St. Peter's Church
IN THE GREAT VALLEY
✠
1700

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 — 9:00 am & 11:15 am
Holy Eucharist — Rite Two

The Word of God

Prelude *Wachet auf / Wake, awake* Johann Walther / J.S. Bach

Hymn 61 *Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us* *Wachet auf*

Opening Acclamation

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

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

Celebrant Almighty God,

People **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.**

Hymnal S-280 *Glory to God* Robert Powell

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 70 *Deus, in adjutorium* *sung by the choir*

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; * O Lord, make haste to help me.
Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; *
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, * because they are ashamed.
Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *
let those who love your salvation say for ever, "Great is the Lord!"
But as for me, I am poor and needy; * come to me speedily, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; * O Lord, do not tarry.

The Second Reading **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 68 *Rejoice, rejoice believers!* *Llangloffan*

The Holy Gospel **Matthew 25:1-13**

Celebrant 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon The Rev. John M. Kennedy

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.

Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

[Silence]

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Daniel our Bishop, John our Rector,
and all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

[The intercessor adds petitions of the day.]

[Silence. The People may add their own petitions.]

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially:

[The intercessor adds thanksgivings of the day.]

[Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.]

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Justin Kreek and H. Lea Hudson, for whom our altar memorials are given, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

[Silence. The People may add their own petitions.]

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

People **Amen.**

A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem *Steal Away* arr. Nicholas White

Steal away, steal away,
Steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home.
I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, he calls me,
He calls me by the lightning.
The trumpet sounds within a-my soul.
I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bending,
Poor sinners stand a-trembling.
The trumpet sounds within a-my soul.
I ain't got long to stay here.

The Offertory Hymn 705, v.3 *Forest Green*

With gratitude and humble trust, we bring our best to thee
To serve thy cause and share thy love with all humanity.

O thou who gavest us thyself in Jesus Christ thy son,
Help us to give ourselves each day, until life's work is done.

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer C*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **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.**
Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.
From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.
Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.
And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S-125 Richard Proulx

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.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and

Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

AMEN.

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

The Lord's Prayer

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem *Taste and See* James E. Moore, Jr. *sung by the choir*

Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord. *Psalm 34*

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Gluten-free wafers are available by request.
If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may come forward with the others and ask the priest for a blessing.

9:00 Communion Hymn 314 *Humbly I adore thee*

11:15 Communion Anthem *Never Weatherbeaten Sail* Charles Wood

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore.
Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more,
Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest.

Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise.
Cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun outshines whose beams the blessed only see:
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!

Postcommunion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and 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 690 *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* *Cwm Rhondda*

Dismissal

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Fugue in C Major* *Georg Boehm*

Welcome to St. Peter's

WE ARE A PARISH of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania. The rich life of our busy congregation, outreach opportunities, reflections, notices, prayer requests, and ways for you to be involved are detailed in our weekly email newsletter called Keynotes (named after St. Peter's "keys to the Kingdom"). To begin receiving Keynotes, simply email Melissa in the parish office at parishadministrator@stpetersgv.org. For pastoral emergencies, contact John, our priest.

GLUTEN-FREE COMMUNION WAFERS are available upon request.

SERVING TODAY: Altar Guild: Marcia McIlvain, Cathy Terlescki; **Flower Guild:** Linda Huggler, Brenda Grove, Dana Scarcella, Maria Solis; **Acolytes:** Daniela Fernandez, Dante Fernandez (9:00); **Ushers:** Greg Bright, Aiden Bright (9:00), David Graves (11:15); **Greeter:** Greg Bright (9:00), Paige Infortuna (11:15); **Readers:** Katie Franz, Shannon Almquist (9:00), Stephen Holt, Kate Mallon-Day (11:15); **Intercessor:** Suzanne Casey (9:00), Suzanne Casey (11:15); **Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** Greg Bright, Mary Ann Tatum (9:00), Paige Infortuna (11:15); **Sound Technician:** Eric Stoltz (9:00); **Verger:** Mary Ann Tatum (9:00); **Fellowship Host:** Holly Hardester (9:00), Linda Holden and Bobbie Wade (11:15)

NURSERY CARE DURING THE 9:00 SERVICE: Our youngest worshipers are welcome and encouraged to remain in church during the service. They rightfully contribute to our "joyful noise." If you find it helpful, you may leave your young child in the care of our lovely nursery team; they're downstairs. An usher will be glad to show you.

