

Order of Service – September 21, 2025 - 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Rick
Music Team: Parkers 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 Gateway Room — a family-friendly space prepared just for you.

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 Music

OPENING HYMN: Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Chorus

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me

Thomas Obediah Chisholm, William Marion Runyan
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LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WELCOMING

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: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: In Holy Baptism, we were buried with Christ into death,
that just as He was raised from the dead,
we too might walk in newness of life.

Yet, we daily struggle with sin and forget the promises of our baptism.

Let us now return to the font of grace — confessing our sins and clinging to the mercy that is ours in Christ.

(Silence for reflection)

P: Most merciful God,

**All: 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 trusted the promises made to us in Baptism. 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.

Renew us in the grace of our baptism.

**Cleanse us, and lead us by Your Spirit
so that we may walk in newness of life
to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, in His mercy,
has given His Son to die for you
and, for His sake, forgives you all your sins.

By water and the Word, you were joined to Christ — buried with Him in death and raised with Him to new life. 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.

All: 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY - 15th Sunday After Pentecost

All: O God we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow his commands; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S STORY: Pastor Rick

CHILDREN'S SONG - I saw the Light

I wandered so aimless, life filled with sin, I wouldn't let my dear Savior in;
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night Praise the Lord I saw the light.

Chorus

I saw the light, I saw the light, No more in darkness, no more in night,
(And) now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight--praise the Lord! I saw the light.

Just like a blind man I wandered along, Worries and fears I claimed for my own;
Then, like the blind man that God gave back his sight--praise the Lord! I saw the light.

Chorus

I was a fool to wander and stray, straight is the gate and narrow the way;
Now I have traded the wrong for the right--praise the Lord I saw the light.

Chorus

Hank Williams Sr.
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FIRST READING Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 NIV

¹⁸ You who are my Comforter^l in sorrow, my heart is faint within me. ¹⁹ Listen to the cry of my people from a land far away: "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King no longer there?" "Why have they aroused my anger with their images, with their worthless foreign idols?" ²⁰ "The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and we are not saved." ²¹ Since my people are crushed, I am crushed; I mourn, and horror grips me. ²² Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people? **9** ¹ Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people.

PSALM 79:1-9 NIV

- ¹ O God, the nations have invaded your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple, they have reduced Jerusalem to rubble.
- ² They have left the dead bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the sky, the flesh of your own people for the animals of the wild.
- ³ They have poured out blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there is no one to bury the dead.
- ⁴ We are objects of contempt to our neighbors, of scorn and derision to those around us.
- ⁵ How long, LORD? Will you be angry forever? How long will your jealousy burn like fire?
- ⁶ Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not acknowledge you, on the kingdoms that do not call on your name;
- ⁷ for they have devoured Jacob and devastated his homeland.
- ⁸ Do not hold against us the sins of past generations; may your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need.
- ⁹ Help us, God our Savior, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive our sins for your name's sake.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7 NIV

2 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— ²for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13 NIV

16 Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ²So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’

³“The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— ⁴I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’

⁵“So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

⁶“‘Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,’ he replied.

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

⁷“Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’

“‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied.

“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’

⁸“The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹²And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?”

¹³ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

PRE-SERMON HYMN: God The Uncreated One (King Forevermore)

God the uncreated One, the Author of salvation,
Who wrote the laws of space and time, and fashioned worlds to His design.
The One whom angel hosts revere hung the stars like chandeliers,
Numbered every grain of sand, knows the heart of every man.
He is King forever, He is King forever, He is King forevermore.

God, our fortress and our strength, the Rock on which we can depend;
Matchless in His majesty, His power and authority,
Unshaken by the schemes of man, never changing Great I am.
Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall, He is faithful through it all.
Crown Him King forever, crown Him King forever, crown Him King forevermore.

Mighty God in mortal flesh, forsaken by a traitor's kiss.
The curse of sin and centuries did pierce the lowly Prince of Peace.
Lifted high, the sinless man, crucified the spotless Lamb,
Buried by the sons of man, rescued by the Father's hand,
To reign as King forever, reign as King forever, reign as King forevermore.

