



# **ST. PETER'S** **— IN THE WOODS —**

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST**

November 12, 2023  
9:00 am

Welcome!

We are delighted to have you with us today. We hope you find worship at St. Peter's in the Woods to be an inspiring and nurturing part of your faith journey. If you are visiting, please know that **you belong**. Please also know that we won't always be outside for worship. Our construction project is set to be complete in time for our Christmas services! Don't hesitate to introduce yourself and fill out a welcome card found on the table where you picked up your bulletin. Simply place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. (We will only contact you if you ask us to!) You are warmly invited to stay for fellowship after the service.

About Today's Worship:

**Holy Communion** is the sacred meal of the Christian faith. The Episcopal Church invites all baptized people to receive the Sacrament. If you are visiting, and receive communion in your home church, you are welcome to receive here. As our Bishop Mark Stevenson states, "we invite all baptized persons to receive communion not because we take the Eucharist lightly, but because we take our Baptism so seriously." If you prefer to receive a blessing from the priest, please come forward and cross your hands over your chest. A holy meal, a holy blessing, wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. Want to learn more about the Sacrament of Baptism, and what it may mean for you? Please speak with our clergy or contact our office: 703-503-9210.

About our worship books: BCP refers to the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (red) and "Hymnal" refers to the 1982 Hymnal (blue).

Thank you for worshipping with us. We'd love to see you again!

God's peace be with you this day and always,

Rev. Susan Hartzell, Rector

The Very Rev. Susan Hartzell, Rector

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# Rite II

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Words

*Presider:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### Gloria

BCP 356

*(In unison)*

**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

*(The people remain standing)*

*Presider:* God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*(In unison)*

**O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *(The people sit)***

### First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be

free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13**

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

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Homily**

The Rev. Susan Hartzell

#### **The Nicene Creed**

BCP 358

**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***

## **Prayers of the People**

BCP 385

*Reader 1:* I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops Mark, Gayle and Dabney; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*Silence.*

*Reader 2:* I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations and war-torn places; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence.*

*Reader 3:* I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially ...

*Silence.*

*Reader 4:* I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

*Silence.*

*Reader 5:* I ask your prayers for the departed [holding before you ... and those who have died in service of our country]. Pray for those who have died.

*Silence.*

*Reader 6:* I ask your thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially ... .

*Silence.*

*Reader 7:* Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence.*

## Concluding Collect

*Presider:* In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## The Peace

*Presider:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also, with you.**

## Welcome & Announcements

The Rev. Susan Hartzell

## Invitation to the Offering

*\* Presentation of Alms and Oblations*

*Your gift of gratitude will be used to build up God's kingdom and serve others.*

*Online giving is encouraged through the QR code provided. Thank you!*



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### Prayer of Thanksgiving *(to be said in unison)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

### The Great Thanksgiving--Eucharistic Prayer A

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*(The people remain standing).*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also, with you.**

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus

*Presider and People:* **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Presider:* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through our Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**The Lord's Prayer**

BCP 364

*Presider and People:*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass**

against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*Presider:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

## **The Communion of the People**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

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*Presider:* Let us pray.

*(The People stand)*

*Presider and People:* **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

### **Dismissal**

*Presider:* Our worship has ended. Our service to the world begins.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**