

ORDER OF SERVICE – JULY 27, 2025 – 7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul
Music Team: Elaine K's Team

Welcome to Worship!

We're so glad you're here! If you're visiting today, stop by the **Welcome Table** in the narthex to pick up a gift bag and learn more about our programs. After the service, grab a coffee and enjoy some conversation.

If your child needs a quieter spot during the service, feel free to use the **narthex near the fireplace**, where quiet toys are available.

If you are **baptized in a Christian church**, you are welcome to come forward for **communion**. Children who have completed communion instruction are also welcome to participate. If your child is not receiving communion, you're encouraged to bring them forward for a **blessing**. Please have them **cross their arms over their chest** to indicate they would like a blessing.

If you would like **personal prayer**, our prayer team is available in the narthex either **before or after communion**. Individual prayer is also available **following the service**.

Please note: Today's service, including **Children's Time**, is being **live streamed and recorded** for St. Peter's YouTube channel. If you'd prefer not to be on camera, seating is available toward the back of the sanctuary.

PRELUDE

As the prelude begins, please take this time to quiet your hearts and prepare for worship. As the light is brought into the sanctuary, let us ready ourselves to receive God's Word and to come to His table, where we are fed by His grace.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOMING

OPENING HYMN: We Praise You, O God LBW 241

We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers, we bless you;
Through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1962, alt
Tune A. Valerius, Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, 1626

OPENING PRAYER

All: Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—we welcome Your presence among us today. We set apart this time for You alone. May You be honored in every word spoken, every song sung, every prayer lifted, and every truth received from Your Word. Draw our hearts near and renew our spirits as we worship. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, beseeching Him, in the name of our Lord Jesus, to forgive the iniquity of our sin.

P: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Silence for reflection]

P: Most merciful God...

All: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. Amen

THE GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: and also with you.

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy (2x)

Christe eleison, Christ have mercy (2x)

Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy (2x)

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy

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THIS IS THE FEAST (sung, LBW p. 60)

(All)

This is the feast of victory for our God

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain

Whose blood set us free to be people of God

This is the feast of victory for our God

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Men)

Power, riches, wisdom and strength
And honour, blessing, and glory are his

(All)

*This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

(Women)

Sing with all the people of God
And join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honour, glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen

(All)

*This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

For the Lamb who was slain
Has begun his reign. Alleluia!

*This is the feast of victory for our God
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

All: God our maker and redeemer, you have made us a new company of priests to bear witness to the Gospel. Enable us to be faithful to our calling to make known your promises to all the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Elaine K

CHILDREN'S SONG: "I Cast All My Cares Upon You"

I cast all my cares upon You.
I lay all of my burdens.
Down at Your feet
And anytime that I don't know
Just what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon You.

CCLI Song # 25974
Kelly Willard
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FIRST READING – Genesis 18:17-25

¹⁷ Then the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do? ¹⁸ Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him. ¹⁹ For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."

²⁰ Then the LORD said, “The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous ²¹ that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know.”

²² The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD.

²³ Then Abraham approached him and said: “Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

Psalm 103:1-17 NIV

¹ Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

² Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

⁴ who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

⁶ The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:

⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

¹⁰ he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

¹⁵ The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field;

¹⁶ the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD’s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children’s children—

SECOND READING – Colossians 2:6-19 NIV

⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces^[a] of this world rather than on Christ.

⁹ For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰ and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. ¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh^[b] was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you^l alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. ¹⁶ Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. ¹⁸ Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind.

¹⁹ They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
Shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life, O Lord.
You have the words of eternal life, O Lord.
Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
Shall we go? Shall we go?

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GOSPEL – Luke 11:1-13 NIV

11 One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” ² He said to them, “When you pray, say: “‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.”

⁵ Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶ a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.’ ⁷ And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

⁹ “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

PRE-SERMON HYMN: Lord I Need You

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without You, I fall apart. You’re the one, that guides my heart.

Lord, I need You, oh I need You. Ev’ry hour I need you.
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh God how I need you.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.
Where grace is found, is where You are.
And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness, is Christ in me.
Where You are, Lord I am free. Holiness, is Christ in me.

Lord I need You, oh I need You. Ev’ry hour I need you.
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need you.

CCLI Song # 5925687
Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher
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SERMON: Pastor Paul

OFFERTORY HYMN: Here is My Heart

Merciful Savior, gracious Redeemer,
Slow in your anger, rich in your love.
Full of compassion, longing to heal and bless,
You will forgive all of my sin if I will confess.

Here is my heart, Lord, I lay it open,
Search every corner, cleanse every part
Here is my heart, Lord, yielded and broken;
Merciful Lord, come and restore,
Here is my heart.

CCLI Song # 2459819
Martin Nystrom
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OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Blessed are you.

All: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your Goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of Him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.**

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY OF GOD

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (LBW p.88 Sung)

P: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise

PROPER PREFACE p.110

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy, God of pow'r and might
Heaven and earth are full of you glory (repeat)

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION (LBW p.110)

LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p.113): Our Father, who art in Heaven...

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world (3x)
Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us and grant us, grant us peace.

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DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS:

I Need Thee Every Hour HFFG 443

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.

CHORUS

I need Thee, O I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now my Savior, I come to Thee

I need Thee every hour, stay Thou near by;
Temptations lose their pow'r when Thou art nigh.

