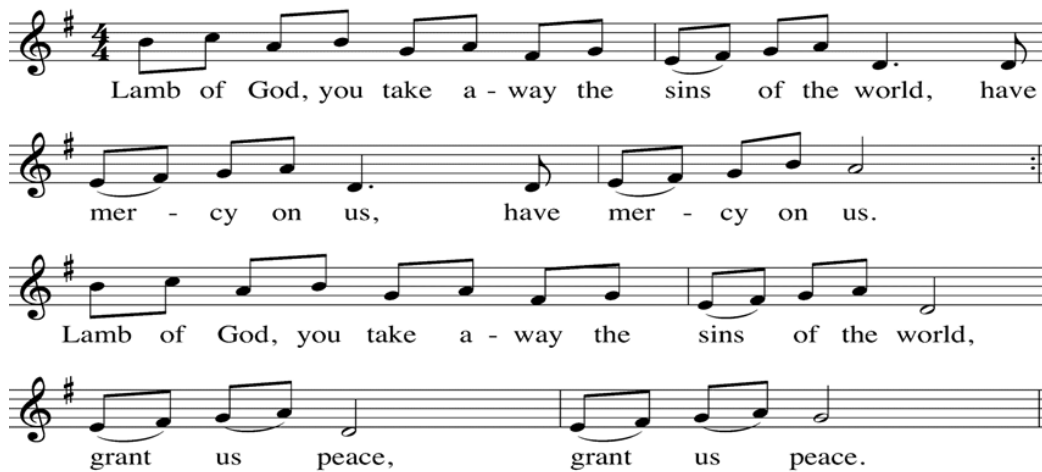
The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Norah Duncan



Music: *Unity Mass*, Norah Duncan IV, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Presider continues

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion of the People

Communion Music: Prière

Leon Boëllman (1862-1897)

The Post-Communion Prayer

Presider and people together

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sending Forth

The Blessing

Eucharistic Visitor Commissioning (*occasional*)

Presider: In the name of the congregation of St. Peter's we send forth, bearing the gift of Holy Communion to...

All: We who are many are one body, because we all share in one bread and one cup.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

When your birthday or anniversary is announced, please stand in your place and remain standing as we pray.

Birthdays:

<i>Beth Michener-Wall</i>	<i>07/26</i>
<i>Catherine Moore</i>	<i>07/26</i>
<i>Xavier Voit</i>	<i>07/28</i>

Anniversaries:

None this week.

Birthday & Anniversary Prayer

BCP 830

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

- **Special thanks to Carol Lorentz-Burnett and Chris Teleha for operating the organ's autoplay system while our music director is away.**
- **Stewardship Year Round: The first 2026 Stewardship Dinner will be August 16 at 5:30p.m. *Please see the newsletter to meet the host and to sign up. Special Announcement by Rebecca Fellerman.***
- **Join St. Peter's for a fun Karaoke Night on Saturday, August 8 at 5 p.m. This event costs \$5 to enter, with \$10 dinner specials available at 6 p.m. *See the newsletter for additional information.***
- **The back pack and school supply collection will continue until Sunday, August 16. Please place items in the blue bin. *See the newsletter for the supply list.***
- **New Church Emails: Church staff have begun the transition from Gmail accounts to more secure business email addresses. *See details in the newsletter.***
- **Scan the QR code below to access the recent newsletter.**



Closing Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82)*, #488 Be thou my vision

The Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude: Fugue

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: *The Rev. Barbarba Ballenger*

Acolytes: *Michael Colino, Patrick McMahon*

Lectors: *Carole Sweeney, Kelly Sacco*

Intercessor: *Donna Kulp*

Counter: *Mike Reeve*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Carol Lorentz-Burnett, Kristina Marchuk, Deboarh Way*

Ushers: *Bill Bacon, George Luskus, Peter Gottemoller*

Vestry Steward: *Debbie Panebianco*

Altar Guild: *Karen Sayer*

Welcomers: *Donna Evans*

Music Director: *Sam Faust*

Bell Ringer: *Bill Bacon*

Tech Team: *Mike Levin, PJ Linke, James Moore*

Vestry

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Mark Evans: *MarkCarverEvans@gmail.com*

Anne Gibson: *irishmom68@comcast.net*

Julia Guerrero: *juliaAguerrero@gmail.com*

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Kathy Flaherty (Bell Choir Director) *stpeter654music@gmail.com*

Kristina Marchuk (Parish Nurse) Kmarchuk923@gmail.com

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Unity Mass "Holy Holy Holy" and "Lamb of God," music by Norah Duncan ©2010 GIA
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