

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY**  
**AFTER PENTECOST**  
**NOV. 19, 2023, 11AM**



Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away... After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them." Matthew 25:14-19

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL**  
**CHURCH**

## The Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Rector: The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus

(BCP—Book of Common Prayer, H-Hymnal 1982; S Numbers are the service music found in the front of The Hymnal 1982; WLP-Wonder, Love and Praise)

**LEVAS-Lift Every Voice and Sing II)**

*In the name of Christ, we welcome you to this Church. May those who sorrow find comfort; the weary, rest; the unhappy, joy; the troubled, peace; the stranger, friends; and to all the sense of God's Presence in this holy place. We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Port Royal, the Nandtaughtacund, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of the Rappahannock Tribe.*

### The Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Simple Gifts

arr. S. Wilson

Mary Peterman, flute; Denise Gregory, piano

Opening Hymn

O God, our help in ages past

H 680

### The Word of God

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

**Glory to God forever and ever.**

**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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

H 59

**(Verses 1 and 5)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ;

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **A Reading from The Prophet Zephaniah, Chapter 1, verses 7,12-18.**

Be silent before the Lord God!  
For the day of the Lord is at hand;

the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,

“The Lord will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,  
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the Lord,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the Lord's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 90:1-12** *Domine, refugium*

1 Lord, you have been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.

**2 Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.**

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \*  
"Go back, O child of earth."

**4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.**

5 You sweep us away like a dream; \*  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

**6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

7 For we consume away in your displeasure; \*  
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

**8 Our iniquities you have set before you, \*  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**10 The span of our life is seventy years,  
perhaps in strength even eighty; \*  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

11 Who regards the power of your wrath? \*  
who rightly fears your indignation?-

**12 So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in  
the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, Chapter 5,  
verses 1-11.**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn**

**O Jesus, I have promised**

**H 655**

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

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

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

## The Prayers of the People

Holy God, you welcome us into your joy and entrust us with your gospel. In hope for the world to come and with love for the world in which we dwell, we offer our prayers for your church, your earth, and your people.

For your church, in this community and around the world, that your good news may be proclaimed by all. Help us to use the many gifts we have been given—the land on which this church is built, our resources, and our own time and talents for your glory and for spreading your love out into the world. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For oppressors, that they might know justice, and those oppressed, that they might know peace. We pray for those oppressed by violence, and by the fear of violence. Rid us of the fear and the violence in our hearts, for we know that you secure us with your love. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For all who suffer from war, for the children and the civilians, for all whose hearts are filled with hate, we pray for healing and peace. Bless the leaders of the nations with your wisdom, that they may choose the way of peace. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Until your reign of peace comes on this earth, protect and guide those who serve in the armed forces, especially those on our prayer list. Help them to serve honorably, and to return home safe in mind, body, and spirit when their work is done. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For your creation, that we may be the caretakers you intend. May we seek your presence, O God, at the heart of each moment where you forever dwell. In the rising of the sun, in the unfolding color and shape of the morning, open our eyes to the mysteries of this moment. We pray that we may sense your mysterious life-giving presence in all of creation. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For the young, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, and for the old that they might be secure in your care, and for those who care for and nurture both the young and the old. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For all of those who suffer, for those in pain, and for those who are filled with fear, especially those on our prayer list; we pray for those who care for them, and for those whose troubles are known only to

you. We pray that their hearts may be open to your healing graces. May we support them in ways that reflect your love for each of them.

**God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For those who face death, and those they leave behind, that they might be comforted. We pray for those who have died, especially Audrey Torrence, friend of Cookie Davis. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Hasten, O Lord, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution**

**BCP 360**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Announcements**

**Birthday and Anniversary Blessings**

**BCP 830 #51/431**

**Offertory**

**Before thy throne, O God we kneel**

**Choir**

**The Holy Communion**

**Eucharistic Prayer B**

**BCP 367**

**Communion Hymn**

**Strengthen for service, Lord**

**H 312**

**Post-Communion Prayer**

**BCP 365**

**The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn**

**Rise up, ye saints of God!**

**H 551**

**Dismissal**

Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Postlude**

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**Resources:**

Prayers of the People:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Vol 2, Kimberly Bracken Long, ed; Prayer for Creation inspired by John Philip Newell, Sounds of the Eternal; The Book of Common Prayer



## Announcements

**Welcome to St Peter's.** May you find God's love present with you in this place and return here often to worship. The communion bread is gluten free. All are welcome at the Lord's table.

