

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST
AUGUST 20, 2023, 11AM**



The Canaanite woman came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. – **Matthew 15:25-28**

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Rector: The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus

(BCP—Book of Common Prayer, H-Hymnal 1982; S Numbers are the service music found in the front of The Hymnal 1982; WLP-Wonder, Love and Praise)

LEVAS-Lift Every Voice and Sing II)

In the name of Christ, we welcome you to this Church. May those who sorrow find comfort; the weary, rest; the unhappy, joy; the troubled, peace; the stranger, friends; and to all the sense of God's Presence in this holy place. We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Port Royal, the Nandtaughtacund, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of the Rappahannock Tribe.

The Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Pass me not, O gentle Savior

LEVAS 139

The Word of God

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God, for ever and ever.

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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

From all that dwell below the skies

H 380

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your compassion embraces everyone. Gather the outcast and the lost, heal the wounds of fear and distrust, and make us a community of reconciliation, that we may embody your merciful love and rejoice in your astounding grace in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Reading from The Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 56, verses 1, 6 through 8.

Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,

for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant--

these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67 *Deus misereatur*

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

7 May God give us his blessing, *

and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans, Chapter 11, verses 1 through 2a, verses 29 through 32.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

There's a wideness in God's mercy

H 470

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness,

slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Catherine Hicks

The Affirmation (from Daily Prayers for All Seasons)

As children of God, we affirm:

**That God, who is Love, created all and called it good,
that God is present with all of creation,
and that, in darkness and in light, God is faithful.**

Therefore, we too, seek to be faithful.

**That Jesus came to show us love with a human face,
that he taught justice and reconciliation and suffered on our behalf,
and that through his faithful example, he embodies hope.
Therefore, we, too, seek to be people of justice, reconciliation, and
hope.**

**That the Holy Spirit guides and accompanies us,
and that this same Spirit offers wisdom and discernment,
and that when we are open, the Spirit can always find a way.**

**Therefore, we seek to be people filled with God’s Spirit:
Discerning, loving and transforming our world. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Lord God, friend of those in need, your Son Jesus has lifted our burdens and healed our spirits. We lift up the prayers of our hearts for those still burdened, those seeking healing, and those in need within the church and the world.

We give thanks for the beauty of this earth, for its abundance, and for its sustenance. Forgive us for the ways in which we have burdened the earth by compromising and destroying the web of life that you intended for the common good of all living things. Give us the desire and the strength to care for the earth as your own beloved creation. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, that the earth may bring forth her increase.**

We pray for your church around the world. May your church be a house of prayer for all the people of the earth, that we may all love your name and joyfully offer our lives in obedient service. Strengthen us all and help us to welcome the stranger and the outcast and to resist social divisions that honor the rich and forsake the poor. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, that all the ends of the earth may stand in awe of you.**

We pray for all the nations of the world, and for all leaders. Uphold the leaders of government for the work of peace, provoke their hearts to justice tempered with mercy, and lead them to do what is right in upholding the common good. Until your reign of peace comes on this earth, we pray for those serving in the armed forces, especially those on our prayer list, that they may serve with honor and return home safely when their work is done. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, and guide all the nations upon earth.**

We pray for Andrea and Ken Pogue, and Laura Carey, traveling to Jamaica, and bringing your love and care to the students and staff of the Victoria School through their distribution of educational funds, school supplies, and equipment. We give thanks for the generosity of all who are supporting this mission through their contributions. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, and let all the people praise you.**

We pray for children and young people. Defend them from danger, fill their lives with loving care, and help us to bring them up to know and to love you with gladness and singleness of heart. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, and let your ways be known on this earth.**

We pray for those whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation. May they live in homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help, and as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, and give us your blessing.**

We pray for the sick and those in distress, especially those on our prayer list. We pray that your healing mercy may enfold those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Give strength and compassion to those who support them in their need. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, and may we come to know your saving power.**

We pray for those who have died, especially Roger Charters and Bill McKnight. Grant them your peace. Let light perpetual shine on them, and in your loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of your perfect will. Deal graciously with all who mourn; that casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love. **Lord, have mercy on us and come to us, and may the light of your countenance shine on us and give us your peace.**

Hear our prayers, and gather us in, that we may minister to you, maintain justice, do what is right, love you, serve you, and keep your covenants. Bring us to your holy mountain and make us joyful in your house of prayer. **May we rejoice in you all our days. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