CHORUS

I need Thee every hour, in joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide or life is vain.

CHORUS

I need Thee every hour, most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son!

I need Thee, O I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now my Savior, I come to Thee

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Pass Me Not - HFFG 416

CHORUS

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry!
While on others Thou art calling,
Do not pass me by.

Pass me not, O gentle Savior Hear my humble cry!
While on others Thou art calling, Do not pass me by.

CHORUS

Let me at Thy throne of mercy Find a sweet relief;
Kneeling there in deep contrition, Help my unbelief.

CHORUS

Trusting only in Thy merit, Would I seek Thy face;
Heal my wounded, broken spirit, Save me by Thy grace.

CHORUS

Thou the Spring of all my comfort, More than life to me!
Whom have I on earth beside Thee? Whom in heaven but Thee?

CHORUS

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COMMUNION BLESSING & POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please see below for details)

CLOSING HYMN: Praise to You, O God of Mercy WOV 790

Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly. Thanks be to you forever!

From of old you loved and sought us! Thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice, you have taught us: Thanks be to you forever!

Strong is your faithfulness, Strong is your love,
Rememb'ring your covenant, of life with us.

Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly! Thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!

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THE SENDING

P: Go in Peace.

C: Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neighborhood Prayer Walks — Join the Movement!

Our Summer Neighborhood Prayer Walks began July 1, and we're already seeing God's movement as we pray for neighbors.

Pick a time this week to walk and pray quietly with friends. Prayer cards are at the Welcoming Table. Check your inbox for Monday's devotional email — a great guide.

Consider praying for one person nearby — maybe God's already putting someone on your heart. What if He's waiting for you to notice?

Pray for your church and prayer for the leaders of your church.

New Summer Sermon Series: Divine Designs — Hearing God's Call to Advance His Kingdom

We're exploring what it means to say "yes" to God's call and build something meaningful.

August 3 —Nehemiah's Mission: Rebuilt, Resist. Rise. How do you rebuild when the rubble's still smoking?

August 10 – Peters Steps Out: Faith on the Edge. Will you step out – stay in the boat?

August 17- Paul's Turnaround: From Wreckage to Revival. What if your worst moment became your Launchpad?

Join Pastor Rick for Prayer Before Worship

Sundays at 8:45 AM in the board room (trailer) for a short, meaningful prayer time. Supporting Pastor Rick and praying for attendees prepares the way for God's work in our church.

Fall Program & Serving Opportunities – We're Planning Ahead!As we prepare our fall schedule and calendar, we're excited to hear about the programs and serving opportunities you may be planning for the upcoming season. If you're organizing something this fall, we'd love to include it!

Please send us a brief description of your opportunity, along with your proposed start and end dates, and the specific date(s) and time(s) you're hoping to reserve.

Kindly email the details to Tim in the office at your earliest convenience so we can make sure it fits into the fall calendar. We would like all the information to us by August 15.

Looking forward to a full and meaningful season together!

Summer Sundays at St. Peter's

Summer is here, and as many Worship Servants take holidays, we'll use printed bulletins and serve "simplified coffee" hosted by our Church Council — a relaxed way to connect.

Future Directions Task Force

Shape the Next Chapter! We stand at a pivotal moment — a time to prayerfully seek God's guidance for what's next. This summer, join us through surveys, conversations, and reflections. Your voice and faith are vital as we listen together for God's leading.

Our mission remains: Go and make disciples.

Our vision: Reaching the next generation for Jesus Christ.

Now, how can we move forward boldly, united and empowered by God's plan? The Future Directions Task Force is here to help us explore how we can grow together, what kind of leadership and teamwork will equip us, and how each of us can be part of God's unfolding story.

This is our moment to dream, listen, and prepare for the next chapter — impacting lives and transforming hearts. Let's move forward with faith, hope, and love.

Please pray for our committee:

Fred N, Mel, Elaine, George, Gary, and Fred S.

Celebrate the Joy of Baptism This Fall!

This September, we celebrate baptism — a powerful sign of new life, God's grace, and a fresh start in Christ!

Your baptism day is like a spiritual birthday, marking when God claimed you and invited you into a lifelong faith journey.

If you've been baptized, please send your baptism date to Tim in the office. We'll celebrate these milestones during worship and community moments throughout the year. Baptism isn't just a ritual — it's a gift of new identity, belonging, and purpose, connecting you forever to God's family.

If someone asks why baptism matters, you can say it offers hope, forgiveness, and a fresh start in God's love.

This fall, let's joyfully share the meaning of baptism and invite others into this life-changing journey!

Confirmation This Fall

Do you have a son or daughter in 7th grade or older who is ready to go deeper in their faith? This fall, we are excited to launch a Confirmation program and invite families to join this meaningful journey. We are especially looking for a co-teaching team so that a few dedicated individuals can spend time with our teenagers, engage them from their perspective, and build strong relationships as part of the Confirmation program. Cindy and Pastor Rick are partnering to shape this ministry and would love to hear from anyone interested in being part of the conversation.

Serving in the Church

We encourage you to pray about how God might use your gifts in service to Him and to the church body. Everyone's contribution makes the load lighter for all, and as we take time to reflect over the summer, please ask God where He might be calling you to serve. Your involvement is a vital part of our community and ministry.

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