King eternal, God of grace, we crown You with the highest praise.
Heaven shouts and saints adore, You're holy, holy, holy Lord!
What joy in everlasting life, all is love and faith is sight.
Justice rolls and praises rise at the name of Jesus Christ.
King of kings forever, King of kings forever, King of kings forevermore.

Aaron Keyes, Pete James
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SERMON – Pastor Rick

FOCUSED PRAYER TIME

P: Let us now pause for a few quiet moments before the Lord. Bring your heart to Him — with all its questions, sorrows, hopes, and gratitude.

As you reflect on the Word just proclaimed, ask: *What is it that God is speaking to me today?*
What did I need to hear? Let the Holy Spirit bring His truth to your heart.

(1–2 minutes of silence or soft instrumental music)

OFFERING – During below Hymn

OFFERTORY: Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain; holy, holy is He;
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

Chorus

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty.
Who was and is and is to come;
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings;
You are my ev'rything and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Chorus

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at the mention of Your name;
Jesus Your name is power, breath and living water, such a marv'lous mystery yeah

Chorus

Jennie Lee Riddle
CCLI Song #4447960
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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.

GOD STORY

P: Today, we are grateful to hear a story of God's faithfulness. May this encourage us as we prepare our hearts for Holy Communion and confess our faith together as people of God.

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father, who art in Heaven...

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION SONGS:

Jesus Paid It All (Christ I Owe)

I hear the Saviour say: Thy strength indeed is small.
Child of weakness, watch and pray; Find in Me thine all in all.

Chorus

Jesus paid it all; All to Him I owe.
Sin had left a crimson stain; He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find Thy power and Thine alone.
Can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone.

Chorus

For nothing good have I whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calvary's Lamb.

Chorus

And when before the throne I stand in Him complete,
Jesus died my soul to save, my lips shall still repeat.

Chorus

Elvina Mabel Hall, John Thomas Grape
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His Mercy Is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

Chorus

Praise the Lord His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new every morn.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.

Chorus

What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins they are many His mercy is more.

Chorus

Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness new every morn
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa
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BLESSING

COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN: Shine Jesus Shine

Lord, the light of Your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us, Set us free by the truth You now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness, search me, try me consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness, so our faces display Your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

Graham Kendrick
CCLI Song #30426
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Shine Jesus Shine

THE SENDING

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

Weekly Schedule

This Week at St. Peter's

Monday Pastor Rick's Day Off • Good Vibes Information Evening – 7:00 PM

Tuesday • Morning Prayer – 8:30 AM • Staff Meeting – 9:00 AM • Pastor Rick's Office Hours – 10:00 AM–4:00 PM • Heaven Study – 10:00 AM

Wednesday • Good Vibes Memory Choir – 1:30 PM

Thursday • Parables Study – 10:00 AM

Friday (No scheduled events)

Saturday (No scheduled events)

Next Sunday • Confirmation – 8:30 AM • Worship – 10:00 AM • Sunday School – 10:15 AM

Welcome to Worship

Please join us for coffee and fellowship following worship. We will have a quick turnaround, as we need to return to the sanctuary for a special congregational meeting to discuss some important items moving forward.

Special Congregational Meeting changed to Oct 5, 2025

At Thursday's council meeting, council decided to postpone the special congregational meeting originally planned for this coming Sunday, September 21, 2025. The meeting will instead take place on Sunday, October 5, 2025 after the service.

Please join us to discuss a number of important topics, including staffing, financial needs, and membership of the call committee.

SERVE 1

This Sunday, we will introduce the second part of our theme: *Go*. Our focus will be on the many ways we can serve and share our gifts. We are also excited to launch **SERVE 1** — a new call to action inviting each person to commit to one act of service this fall in three unique ways.