For Your Prayers

In the power of the Spirit who joins our prayer to Christ's enduring intercession, we pray for the sick, the suffering, and all who stand in need, especially for these individuals and their families: Laurie Sasko, Bruce Dovey, Tom Kellogg, Peter Kreek, Eric Stoltz, Bob Malcolm, Hayley & Matt Andrzejewski, Anne Edelblute, Catherine, Tom, Helen, Mary, Cheryl and Saylor Calabrese, Melissa, Abby LeGendre, Jason Hacker, Mary, Virginia McLoughlin, Don, Theresa Lang, Brenda Grove, Charlotte Mark, Priscilla Belsinger, Sue McMaster, Katie Hoffman, Ellen McAdams, Clark, George Loza, Lynda Rebarchak, Anna, Diana, Kathleen O'Brien, Kathy O'Neill, Randy Klein, Cliff W., Eric, Sadie, Donna, Joseph Collins, Pope Leo XIV, Jeannine, Victoria, Steve Mark, Sharon Winston, Don Cheetham

For these other concerns: For the needs of others throughout our country and the world; for our nation and for all nations, that we may live in unity, peace, and concord; for justice and peace, and respect for the dignity of every human being; for all immigrants, refugees, and pilgrims from around the world, that they may be welcomed in our midst and be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect; for wise and just leaders; for those serving in the armed forces; for wounded warriors; for those whom we see as enemies and those who see us as enemies; for our visitors and guests and all those seeking a church home; for those seeking employment; for those who are poor, hungry, lonely, oppressed or in prison;

for all those in places of war and genocide, especially in the Middle East, Ukraine, and Sudan; and for all those suffering as a result of gun violence and natural disasters.

Altar Memorials: In memory of Justin Kreek given by Peter Kreek, H. Lea Hudson given by his children
Parish Life Cycle of Prayer: The BB&G4J (Bad Boys and Girls for Jesus)
Outreach Cycle of Prayer: Chester County Food Bank
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Announcements

SUNDAY SCHOOL takes place at 9:00 a.m. Children may go to the classrooms in the lower level of the Barn when they arrive. They return to the service at the time of the Peace. Please contact Seretha Curry (slcurry@stpetersgv.org) to learn more.

ADULT FORMATION: "The Bells of St. Peter's, a hands-on experience," led by Judy Jones. Come and learn about the ministry of our handbell choir, and maybe even try one out!

STEWARDSHIP: The Stewardship Commission thanks all 80 pledgers so far in this campaign, especially the 53 of you who were able to increase your support of St. Peter's. This is a clear demonstration of the commitment we have to realizing the prayer "For it is in giving that we receive." We are closing in on our goals for 2027, primarily that we can cover our operating expenses without relying on parish savings. Don't worry: there is still time to pledge! You can pledge on our website or through Realm or by using a pledge card. If you need one, please take a packet from the gathering space, or you may contact the parish office. Thank you for your generosity and faithful partnership in St. Peter's mission.

JOHNVERSATIONS: We are excited to invite you to Johnversations, a series of small gatherings with Father John designed to help us get to know one another, share stories, and grow together as a parish family. Gatherings will be offered on a variety of days, times, and locations in hopes that everyone who wishes to participate will find an opportunity that fits their schedule. While some events may be especially family-friendly, child-friendly activities may not be available at every gathering. To allow as many parishioners as possible an opportunity to participate, please sign up for only one event. Registration is available through sign-up sheets located in both the Barn and the Historic Church, or online using the SignUpGenius link in Keynotes. Questions? Please contact Katie Franz at franzkgp@gmail.com

