

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT,
YEAR B
MARCH 17, 2024, 11AM**



"Wheat Fields Near Arles" – Van Gogh (1888)

Jesus said, "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." – John 12:24.

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

Fifth Sunday in Lent, Year B

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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 respect and honor with gratitude the land itself, the legacy of the ancestors, and the life of the Rappahannock Tribe

Bell Ringing

Prelude

Trumpet Tune
Helmuth Linne von Berg, violin

Jeremiah Clarke

Opening Hymn

Be thou my vision

H 488

The Word of God

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
His mercy endures forever.

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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

S 96

Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy, Christ have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Lessons

A reading from The Prophet Jeremiah, Chapter 31, verses 31-34.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 119:9-16

9 How shall a young man cleanse his way? *

By keeping to your words.

10 With my whole heart I seek you; *

let me not stray from your commandments.

11 I treasure your promise in my heart, *

that I may not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, O LORD; *

instruct me in your statutes.

13 With my lips will I recite *

all the judgments of your mouth.

**14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees *
than in all manner of riches.**

15 I will meditate on your commandments *
and give attention to your ways.

**16 My delight is in your statutes; *
I will not forget your word.**

Psalm 51:1-13 *Miserere mei, Deus*

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.**

3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.

**4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.**

5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.

**6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

**10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.**

11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

**12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

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

A reading from The Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 5, verses 5-10.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Now the green blade riseth

H 204

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Tom Hughes

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People

We arise today through a mighty strength:

God's power to guide us, God's might to uphold us, God's eyes to watch over us, God's ear to hear us, God's word to give us speech, God's hand to guard us, God's way to lie before us, God's shield to shelter us, God's host to secure us. Let us open our hearts this day as we lift up our deepest needs and concerns to God, who is mighty to save.

We pray for the church. May our prayers bear the fruit of action as we hear the cries of pain and suffering of those in need. Lord, bless those who receive food from our food distribution, and may all people who suffer from hunger around the world, especially in Gaza and Sudan, be filled. **May we bear much fruit for your glory in all that we undertake.**

We pray for the earth. May we remember that you made us from the earth, and that to the earth we shall return. May the blessing of the earth be on us, soft under our feet as we pass along the roads, soft under us as we lie out on it, tired at the end of day; and may it rest easy over us when, at last, we lie out under it. May it rest so lightly over us that our souls may be out from under it quickly; up and off and on our way to God. We pray for all in Hospice care, especially Ruthie Smith and Linda Murphy, and for who have died, especially Katherine Holland, that they may enter the peace of your eternal rest and rise in glory.

May we be people of hope.

We pray for all leaders and people, that by the power of your cross you would drive out all violence, domination, and injustice in our world as you draw us to your Christ. We pray for righteousness in the heart, for if there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

May we be people of righteousness.

Until your reign of peace is realized on this earth, protect those serving in the armed forces of this land, especially those on our prayer list, so that they may return home safely when their work is done. **May we be people of peace.**

We pray for all on our prayer list, especially Albert Barnett, Fred Pannell, Pam Keller-Arrledge, and Terri Harrison, that they may find your loving presence surrounding them, your healing power strengthening them, and your comforting Spirit dwelling within them. **May we be people of compassion.**

Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends the animals, especially for animals who are suffering; for any that are hunted or lost or deserted or frightened or hungry; for all that must be put to death. We entreat for them all your mercy and pity, and for those who deal with them we ask a heart of compassion and gentle hands and kindly words. Make us, ourselves to be true friends to animals and to share the blessings of the merciful. **May we be people of mercy.**

God, bless to us this day, God, bless to us this night. Bless, O bless, God of grace, each day and hour of our lives. God, bless the pathways on which we go. God, bless the earth that is beneath our feet. Bless, O God, and give to us your love, and bless, O God, our rest and our repose. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

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

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer A		BCP 361
Sanctus		S 130
The Lord's Prayer		
The Breaking of the Bread		
Fraction Anthem	Lamb of God	LEVAS 270
Communion of the People of God		
Communion Hymn	O love of God	H 455
Post-Communion Prayer		BCP 365

Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God
hold you in the palm of His hand.

Amen.

Closing Hymn	Lift high the cross	H 473
--------------	---------------------	-------

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Service Notes

Today's lectionary offers two psalms. After our Wednesday Bible study discussion, we chose to use both in today's worship.

Today is St Patrick's Day. Today's prayers include prayers from the Celtic tradition. The prayer for animals is by Albert Schweitzer. Today's blessing is a well known traditional Gaelic blessing.

