

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 21, 2023



Jesus prayed, “And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”
John 17:11

ST. PETER’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Seventh Sunday of Easter, Year A

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

The Lord is in his holy temple

St Peter's Choir

Opening Hymn

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

H 460

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Hymn of Praise

Through north and south

WLP 822

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A reading from The Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 1, verses 6-14.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends

of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68 :1-10, 33-36 *Exsurgat Deus*

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.

**2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at
the presence of God.**

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.

**4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!**

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!

**6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into
freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.**

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,

**8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

**10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for
the poor.**

33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.

**34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.**

35 Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.

**36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!**

**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 The First Letter of Peter, Chapter 4, verses 12-14,
Chapter 5, verses 6-11.**

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a

roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

The King of love my shepherd is

H 645

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

For all churches in the Fredericksburg Region, for the people in this Diocese, and for the Church around the world, that we may wait with joyful expectation to be clothed with God's mighty power from on high.

God of glory, fill us with the hope to which you have called us.

For this nation, and for all the nations of the world, and for all leaders, that they may strive for peace. We pray for an end to war. May we seek to end all forms of violence in our hearts, in our homes, and in our communities. We pray for all who have suffered and for all who have lost a child, a parent, a brother, or sister, husband, wife, or friend because of gun violence. **God of justice, fill us with the longing for your reign of peace to be realized on this earth.**

For children, who so often suffer silently because of the burdens and fears that they carry in their hearts, that we may do all that we can to be witnesses to God's care, protection, tenderness, and love for each of them. We pray for parents, for all of those in schools, and for those who work directly with children every day, that they will find strength and encouragement in all that they do. **God of gentleness, fill us with the love that makes us one in you.**

For the good earth, God's perfect creation, our home in this life, that we may have the wisdom and the will to treasure it, to care for it, and to protect it. **God of holiness, fill us with the desire to live together in harmony with all that you have made.**

For our communities, that we may faithfully work together for the common good of all. We pray for all who work in local government, in our schools, and in our hospitals. We pray for those who care for the sick, and for those who work to ensure our safety. **God of might, fill us with your spirit of wisdom.**

For those on our prayer list, especially Ken Pogue, Fred Pannell, Beth Andrews, sister of Linneth Feliciano, Amy the bus driver and Mario Ferguson's father, that we may pray for them and care for them. **God of mercy, fill us with your compassion.**

For those who have died, especially Louise Gossett, that they may dwell in the fullness of joy in God's house forever. **God of eternity, fill us with the knowledge of your presence with us, both now and in the life to come.**

Mighty God, you promise to clothe us with power from on high. As we wait with joyful expectation for the Holy Spirit to clothe us anew with your enlightenment and love, we pray for an ever-deepening knowledge of you. We pray for your spirit of wisdom to guide us. Give us the power to love one another as you have loved us, and to be witnesses to your love in this world. May we live as people of hope, knowing that you promise to be with us always. May we continually dwell with you in mind and in heart, in this life and in the life to come. We pray in the name of your Son, the head of the Church, whose fullness fills all in all. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

BCP 830 #51/431

Offertory

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

Sanctus

S 125

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Communion of the People of God

Communion Hymn

Come now, O Prince of Peace

WLP 795

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 365

The Blessing

May we diligently seek our risen Lord

And find him traveling beside us along the easy and rough pathways of
our lives

To welcome him in when the darkness comes

To be our light and to break our bread

And to bring us to everlasting life

And the blessing of God Almighty, the blessing of our risen Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ

And the blessing of the Holy Spirit

Go forth from this place with you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

**Rejoice, the Lord is King!
(sung to Darwall)**

H 481

Dismissal

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>

St Peter's youth are praying for one another during this season of Thy Kingdom Come, and they have also asked that we pray for their bus driver Amy, and for the father of another of their drivers, Mario Ferguson. Choose five people to pray for this week, so that they may come to know God's presence with each of them more closely.

"Thy Kingdom Come", May 18-28 continues.

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Activities here –<https://news.churchsp.org/thykingdomcome2023/> .

Pray for 5 people, check out the prayer journal, read the prayers Ascension to Pentecost.

Next Sunday is Pentecost! Come, Holy Spirit! Following church, we will have a picnic (Bring a dish to share) and the Little Falls Bluegrass Band will provide music. Wear red to celebrate!

Happy Birthday – Gladys Fortune 5/24, Justin Long 5/24, Jane McCormack 5/24

--May 21, Worship, On YouTube,

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

--Bible Study, May 24, 10am-12pm. Parish House. Pentecost readings.

http://lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/Pentecost/APentDay_RCL.html

--UTO Spring Ingathering, May 28 (Pentecost) for the mission of the entire church. Give thanks to God for everyday blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box (or write a check). Pick up your blue box today and return it next Sunday. Pentecost.

-- Psalms Course. Revised schedule. Participants, choose one Psalm to share with the group at each session. **Tues, May 30**, finish Books 1 and cover Book 2 (starting with Psalm 24-41 for Book 1 and 42-72 for Book 2) -**Mon, June 5**, Books 3 and 4 (Book 3--Psalms 73-89, Book 4--Psalm 90-106) -**Mon, June 12**, Book 5 (Psalms 107-150).

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
Cookie Davis, Robert Bryan (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
Christ Centered, Biblically Based, Spirit Filled, Caring

Prayer List

Fred and Crystal Pannell, Marion Mahoney, Ken Pogue, Johnny Davis, Alice Hughes, Susan and Helmut Linne von Berg, Brad Volland, Rob Dobson, Laura Carey, Lydia O' Neil, John Hess, Charles McGuire, Barbara and Tommy Segar, John and Toni Faibisy, Linneth Feliciano, Thom Guthrie, Vivian McDonald, Bill Wick, Barbara and Boyd Wisdom Amy the bus driver, Mario Ferguson's father, Patterson family, Valerie Leitch, Liz Ruthven, Charlene Schakenberg, (Becky Fisher's mother), Kelly Paterino, Kathleen Curran (Matt Hood's aunt), T. C. Collins, Wayne Cohen (cousin of Andrea Pogue), Jimmy and Nancy Davis (Johnny Davits' brother and sister in law), Herb Collins, Mrs. Watson, Hyacinth Wallace, Bethune Andrews, Orville Watson (Linneth Feleciano's mother, sisters and brother), Sylvia and Jonathan Coleman (Cleo's daughter and son), Ed and Doris Hooker, Milijana Grayson, Nika Corwin (friend of Marcia Kole), Nathaniel Schakenberg, Otis Felts (friend of Johnny Davis), The Glasgows (friends of the Felicianos), Ann Pyle (Carolyn Duke's mother), Harvey Yarus (friend of Tom Kramer), Joanne Wilkerson and Julie Davis (sister and daughter of Johnny Davis), Lois Christie, Rosie Dowdy, Bill Lauck, Anthony Bowman, Dylan Puryear (BJ's grandson), Ruth Smith, Joyce Smith (Laura Carey's sister-in-law), Gloria Jewell, The Hill family (Lydia O'Neil's family), Lorena McElwain, (friend of the Pogues), G. Lee Baldwin, Linda Oliver, Pat Crenshaw (Brad's cousin), Joan Pemberton (Brad's aunt), Albert Barnett (Andrea's uncle), Scott Crabtree (Eunice Key's brother), Louise Chapman (Barbara Segar's cousin)
Passed into eternal life: Louise Gossett (friend of Catherine Hicks)

Serving in the Armed Forces

PJ Koons	Scott Estes	Cliff Lance
Steven Lee	Greg Merkl	Grace Grimaldi
Alexis Rye	Michael Hobbs	Alex Long V