



NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

OCTOBER 4, 2026 — 10:00 AM

HOLY EUCHARIST — RITE TWO

THE WORD OF GOD

Preludes *Lasst uns erfreuen; Royal Oak*

Mary Beth Bennett

Hymn 400 *All Creatures of our God and King: vv. 1-4*

Lasst uns erfreuen

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-277 *Glory to God*

David Hurd

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Wisdom 11:24-12:1

For you love all things that exist, and detest none of the things that you have made, for you would not have made anything if you had hated it. How would anything have endured if you had not willed it? Or how would anything not called forth by you have been preserved? You

spare all things, for they are yours, O Lord, you who love the living. For your immortal spirit is in all things.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 104:25-35, 37 *Benedic, anima mea*

sung by the choir

O LORD, how manifold are your works! *

in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, *

creatures both small and great.

There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, * which you have made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you * to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it; * you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

You hide your face, and they are terrified; * you take away their breath,

and they die and return to their dust.

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; * and so you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; * may the LORD rejoice in all his works.

He looks at the earth and it trembles; * he touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; * I will praise my God while I have my being.

May these words of mine please him; * I will rejoice in the LORD.

Bless the LORD, O my soul. * Hallelujah!

The Second Reading

Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 707 *Take my life and let it be*

Hollingside

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

He said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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.

[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.

[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 E. Berry Hey, Marjorie V. L. Hudson, and Dave Hanbury,

for whom our altar memorials have been given, and Tony Allen, father of Nick Allen, who died recently, 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 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

John Rutter

Text may be found at Hymn 416

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

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:

**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: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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 S-169

Ray Urwin

Choir, then all: **My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.**

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them.

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

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.

Communion Anthem *Christ hath a garden*

Gerald Near

Christ hath a garden walled around,
A Paradise of fruitful ground,
Chosen by love and fenced by grace
From out the world's wide wilderness.

Awake, O wind of heav'n and bear
Their sweetest perfume through the air:
Stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom,
Till the beloved Master come:

Like trees of spice his servants stand,
There planted by his mighty hand;
By Eden's gracious streams, that flow
To feed their beauty where they grow.

That he may come, and linger yet
Among the trees that he hath set;
That he may evermore be seen
To walk amid the springing green.

—Robert Burns

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 405 *All things bright and beautiful*

Royal Oak

Dismissal

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Rondo in D Major*

John Bull



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; **Flower Guild:** Jan Himmelreich; **Ushers:** Aiden Bright, Greg Bright; **Readers:** Sarah Goller, Nick Allen; **Intercessor:** Tony Wirtel; **Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** Don Cheetham, Gail Malcolm; **Acolyte:** Luke Fisher; **Sound Technician:** Jim Fulton; **Verger:** Mary Ann Tatum; **Fellowship Host:** Donna Fabius and the Stewardship Commission

NURSERY CARE: 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, Randy, Tom Kellogg, Evan, George, William, Peter Kreek, Eric Stoltz, Bob Malcolm, Hayley & Matt Andrzejewski, Dwyer/Alden families, Anne Edelblute, Catherine, Tom, Helen, Mary, Cheryl and Saylor Calabrese, Melissa, Livingston B. Morris, Abby LeGendre, Jason Hacker, Mary, Virginia McLoughlin, Don, Theresa Lang, Brenda Grove, Charlotte Mark, Priscilla Belsinger, Sue McMaster, Katie Hoffman, Clark, George Loza, Lynda Rebarchak, James, Anna, Diana, Kathleen O'Brien, Kathy O'Neill, Cliff W.

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 E. Berry Hey given by Mr. & Mrs. John Hobbis, Jr.; in memory of Marjorie V. L. Hudson given by the Hudson family; in memory of Dave Hanbury given by Charlene Hanbury

Parish Life Cycle of Prayer: St. Peter's Preschool

Outreach Cycle of Prayer: Episcopal Community Services

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Announcements

As a kindness to John and Emma Kennedy, who have over a hundred of us to meet and learn to recognize, please locate your name tag and start wearing it. If you need a name tag, please contact Melissa in the office and we will make sure you have one.