The opening hymn, "Be thou my vision," is a traditional Irish hymn.

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>

Today, March 17, "God's Garden" for ages 5-9 . 10:00am. The children will be learning about Holy Week by doing the egg project originally planned for the Holy Week Workshop, which has been cancelled.

Easter Lily Donation (\$15) and donations to the Endowment Fund, (deadline for both, March 24).

**Happy Birthday Marie Duke (March 17), Alex Long VI (March 22).
Happy Anniversary, Tom and Alice Hughes (March 19)**

March 17, Worship, On YouTube at 11am or afterward.
<https://www.youtube.com/@st.petersepiscopalchurchpo677/streams>

Bible Study, Weds, March 20, 10am-12pm. Parish House, reading the lectionary for Palm Sunday. Link - bit.ly/3IPD6rb

Village Harvest Wed, March 20, 3pm,-5PM. Call Andrea (540) 847-9002 to volunteer. Help carry food to the Parish House, Tues morning 9:30.

The Creeds—a Guide to Deeper Faith, March 20, 7pm Zoom . The Church, baptism, the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Zoom <https://bit.ly/3UEBLu9> Meeting ID: 833 7014 5820 Passcode: 528834

Confirmation Class Thurs, March 21, 7:30-8:15PM on Zoom
<https://bit.ly/42YG3i8> Meeting ID: 893 1712 7905 Passcode: 505603

Next Sunday, Mar 24, is Palm Sunday. Meet at 10:45AM by the Parish House for the Blessing of the Palms & the Palm Sunday procession.

Portland Guitar Duo concert April 19, 7pm. Help spread the word!

**Holy Week services: - Sun, Palm Sunday, starting 10:45AM Procession;
-Wednesday, March 27, 7PM, Tenebrae
-Thursday, March 28, 7PM, Maundy Thursday, Holy Eucharist
-Friday, March 29, 7PM Good Friday Liturgy
-Sunday, March 31, Sunrise service at the Long's TBA Easter Day
Holy Eucharist at St. Peter's, 11AM**

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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

Website: www.news.churchsp.org Parish Office: (804) 742-5908

The Vestry

**Larry Saylor (2025), Elizabeth Heimbach, (2025), Linda Upshaw (2026),
Andrea Pogue (2027), Johnny Davis (2027)**

Jim Heimbach, Treasurer, Elizabeth Heimbach Registrar

Senior Warden, Johnny Davis

Junior Warden, Larry Saylor

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

Christ Centered, Biblically Based, Spirit Filled, Caring

Prayer List

**Pam Keller-Arlledge, The Pannells, Terri Harrison, Linda Upshaw,
Stanley and Cindy Fields, Marion Mahoney, The Wisdoms, The Pogues,
Laura Carey, Brad Volland, Rob Dobson, Lydia O' Neil, John Hess,
Charles McGuire, Barbara Segar, The Faibisys, The Felicianos, Thom
Guthrie, Vivian McDonald, Bill Wick, Jim Heimbach**

**Joy Newlin, Michelle Hinton (Hicks friend), Harald Jenewein, Lola
Delbridge, Lois Christie, Ralph and Diane Powell, Enid and Albert
Barnett (Pogue relatives), Pinkie Mayfield (Laura Carey's friend),
Kristina Childs, Cy and The Rev Deacon Linda Murphy (Saylor friends),
Dot Wright, Beryl Harrison, Larry Saylor's family, Jesse Clarke's family,
Daryl Potter (Hughes friend), Joanne and Herbert Wilkerson, Jimmy and
Nancy Davis, Julie Davis, Otis (family of Johnny Davis), Dale Brittle, Ruth
Smith, Joyce Smith (Laura Carey's sisters-in-law), Lisa Herbert, John Ryan
Kirwin (Jean Devitt's son), Max and Rita Jensen (Duke friends), Roberta
Rutledge, (Pogue friend), Patterson family, Valerie Leitch, Liz Ruthven,
Charlene Schnakenberg, Nathaniel Schnakenberg, (Fisher family),
Wayne Cohen (Pogue family), , Mrs. Watson, Hyacinth and Morris
Wallace, Orville Watson, Tiffany Feliciano and family, The Glasgows
(Feliciano family and friends), Sylvia and Jonathan Coleman (Cleo's
daughter and son), Ann Pyle (Carolyn Duke's mother), 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: Katherine Holland (Kerri Holland's mother)

Serving in the Armed Forces

PJ Koons

Steven Lee

Alexis Rye

Scott Estes

Reg Merkl

Michael Hobbs

Cliff Lance

Grace Grimaldi

Alex Long V