MINISTRY PROGRAM BROCHURE

If you have not yet picked up the Fall 2025 St. Peter's ministry brochure, please ask one of our greeters. The brochure contains all the information you need to choose a program you might want to be involved in this fall.

KEEP CONNECTED and BE KNOWN

If you are new to our church community, please sign up for our weekly care email to stay updated on all things St. Peter's. You can also request a mailbox to receive timely information. We'd love to give you a special name tag—it helps us get to know you! Forms are available at the Welcoming Table, or by calling Tim in the office.

CONFIRMATION

We are excited to be offering confirmation starting today. Please pray for our young people as they learn and grow in their faith.

Join Us for an Evening of Brain Health & Music!

Discover the importance of healthy interventions for maintaining brain function and overall well-being as we age, with **special guest Dr. Stuart MacDonald**.

Plus, enjoy some music by the **Good Vibes Memory Choir!**

When: Monday evening at 7:00 PM. Come learn, listen, and be inspired!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

This week we begin our study on Tues mornings 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the Gateway room, When Faith Becomes Sight – Heaven. Speak with Rhonda for more information.

Rediscover God's Heart for Others

God's love is always reaching out—and He invites us to join Him. In this 4-part small group series, we'll reflect on what it means to see people through Jesus' eyes, take small steps of courage, and trust that God is working through us. *Life Shared* is for anyone longing to live with more purpose and compassion.

The course will be offered three separate times and you can choose when works best for you:

- Thursdays in October (beginning October 2nd) at 7 PM
- Wednesdays in November (beginning November 5th) at 7 PM
- A day session on November 15th from 9:30am-3:30pm (childcare for November 15th provided upon request).

For more info or to sign up, contact the office or find Jo Anne or Elaine in the Narthex following the service.

Youth are welcome too!

Father of Hope Missions in Uganda

Would you consider supporting Father of Hope, a ministry to children in Uganda, Africa? Father of Hope serves children who cannot afford to pay for all their necessities, including school fees. They also teach them about Jesus. You can support them and also enjoy a painting class taught by Diana Scott and produce a painting of your own. Saturday, September 27th from 1-4 PM in the church basement. We will also learn a little more about the ministry. This could be a good opportunity to invite a friend who does not go to church! All painting materials supplied. Cost is \$35 and all the funds raised will go directly to the ministry.

Kingdom Innovation Hub

The Kingdom Innovation Hub is a space where Spirit-led ideas take shape. Throughout Scripture, God entrusted people with bold visions — and we believe He still does today. Whether you have a ministry idea, a mission dream, or simply want to listen and pray with others, the Hub is here to help you discern and take the next step. Talk with Don, Robin, Parker or Matt. Ask them for an idea submission form or pick one up at the Welcoming table.

Men's Breakfast Fellowship Saturday, October 4 • 8:00 AM Join Pastor Rick for the first Men's Breakfast of the fall season. Together we will reflect on **Luke 17:5–10** — letting this text “read us” as we bring our insights for discussion and prayer. Read this text and come prepared to share your thoughts.

Youth Group Update

We had a fun Scavenger hunt last Saturday and stopped at Bow Meadows to visit Berghs for items and yummy dessert. Forsters were also helpful on our visit to their house as we scavenged for unique items. Our devotion was based on Zach Williams' Chainbreaker video and lyrics as we talked about John 15 and abiding in Jesus through good and bad times.

Coming up next!

Youth group will be Saturday, Sept. 20 not Friday Sept. 19.

Meet at the church for Capture the Flag at park & Youth Council Election

Sat. Oct. 18 Jesus Revolution movie & popcorn

Sat. Oct. 25 Pasta Night

October 4 – Pastoral Care Team Training 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Gateway)

Step into a meaningful opportunity to use your gifts in serving others! Join us for a full-day training and learn how you can support and care for our church family. **Pre-reading is required.** Talk to **Pastor Rick** to get involved with the Pastoral Care Team—share your talents, make a difference, and help lighten the load as we care for one another.