

## Order of Service: Sunday September 14, 2025 Rally Sunday – Abide & Grow

Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Rick  
Music Team: Erica's Music 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 SONG: *As for Me and My House*

Choose you this day whom you will serve: The kingdom of heaven or the powers of earth  
Has He not spoken? Have you not heard? There is but one true God

The God of our fathers set us free. His Son paid the price for our covenant peace.  
Through generations His mercy speaks. We trust in one true God.

#### **Chorus**

As for me and my house, we will serve serve the Lord.  
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord our God.

This house is the Lord's and all within  
May it be pleasing and holy to Him  
Joined by His Spirit His people sing:  
"Great is the one true God  
Oh, great is the living God!"

#### **Chorus**

As for me and my house, we will serve serve, the Lord.  
As for me and my house, we will serve, the Lord our God.

Praise the Father! Praise the Son! Praise the Spirit now in us!  
Let every heart and every tongue praise the one true God

#### **Chorus x 2**

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## **OPENING HYMN: Holy, Holy, Holy**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, all the saints adore Thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide Thee, though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see.  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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## **LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

### **WELCOME**

### **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.

### **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open  
All desires known, from You no secrets are hid  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
By the power of your Spirit  
That we love and magnify your name

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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

L: 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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## GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria! Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria!  
We praise you! We bless you! We worship you! We glorify you!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria! Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria!  
Amen! Amen! Amen! Amen!

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

**ALL: God of all creation, you reach out to call people of all nations to your kingdom. As you gather disciples from near and far, count us also among those who boldly confess your Son Jesus Christ as Lord. Amen**

**CHILDREN'S STORY: Pastor Rick**

**CHILDREN'S SONG: The B-I-B-L-E**

The B-I-B-L-E! Yes, that's the book for me  
I stand alone on the Word of God: The B-I-B-L-E

### **Chorus**

*Sharper than a sword (Sharper than a sword)  
Light unto my path (Light unto my path)  
That's the book for me!*

The B-I-B-L-E! Christ died to set me free  
Then rose again to forgive my sin : The B-I-B-L-E

### **Chorus**

The B-I-B-L-E! His promises to me  
Forever I will live with Him : The B-I-B-L-E

**Spoken:**

## GROW VIDEO

### FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 6:5-7

<sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

### PSALM: 119:169-176 NIV

<sup>169</sup> May my cry come before you, LORD; give me understanding according to your word.  
<sup>170</sup> May my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise.  
<sup>171</sup> May my lips overflow with praise, for you teach me your decrees.  
<sup>172</sup> May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commands are righteous.  
<sup>173</sup> May your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.  
<sup>174</sup> I long for your salvation, LORD, and your law gives me delight.  
<sup>175</sup> Let me live that I may praise you, and may your laws sustain me.  
<sup>176</sup> I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands.

### SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:11-14 NIV

<sup>11</sup> We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. <sup>12</sup> In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! <sup>13</sup> Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. <sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

### ALLELUIA

Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go, shall we go? (2x)  
You have the words of eternal life, O Lord (2x)  
Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go  
Shall we go, shall we go?

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### GOSPEL: John 15:1-11

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept

my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

**PRE-SERMON HYMN: Thy Word**

**Chorus**

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,  
Still, You're there right beside me.  
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near.  
Please be near me to the end.

**Chorus**

I will not forget Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide and hold me to Your side  
I will love You to the end

**Chorus**

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**SERMON: Pastor Rick**

**OFFERTORY HYMN: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (Tune: Nettleton, "Come Thou Fount")**

Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight  
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease  
Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace

Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word  
Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword  
Praise the One who brings cool water yo the desert's burning sand  
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in ev'ry land

Praise the One true love incarnate: Christ who suffered in our place  
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done  
Praise the One redeeming glory! Praise the One who makes us one!

CCLI Song # 3386431 | Rusty Edwards | © 1987 Hope Publishing Company | CCLI License # 1004145

**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.**

## GROW VIDEO

## PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY OF GOD

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

### 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 God of pow'r and might

Heaven and earth are full of you glory

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## WORDS OF INSTITUTION (LBW p. 110)

**LORD'S PRAYER:** 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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## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### COMMUNION SONGS:

#### **Behold the Lamb**

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us and we remember  
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross  
So we share in this Bread of Life and we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of **peace**, around the table of the King

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ torn for you – eat and remember  
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one  
So we share in this Bread of Life and we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of **love** around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin shed for you – drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God  
So we share in this Bread of Life and we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of **grace** around the table of the King

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth  
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King

CCLI Song # 5003372 | Keith Getty | Kristyn Getty | Stuart Townend | © 2007 Thankyou Music Ltd

#### **I Love to Tell the Story / Above All**

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true.  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

#### ***Chorus (Above All)***

Crucified, laid behind the stone;  
You lived to die, rejected and alone;  
Like a rose, trampled on the ground,  
You took the fall, and thought of us - above all.

