

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 19th, 2026 at 9:00 AM

*As the altar candles are lit prior to the service and the chimes are heard,
we are invited to observe a time of quiet, to gather our hearts in a spirit of prayer.
The people's responses are in bold print.
Music for the hymns can be found in the blue book in the pew racks, The Hymnal 1982*

Welcome

The Rev. Myrna Koonce

Prelude Sarabande and Variations
All stand for the

George Frederick Handel

Hymn in Procession #518 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

The Hymnal 1982

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

3. To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness
hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls away.

2. All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

4. Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee, for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

All remain standing for the

Opening Acclamation

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

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

All pray

The Collect for Purity

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.

The Gloria

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

All are seated for

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Genesis 28:10-19a

Ms. Judy Howes

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm *Psalm 139: 1-11, 22-23*

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



¹Lord, you have searched me out and /known
me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from /afar.
²You trace my journeys and my /resting-places
and are acquainted with all my /ways.

³Indeed, there is not a word on my /lips,
but you, O LORD, know it alto/gether.
⁴You press upon me behind and be/fore
and lay your hand /upon me.

⁵Such knowledge is too wonderful for /me;
it is so high that I cannot /attain to it.
⁶Where can I go then from your /Spirit?
where can I flee from your /presence?

⁷If I climb up to heaven, you are /there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there /also.
⁸If I take the wings of the /morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the /sea,

⁹Even there your hand will /lead me
and your right hand hold me /fast.
¹⁰If I say, "Surely the darkness will /cover me,
and the light around me turn to /night,"

¹¹Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as
bright as the /day;
darkness and light to you are both /alike.

²²Search me out, O God, and know my /heart;
try me and know my restless /thoughts.

The last two measures of the psalm tone are repeated

²³Look well whether there be any wickedness /in me
and lead me in the way that is ever/lasting.

The Second Lesson *Romans 8:12-25*

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand to sing the

Sequence Hymn

#440 "Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word"

The Hymnal 1982

**1. Blesséd Jesus, at thy word
we are gathered all to hear thee;
let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear thee;
by thy teachings pure and holy,
drawn from earth to love thee solely.**

**2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till thy Spirit breaks our night
with the beams of truth unclouded;
thou alone to God canst win us;
thou must work all good within us.**

**3. Gracious Lord, thyself impart!
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
open thou our ears and heart,
help us by thy Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry thy Church upraises;
hear, and bless our prayers and praises.**

All remain standing for the

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Presider

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People

Glorify to you, Lord Christ.

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to

go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily

The Rev. Myrna Koonce

After a period of silence, all stand for 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.

All are seated or kneel for the

Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

O Great Parent, you have adopted us as your own children. You have made us joint heirs with Christ. You love us. Lead us by your Spirit and strengthen our hope. From our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Christ Church Dark Harbor, in Isleboro, St. Ann's in Kennebunkport, and for the mission and ministry of Camp Bishopswood. *Pause.*

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God our King, you have planted us in a complex and often confusing world. Give us patience to live with each other, not judging our neighbors but trusting in your wisdom. *Pause.*

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Present God, even creation groans as it waits on you for freedom. Forgive us for the times in which we have subjected it to futility. Give us eyes to see your presence in the heavens, on the earth, and in the seas. *Pause.*

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God of Light, darkness is not dark to you. Brighten the places in our city where darkness serves as a cover for crime and violence. Be with the victims of violence, and their families. Redeem all who are lost. *Pause.*

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God of Glory, we wait in hope for the day when we will be set free from the bondage of decay. Even now, free the suffering from pain and the sorrowful from heartache. From our parish prayer list, we pray for Marge Devine, Jimmy Devine, Fuji Sprott, David Turner, Tammy, Beth, Pam, the Kutasi Family, and those others we name, silently or aloud. *Pause.*

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Eternal God, may the righteous shine like the sun in your kingdom. We trust that, even in the grave, you are with us. In hope, save the dying and the dead. *Pause.*

In your mercy, **hear our prayer**, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

*The Presider offers a concluding Collect,
then bids the*

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,**

**the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Absolution

Those who wish may come forward for

Healing Prayer and Anointing



Hymn Response: Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

1. Heal me, hands of Je-sus, and search out all my pain: re -
 2. Cleanse me, blood of Je-sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let
 3. Know me, mind of Je-sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
 4. Fill me, joy of Je-sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and

store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
 me for - give as one for-given and bring me peace to - day.
 pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
 heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

Words: Michael Perry. Music: Sharpe, Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Tunes for Grace*.

All stand and the Presider bids the

Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

The Offertory Sentence

The Offertory Hymn #341 "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"

The Hymnal 1982

1. For the bread which you have broken,
 for the wine which you have poured,
 for the words which you have spoken,
 now we give you thanks, O Lord.

2. By this pledge, Lord, that you love us,
 by your gift of peace restored,
 by your call to heaven above us,
 hallow all our lives, O Lord.

3. As our blessed ones adore you,
 seated at our Father's board,
 may the Church still waiting for you
 keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

4. In your service, Lord, defend us;
 in our hearts keep watch and ward,
 in the world to which you send us
 let your kingdom come, O Lord.

The Presentation Hymn

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

The Sursum Corda

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Presider continues with the Preface, inviting all to join in singing

The Sanctus #S125

The Hymnal 1982

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The People kneel or sit. The Presider continues giving thanks to God on behalf of the people, and invites all to join in the

Memorial Acclamation

All Christ has died;
 Christ is risen;
 Christ will come again.