SUNDAY SCHOOL takes place at 10:00 a.m. Children may go to the classrooms in the lower level of the barn when they arrive. They will return to the church service at the time of the Peace. Please contact Seretha Curry to learn more.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: Please join us this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. with your furry, feathery, scaly, or stuffed friends in tow (caged or leashed, please) as we honor St. Francis—rain or shine! We will gather on the lawn in front of the historic church for a brief service with blessings. It is customary to mark St. Francis' feast day with this service, as this lover of animals is known for having devoted his life to caring for the poor and for all creation. Treats will be on hand for animals as well as their human caretakers!

CLOTHING DRIVE: Thank you to everyone who has brought something warm for others in need. Please bring in any additional items by October 11. Items may be stored on one side of the Barn coat closet. Please be careful not to place a personal item on that rack. We need a few volunteers to transport clothes to Coatesville in the last week of October on Wednesday and/or Thursday morning. Contact Brenda Grove if you can help.

BIRDWATCHING: Join us on a tour of St. Peter's campus to see what the birds are up to! Open to all ages. We will meet at the Bank Barn at 9:00 a.m. on October 17. Wear comfortable shoes and bring binoculars. Many thanks to Donna Kipphorn of the West Chester Bird Club who will be our guide for

a two-hour walk. Previous walks have spotted numerous birds and this is the peak for fall migration. Please note this event is rain or shine. Let Sarah Tellefsen or the office know if you are coming.

COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES FALL FESTIVAL: Saturday, October 24, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Food, games, music, and tours. Contact Gail Guthridge at guthgirl60@gmail.com if you're interested in attending.

TRUNK OR TREAT: Sunday, October 25, 5:00 p.m., Bank Barn Parking Lot. All are invited to this simple, safe version of traditional trick-or-treating, where children visit festively decorated car trunks to collect their treats—a fun way to gather as a community and a great opportunity to invite others to St. Peter's. To ensure success, we need your help! Please sign up to decorate and host a trunk of treats. We need at least 15 trunks for this to be a fun event for all of the children visiting our campus. We also need a couple of people to help direct traffic. You could win the coveted "St. Peter's Perpetual Trophy" for the best trunk! For more information, contact Seretha.

THE CIRCLE OF WOMEN: Take a break from your daily routine and come spend an afternoon in fellowship with the women of St. Peter's. Nothing fancy—just ideas, feelings, and concerns. We meet every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the parish hall of the Historic Church.

SEASON OF CREATION: The Season of Creation, September 1 through October 4, is celebrated by Christians around the world as a time for renewing, repairing and restoring our relationship to God, one another, and all of creation. The Episcopal Church joins this international effort for prayer and action for climate justice and an end to environmental racism and ecological destruction. This year, we are encouraging the faithful exploration of our campus and beyond. You can walk the labyrinth, weed the gardens, or spend a daily prayer time. A large number of family and church resources can be found at seasonofcreation.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 will be available in the gathering spaces in both the Barn and the Historic Church.

OCTOBER IS CANNED TUNA AND CHICKEN MONTH for the Shopping Cart food ministry. Your support provides direct relief to our neighbors at CYWA in Coatesville. Any questions please call the office.

This Week at St. Peter's

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Bank Barn*

10:00 a.m. Sunday School – Bank Barn, lower level

Fellowship follows the service

11:45 a.m. Worship Commission meeting – Historic Church

4:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals – Historic Church lawn

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5:

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7:

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Bible Study – via Zoom

1:30 p.m. The Women's Circle – parish hall, Historic Church

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8:

9:00 a.m. Preschool Grandparents' Day – Historic Church

9:30 a.m. Praying our Prayer List – via Zoom

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9:

8:00 a.m. Gathering of Men – via Zoom

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11: Twentieth 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.

* This service will be live-streamed.



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