I love to tell the story: 'Tis pleasant to repeat  
What seems each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

#### ***Chorus (Above All)***

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,  
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

***Chorus (I Love to Tell the Story)***

I love to tell the story: 'Twill be my theme in glory  
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love  
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love

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**BLESSING**

**COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN: Victory in Jesus**

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,  
How He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me.  
I heard about His groaning ,of His precious blood's atoning,  
Then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

***CHORUS***

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood.  
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him,  
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about His healing, of His cleansing pow'r revealing,  
How He made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see.  
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit!",  
And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

***CHORUS***

I heard about a mansion he has built for me in glory,  
And I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;  
About the angels singing, and the old redemption story;  
And some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory.

***CHORUS***

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**THE SENDING**

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Welcome to Worship and the Beginning of Our Fall Church Year!

Be sure to stay following worship to enjoy some food and fellowship. Connect with our ministry leaders and discover one of the many fall program opportunities. Let's commit together to grow in our relationship with Jesus!

### MINISTRY PROGRAM BROCHURE

Pick up a brochure from our greeters. During the service, program leaders will share a brief video about their initiatives. Circle the programs you're interested in and connect with these leaders downstairs during fellowship. Contact information is included. Programs start on different dates, so sign up now!

### 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, downstairs, or by calling Tim in the office.

### Special Congregational Meeting

A special congregational meeting will take place next Sunday, **September 21 following worship**. At this meeting we will:

- Review, discuss and Approve **Pastor Bart's financial package (including short-term disability provisions)**
- Establish a **Call Committee**
- Discuss a proposal for **Cindy Tester to expand her work at St. Peter's**

Details and an update on our pending financial commitments will be available. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

### Sunday School

Our Sunday School program kicks off today. It takes place during the church service after the Children's Message. Open to children ages 3 through Grade 6, it offers a warm, welcoming space where they can grow in faith, make friends, and feel part of our church family. Please contact Whitney Edworthy at [whitneyedworthy@saintpeters.ca](mailto:whitneyedworthy@saintpeters.ca) for more details or registration.

### Join Our Sunday School Team

We're still looking for compassionate, kind individuals who are willing to be mentors and positive influences in the lives of children. This is a once-a-month commitment, with plenty of guidance and support along the way—no need to feel nervous! If you have a heart for helping kids grow in faith and friendship, we'd love to have you join our Sunday School team. Please see Whitney Edworthy or contact her at [whitneyedworthy@saintpeters.ca](mailto:whitneyedworthy@saintpeters.ca) for more details.

### Confirmation

For students Grade 7 and up. We are excited to be offering confirmation starting September 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 am in the Gateway. It begins each Sunday at 8:30 am with a breakfast bar, followed by Christian instruction led by Cindy Tester. It's a program that includes much more than Sunday mornings. Talk to Cindy for more information.

## LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Rhonda will be leading a study on Tues mornings 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the Gateway room, Starting Sept 23, 2025. When Faith Becomes Sight – Heaven, book by Jennifer Rothschild.

## SERVE 1 – September 21

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

## LIFE SHARED

Life Shared is a 4-session class on living out God's call to share our lives and faith with those around us. We'll explore praying for friends, neighbors, and colleagues, and practical ways to reach out with God's message.

This fall, choose the schedule that works best for you: Thursdays in October at 7:00 PM, Wednesdays in November at 7:00 PM, or an all-day session on November 15, 9:30 AM–3:00 PM. All sessions meet in the church basement. To sign up or learn more, contact Jo Anne at [JoAnneMack@saintpeters.ca](mailto:JoAnneMack@saintpeters.ca), or Elaine at [elainebuss@saintpeters.ca](mailto:elainebuss@saintpeters.ca).

## Good Vibes Memory Choirs

Do you know someone on a journey with dementia who needs a place to belong and to experience the joy of music? **Good Vibes Memory Choir** offers a dementia-friendly, intergenerational space where people of all ages can connect through singing. Homeschoolers and youth are welcome as well!

Our new season at St. Peter's begins **Wednesday, September 17 at 1:30 PM**. Come to an **informational evening on Monday, September 22 at 7 PM** to learn more and experience the joy of singing together.

There are **four choirs in total**, including the St. Peter's location, all led by **Erica Phare-Bergh**. For more information or to get involved, contact **Erica** at [www.goodvibesmemorychoirs.com](http://www.goodvibesmemorychoirs.com).

## 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 Bowen, Robin Smith, Parker Gawryetz or Matt Zoethout. Ask them