**The offering plates are in the back next to the doors. Your gifts help support God's work through this church.** Mail - PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535. online - <https://news.churchsp.org/onlinegiving>

**Happy Birthday Alex Long IV and Alex Long V (Nov. 20), Toni Faibisy (Nov. 23).**

**Nov. 19, Worship, On YouTube at 11am or afterward.**

<https://www.youtube.com/@st.petersepiscopalchurchpo677/streams>

**Bid on the art work of Mary Peterman. Proceeds go to ECM's Thanksgiving and Christmas outreach work (Nov 19 Nov. 25,6pm)**  
[https://news.churchsp.org/artauction2023\\_round2/](https://news.churchsp.org/artauction2023_round2/)

**Episcopal Church Men (ECM) , Christmas gift cards project with Social Services.** If you'd like to donate, write a check to St Peter's with **ECM Christmas** in the memo line, by **Sunday, Dec. 3.**

**Estimate of Giving Cards are due TODAY, Nov. 19.** Thank you to all who have turned in a card for the coming year.

**Bible Study, Weds, Nov. 22, 10am-12pm. Parish House, reading the lectionary for Last Pentecost, Christ the King**  
[https://lectionarypage.net/YearA\\_RCL/Pentecost/AProp29\\_RCL.html](https://lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/Pentecost/AProp29_RCL.html)

**Giving Tuesday, Nov. 28 in support of the Village Harvest, 10th year!**

**Two ways to donate to help this ministry:**

**1. On or before Nov. 28 make out a check to St. Peter's with "Giving Tuesday" in the memo line. Mail or leave in the plate.**

**2. Online <https://news.churchsp.org/givingtuesday2023/> .**

**Advent Workshop! Next Sunday, Nov. 26 at 3:30pm led by Jan Saylor.** Make an Advent wreath for your family. Kids--make a nativity scene and help decorate cookies.

**Poinsettia and Gifts to the Endowment Fund forms are on the back pew, due Sun., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>.(Poinsettia), Dec. 17 (Endowment).**  
**Endowment Fund gifts are tax deductible.**

**Coming up: Outdoor Christmas Pageant, Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 5PM.** Plan to participate as a character, or as the audience.

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

**823 Water Street PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535**

**Website: [www.news.churchsp.org](http://www.news.churchsp.org) Parish Office: (804) 742-5908**

**The Vestry**

**Cookie Davis, Larry Saylor (2024)**

**Elizabeth Heimbach, Helmut Linne von Berg (2025)**

**Linda Upshaw (2026)**

**Jim Heimbach, Treasurer, Elizabeth Heimbach Registrar**

**Senior Warden, Elizabeth Heimbach**

**Junior Warden, Cookie Davis**

**Brad Volland – Music Director & Organist**

**The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks, Rector**

**The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus**

**(540) 809-7489, (540) 898-1586, [stpetersrev@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersrev@gmail.com)**

**Christ Centered, Biblically Based, Spirit Filled, Caring**

**Prayer List**

**Marion Mahoney, The Wisdoms, The Pogues, Laura Carey, The Pannells, The Linne von Bergs, Brad Volland, Rob Dobson, Lydia O' Neil, John Hess, Charles McGuire, The Segars, The Faibisys, The Felicianos, Thom Guthrie, Vivian McDonald, Bill Wick, Jim Heimbach**

**David Griffin, Gordon Flesher, Beryl Harrison, Larry Saylor's family, Jesse Clarke's family, Cy and The Rev Deacon Linda Murphy (Saylor friends), Daryl Potter (Hughes friend), Joanne and Herbert Wilkerson, Jimmy and Nancy Davis, Julie Davis, Otis Felts (family and friends of Johnny Davis), Dale Brittle, Ruth and Joyce Smith (Laura Carey's sisters-in-law), Lisa Herbert, John Ryan Kirwin (Jean Devitt's son), Max and Rita Jensen (Duke friends), Barbara Deal, Roberta Rutledge, (Pogue friend), Patterson family, Valerie Leitch, Liz Ruthven, Charlene Schnakenberg, Nathaniel Schnakenberg, (Fisher family), Albert Barnett, Wayne Cohen (Pogue family), , Mrs. Watson, Hyacinth Wallace, Orville Watson, The Glasgows (Feliciano family and friends), Sylvia and Jonathan Coleman (Cleo's daughter and son), Ann Pyle (Carolyn Duke's mother), Harvey Yarus (friend of Tom Kramer), Lois Christie, Rosie Dowdy, Bill Lauck, Anthony Bowman, Dylan Puryear (BJ's grandson), Gloria Jewell, The Hill family (Lydia O'Neil's family), G. Lee Baldwin, Linda Oliver, Pat , Joan Pemberton (Brad's family), Louise Chapman (Barbara Segar's cousin)  
**Passed into eternal life: Audrey Torrence (friend of Cookie Davis)****

**Serving in the Armed Forces**

PJ Koons

Scott Estes

Cliff Lance

Steven Lee

Greg Merkl

Grace Grimaldi

Alexis Rye

Michael Hobbs

Alex Long V