POPCORN THEOLOGY: Please join us by Zoom on November 9 at 6:00 p.m. as we discuss *Hacksaw Ridge* (2016), the third film in our series "American Heroes, Past and Present." Desmond Doss was a deeply religious conscientious objector in World War II who ignored the scorn of soldiers who too often confused his stand against committing acts of violence with cowardice. Ultimately, he served as a combat medic—a uniquely dangerous assignment at a time when medics were often deliberately targeted to weaken the morale of American units. The movie illustrates a combination of moral and physical courage that is both rare and inspiring. Beyond discussing these events, we will examine the technical, artistic, and spiritual aspects of the movie. The Zoom link for discussion will

come via a special Keynotes on November 8. To learn more about this program, please contact either Gail McLaughlin (gailannmclaughlin@verizon.net) or Steve Ockenden (steveock@verizon.net).

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT CHURCH HOUSING: Church Housing will host a Thanksgiving dinner during November for the residents in each of their facilities. There are multiple opportunities both on weekends and weekdays for volunteers to prepare, cook, or serve and clean up at one of their Phoenixville, West Chester, or Upland locations. The full schedule can be found in the Beacon. Sign-ups are in gathering spaces, or email outreach@stpetersgv.org.

MEMORIAL BRICK FUNDRAISER: Celebrate and honor loved ones while supporting our church through our Memorial Brick Fundraiser. For a donation of $100, you can purchase an engraved 4" x 8" brick personalized with up to three lines of text. Order forms are available in the gathering spaces in both the Barn and the Historic Church.

NOVEMBER IS PASTA MONTH: for the Shopping Cart food ministry. Your support provides direct relief to our neighbors at CYWA in Coatesville.

This Week at St. Peter's

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8: Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I – Historic Church
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Bank Barn
9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Bank Barn, lower level
10:20 a.m. Adult Forum – Bank Barn
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Historic Church*

Fellowship follows each service.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9:

11:15 a.m. Staff meeting – Parish Office

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10:

7:00 p.m. Finance Commission meeting – via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11:

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Bible Study – via Zoom
1:30 p.m. The Women's Circle – Historic Church
3:00 p.m. Wardens' meeting – Parish Office

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12:

9:00 a.m. Preschool Parent Coffee – Parish Office
9:30 a.m. Praying our Prayer List – via Zoom
5:00 p.m. Johnversation – Historic Church

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13:

8:00 a.m. Gathering of Men – via Zoom

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15: Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I – Historic Church
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Bank Barn

9:00 a.m.	Sunday School – Bank Barn, lower level
10:20 a.m.	Adult Forum – Bank Barn
11:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Historic Church*
	Fellowship follows each service.
4:00 p.m.	Family-Friendly Johnversation – Rector's Grove

* This service will be live-streamed.

Make a gift to support the mission and ministries of St. Peter's here:

St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley

2475 St. Peter's Road, Malvern, PA 19355

Office Telephone: 610-644-2261; www.stpetersgv.org

The Reverend John M. Kennedy, Rector, john@stpetersgv.org
Steven Patchel, Organist and Choir Director, steven@stpetersgv.org
Seretha Curry, Assistant for Christian Formation and Communications, slcurry@stpetersgv.org
Gail Malcolm, Event Coordinator, events@stpetersgv.org
Melissa Shaner, Interim Parish Administrator, parishadministrator@stpetersgv.org
Erinn White, Preschool Director, preschool@stpetersgv.org

The **vestry** typically meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
The rector and vestry members are the trustees of St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley.
Class of 2027: Becky Dempsey, Duncan Kraig, Michael Smith, and Tony Wirtel
Class of 2028: Greg Bright, Katie Franz (Rector's Warden), Matt Goller, and Cassandra Shannon
Class of 2029: Betsy Bouvel, Susan Davis, Greg Fisher, and Mary Ann Tatum (Vestry Warden)
Secretary to the Vestry: Laurel Veitch; **Parish Treasurer:** Paige Infortuna