

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Lakewood, Ohio

WELCOME TO SAINT PETER'S CHURCH!

St. Peter's aspires to be a welcoming, nurturing, and joyful Episcopal Church—open to all without exception, growing together in faith as we follow the way of Christ, and committed to the Spirit's formation in ourselves, our community, and our world through God's love.

This leaflet contains everything you need for worship this morning.

LIVESTREAM begins at 9:50 a.m., and the service at 10:00 a.m.

The service can be found on the Saint Peter's YouTube page at:

<https://tinyurl.com/StPeterLS>

NAME TAGS can be found at the end of every pew. PLEASE, wear one! Whether you've been attending here 50 years, or 50 minutes, it helps everyone get to know one another!

IF YOU'RE NEW this morning, please take a moment to fill out one of the little cards at the end of the pew rack and place it in the alms basin at the offering. Or, sign our guestbook by the tower door on your way out. We want to welcome you properly.

A WORD ABOUT OFFERINGS: Loose cash and coins put in our offering plates on Sundays are used to fund important ministries in the wider community. If you prefer your cash offerings go to church operations, or if you wish a tax receipt, you must put your offerings in an envelope and supply your name. Envelopes for this purpose can be found at the end of every pew.

A WORD ABOUT COMMUNION: We offer bread and wine during Holy Communion. We believe that we receive the full benefit of the sacrament in one kind. If you wish to take the wine also, you may drink from the large chalice or do this by intinction, by gently touching the wafer to the wine in the small chalice.

RESTROOMS are located between the church and the chapel off the narthex.

CHILDREN: Children are welcome to attend the service; activity sheets are available at the back of the church for your use. Children are also welcome on the carpet in the front of the church to participate in an activity and be part of the service. Please linger after the service. Coffee hour takes place following the 10:00 a.m. service in the Narthex during the regular program year. In the summer lemonade is served on the plaza.

• *Gluten-free wafers are available – please alert the priest* •

Preparation for Worship

Prelude	Deck thyself, my soul with gladness	J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
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Entrance Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful we adore thee *Hymn to Joy*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Congregation says Gloria at 8:00; and the Congregation sings the Gloria at 10:00.

Gloria S280 Robert Powell

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from First Kings

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you." (*1 Kings 3:5-12*)

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Congregation says the Psalm at both services.

Psalm 119:129-136

- 129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- 130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
- 131 I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
- 132 Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
- 133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- 134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
- 135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.

136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

Lector **A Reading from Romans**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:26-39)

People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

All stand.

Sequence Hymn 488

Be thou my vision

Slane

The Celebrant reads the Gospel first saying:

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
 Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

(Matthew 13:31-33,44-52)

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Rev. Michael Lager

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor: O Gracious God, creator of the wondrous world that surrounds us. Help us to embrace the kingdom of heaven on earth so we might find rest for our soul and joy in your creation. We humbly ask you now to hear our petitions and receive our thanksgivings.

For your grace and loving kindness

People: We praise and thank you, O Lord.

Intercessor: Bless your Church. Bless Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Anne, our Bishop; Mike, John and Nancy our priests; our vestry, staff, and all who exercise the gifts of leadership in your church. For our Community partner this month, The Bishop's Annual Appeal. Keep your holy church mindful of your presence in our lives, that we may embody your presence in the world.

For your grace and loving kindness

People: We praise and thank you, O Lord.

Intercessor: Guide this country as we celebrate 250 years of Independence; for Donald our President; Mike our Governor; members of Congress, and all who exercise the authority of government here, and among the nations of the world. Guide them, and us, to seek the common good, to make peace, and to pursue redemptive justice.

For your grace and loving kindness

People: We praise and thank you, O Lord.

Intercessor: Be with those who are ill, in body, mind, or spirit. Today we remember Sara, Matt, Hilary, Dave, Brad, Marci, Michael, John, Joe, Moira, Lois, Paul, Jane, Bob, J, Ernie & Cindy, Ray, Anida, Pat, Jim & Linda, Clinton & Marcie, [You are

invited, either silently or aloud, to offer your prayers]. Ease their pain and give their caregivers gentle hands, soothing voices and loving patience.

For your grace and loving kindness

People: We praise and thank you, O Lord.

Intercessor: Receive the souls of those we love but see no longer. We remember those who have finished their earthly journey and now rest in your eternal peace, especially Anida Balmer and Tom Bradley (husband of Karen Bradley and Grandfather to the Norton family). *[You are invited to offer your prayers, either silently or aloud]* Comfort any of us who mourn with the promise that their loved ones are safe in your eternal presence.

For your grace and loving kindness

People: We praise and thank you, O Lord.