The Presider continues, concluding with

By Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

After a period of silence, all join in singing the

Fraction Anthem #S 155

The Hymnal 1982

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Administration of Communion

All are invited to come forward as directed by the user and stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive communion. Please let an usher know if you would like to receive communion in your pew. Gluten-free consecrated bread is available; simply ask the priest when you are being served if you would like one.

Those who cannot be with us to partake in communion in person are invited to pray the

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

All stand for

The Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and
serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Hymn in Procession

#494 "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

The Hymnal 1982

1. Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own;
awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

2. Crown him the Son of God
before the worlds began,
and ye, who tread where he hath trod,
crown him the Son of man;
who every grief hath known
that wrings the human breast,
and takes and bears them for his own,
that all in him may rest.

3. Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

4. Crown him of lords the Lord,
who over all doth reign,
who once on earth, the incarnate Word,
for ransomed sinners slain,
now lives in realms of light,
where saints with angels sing
their songs before him day and night,
their God, Redeemer, King.

5. Crown him the Lord of heaven,
enthroned in worlds above;
Crown him the King, to whom is given
the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns,
as thrones before him fall,
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns,
for he is King of all.

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Postlude Toccata Breve

Johann Sebastian Bach

Ministers Serving Today

The People of God, called to be St. Peter's Episcopal Church, *Celebrants*

The Rev. Myrna Koonce, *Presider & Preacher*

Mr. Herbert Taylor, *Organist*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Ms. Emily Hickey & Ms. Lenita Richard, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Lector*

Mr. Tom Ainsworth, *Usher*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Videographer*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Wayne Franklin & Ms. Anita Chandler, *Counters*

Ms. Colette Desjardins, *Coffee Hour Host*

Announcements

Welcome to all of you joining us this morning. If you are new to St. Peter's and want to learn more about us, please fill out one of the pew cards and place in the offering plate or give to an usher. You also can contact our priest, Rev. Myrna Koonce at: stpetersrevkoonce@gmail.com.

Offering our gifts to God is part of our worship whenever we gather. Offerings are received during the Offertory. You may also mail your gift to: St. Peter's Church, 10 Alton Street Portland, ME 04103, or you can give online directly to St. Peter's by going to our website. Offerings can also be made through Venmo. See the back page of this leaflet for information about Venmo. The second offering plate is for donations to Project Feed, our local emergency food pantry.

Join us for Coffee Hour in the undercroft after Mass.

This Week at St. Peter's

Compline, Wed. July 22, 7 pm, Zoom

Executive Committee, Fri. July 24, 9 am, Zoom

Coming up at St. Peter's

Galen Weibley Farewell, Sun. July 26, Coffee Hour

Vestry, Tue. July 28, 6:30 pm, Zoom

Please remember these parishioners, friends and family members on our parish prayer list:

Parishioners: Ann Marie Cady, Allison Schroth, Francisco Andreu, Diane Dalton, Dino Rice, Robert Stillings, Pat and Fred Fowler, Mary Ann Hoy, Barbara Vessey, Fred Madore, Alan Biagiotti, Jane Noone, Marc Lombe and family, Linda Foster, Garrett Keniston, Kevin Curty, Paul Loven, Anita Chandler, and Melodie Gage.

Friends and Family: Peter Haskell, Martha Gagliardi, Tommy Valente, Jane Reiha, Stephen and Rebecca Seraniche, Marge Devine, Jimmy Devine, Fuji Sprott, David Turner, Tammy, Beth, Pam, The Kutasi Family, Kelly Marie Bell, Earle, Grace, Kay Gross, Lisa Gorham, Anita Talbot, Peter Munro, Todd Cheney, Jay Sprout, Sandy Woolley, Amanda and Chris Conant, Pam, Michael and Sue King, Amy Carter, Joe Kennedy, Mary Jo Floyd, Frank Beal, Cathryn Buckley, John Richard, Jim Halsted, Janice, and Dory.

If you wish to add, remove, or return persons to the prayer list, please contact our Prayer Ministry Coordinators: Allison Schroth, at: 207-807-1315 Aschroth207@gmail.com or Emma Bond at: 207-619-3662 emma.e.bond@gmail.com

Notes on this morning's music:

A *Sarabande* is a 17th and 18th century work of slow and dignified character in triple meter--that is, three beats to a measure--with no upbeat and with the accent on the second beat.

The sarabande appeared in Spain during the 16th century, probably coming from the Orient.

The text for our opening hymn--"Christ is made the sure foundation"--dates from the 7th century. It's based on St. Paul's description of the church in Ephesians 2: "Build upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner-stone."

Bach's *Toccata Breve* is something of a mystery. It's based on a familiar work by Bach which may have been composed as a teaching piece...perhaps for his own talented children. But the version that we hear this morning seems to date from late 19th century France, and my best guess is that an unnamed French organist took the original and embellished it for his own purposes. It's just one of the perplexing mysteries facing those who study the provenance of musical scores. ~HT

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church **A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine**

The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown, *Bishop*

The Rev. Myrna Koonce, *Priest in Charge*

The Rev. Emily Keniston, *Transitional Deacon*

Mr. Herbert Taylor, *Organist*

Mr. Bruno Mbongo, *Sexton*

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