Intercessor: We thank you, Lord, for the blessings you have given us: this bountiful earth, the beauty of a night sky, the warmth of the summer days, and for those who create beauty in their words, their music, their art, and their spirituality. I invite your own prayers and thanksgivings, aloud or in quiet communication with God for the beauty that surrounds your life. *[You are invited to offer your thanksgivings, either silently or aloud]*.

The Celebrant adds the following Collect

Accept our praises and prayers O God. Open our minds to see and delight in your hand at work in the world about us. Open our hearts, that we may be your hands at work in the world around us. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, 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 loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

Absolution

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

All now greet one another in the name of the Lord

The Announcements: Colin McConnell

The Liturgy of the Table

The Celebrant bids the offertory with a sentence of scripture. The people sit.

Offertory Music

Aria in F major

G. F. Handel (1685-1750)

(Please stand as you are able.)

The Liturgy of the Table

The Presentation Hymn 380 (verse 3)

Doxology Old Hundredth

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharist Prayer B

(BCP)

The Salutation

367

Sanctus S129

Powell

The Lord's Prayer

364

The Breaking of the Bread

364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our soul and body with the earnest knowledge that we are always united to you in our baptism. And since today we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we ask you to join our hearts with all who faithfully receive this day. May we live forever in your love. **Amen.**

If you are unable to go to the high altar, please notify an usher and the Eucharist will be brought to you. At the altar you are invited to kneel or stand to receive.

All stand.

Celebrant I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those who receive them may share with us in the communion of the Body and Blood of Christ.

People We, who are many, are one body because we share one bread and one cup.

All stand.

Celebrant and People

The Blessing

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude	Fugue in C major	J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
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SERVING TODAY

26 July 2026

The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 12

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Lector 1 / Psalm	Gina Massetti	Chas Geiger
Lector 2	Gina Massetti	Deb Vandrask
Intercessor	Jan McDonough	Virginia Bartos
Acolyte/Crucifer	Tren Cheshier	George Filko
Usher	Dan Hout-Reilly	Chas Geiger TEAM LEADER
Usher		Linda Purdy
Usher		John Rich
Chalicer	Gina Massetti	Jim Cofer
Chalicer		Liz Crosby
Bell Ringer	Dick Jacquemotte	Cathe Step
Verger		LIZ CROSBY
	Videographer	Riley Crosby
	LEV	Tucker Handley / Karen Bradley
	Infant/Toddler	Penny Mead / Annika Mintzlaff
	EVEREST One Room	Larry Keith / Michelle Killin-Keith
Team Leader	Cathe Step	Ryan Vogelgesang
Chancel Guild	Sue Andrews	Colin McConnell
Team 2	Jan Babbit	Nancy Wittig
CATHE		

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

2 August 2026

The 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 13

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Lector 1 / Psalm	Robin McNutt	Barry Stormer
Lector 2	Robin McNutt	John Rich
Intercessor	Penny Mead	Heidi Demaline
Acolyte/Crucifer	Mark Lekan	Amelinda Norton
Usher	Jan McDonough	Sarah Taylor TEAM LEADER
Usher		Colin McConnell
Usher		Tim Lange
Chalicer	Alison LaRosa	Tucker Handley
Chalicer		Beth O'Rourke
Bell Ringer	Robin McNutt	Amanda Chambers
Verger		SARAH TAYLOR
	Videographer	Steve Bickerton
	LEV	Dennis Driscoll / Marilyn Schabel
	Infant/Toddler	Linda Lange / Annika Mintzlaff
	EVEREST One Room	Larry Keith / Michelle Killin-Keith
Team Leader	Linda Lange	Sara Ferry
Chancel Guild	Linda Purdy	Debra Rudesill & Madison
Team 2	Martha Taylor	Geoff Rudesill
Leader Emeritas	Lois Smith	

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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LAKEWOOD, OH 44107

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www.stpeterslakewood.org

The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly, Bishop of Ohio

St. Peter's Vestry Officers & Members:

Senior Warden: Nat Pendleton; Junior Warden: John Rich

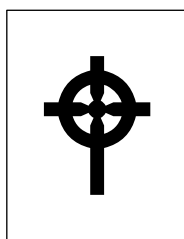
Clerk: Jessica Redel; Treasurer: Dan Lammers

Members: Jim Cofer, Matthew Hout-Reilly, Keith Jochum, Leslie Price,
Julie Steigerwald, Ryan Vogelgesang, Colin McConnell,
Holly St. Clair, Tucker Handley

St. Peter's Staff – Names & Email Addresses:

The Rev. Michael Lager, Rector	rector@stpeterslakewood.org
Bryan Mitnaul, Organist & Choirmaster	vabchbryan@gmail.com
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Tom Newman, Administrator Operations Manager	office@stpeterslakewood.org stpetersepiscopalsexton@gmail.com

Sunday Services: 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



St. Peter's is on Facebook!

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