BCP 830 #51/431

Offertory

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer 2 from [Enriching our Worship](#)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

**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. Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
With all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord’s Prayer **BCP 364**

The Breaking of the Bread **BCP 364**

The Communion of the People of God

Communion Hymn **My God, thy table now is spread** **H 321**

Post-Communion Prayer **BCP 365**

The Blessing

God seeks us when we were lost,
God sweeps us up from the darkness,
God gathers us into the fold,
God brings the wandering children home,
So there is rejoicing
And joy in the presence of your angels.
And the blessing of God, the saving grace of Jesus, and the power of the Holy Spirit
Gather you in and hold you close,
Now and for ever.
Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

Resources:

Today's Collect: Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Vol 2, Kimberly Bracken Long, ed.

Prayers of the People: Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, The Book of Common Prayer, and Feasting on the Word.

Ways to help those in need in Hawaii

Group Donation

We at St Peter's can come together as a group to do our part to help with immediate relief efforts in Hawaii. If you would like to donate through St Peter's, as this part of the Body of Christ, make out a check to St Peter's and put Hawaii in the memo line. The St Peter's collection will go to The Diocese of Hawaii to The Bishop's Pastoral Fund with a note that this is from our church, St Peter's, here in The Diocese of Virginia. The Diocese of Hawaii will put this money to work through **A Cup of Cold Water**, the homeless assistance ministry run by the four Episcopal Churches on the island of Maui. If you would prefer to donate individually online to The Bishop's Pastoral Fund, click this link. **online donations**

Individual Donations

If you would like to donate online through Episcopal Relief and Development, click on this link, <https://support.episcopalrelief.org> and put US Disaster Fund in the memo line. This group is also working with The Diocese of Hawaii.

Charity Navigator, a website that rates charities in an effort to help people use their donations wisely, has a curated list of charities which are accepting donations to help the people of Hawaii. Go to this link, <https://www.charitynavigator.org>. Click on Hawaii Wildfires to find their list and ways to contribute to various groups online.

Announcements

Welcome to St Peter's. May you find God's love present with you in this place and return here often to worship. The communion bread is gluten free. All are welcome at the Lord's table.

The offering plates are in the back next to the doors. Your gifts help support God's work through this church. Mail - PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535. online - <https://news.churchsp.org/onlinegiving>

**Happy Birthday – Jennifer Collins (Aug. 21), John Faibisy (Aug 23)
Happy Anniversary – Woody, Cherry Everett (Aug 23), Justin, Karen Long (Aug 23), David and Carolyn Duke (Aug 24)**

Many thanks to those who helped with the reception for Annette Steele, Principal of the Victoria School, last Sunday. Thank you to Cookie & Johnny Davis for hosting the unforgettable pool party for St Peter's youth.

Aug. 20, Worship, On YouTube at 11am or afterward.

<https://www.youtube.com/@st.petersepiscopalchurchpo677/streams>

Bible Study, Weds, Aug 23, 10am-12pm. Parish House. 13th Pentecost
http://lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/Pentecost/AProp16_RCL.html

The Jamaica mission trip participants, Andrea and Ken Pogue, and Laura Carey, depart for Jamaica on Aug. 23. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel. Special thanks to Andrea for arranging the original connection between Victoria Primary School and St. Peter's in 2021 and for her work this year in making the distribution of school supplies and computer equipment possible. Thank you to Laura Carey for making educational funds available to Victoria School students through the memorial fund in memory of her son, John Whitfield. And thank you to all who have contributed to this project through your donations and prayerful support.

St Peter's will be celebrating The Season of Creation from September 1-October 4th . The theme for 2023 is "Let Justice and Peace Flow" and the symbol is "A Mighty River." Seasonofcreation.org is a resource put together by an ecumenical steering committee and a coalition of partners from around the world, including Episcopalians, Catholics, Methodists, Lutherans, Greek Orthodox, and other churches from around the world to bring theological and liturgical expertise to this important endeavor, as we seek to honor and care for God's creation.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
823 Water Street PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535
Website: www.news.churchsp.org Parish Office: (804) 742-5908
The Vestry

Cookie Davis, Larry Saylor (2024)
Elizabeth Heimbach, Helmut Linne von Berg (2025)
Linda Upshaw (2026)
Jim Heimbach, Treasurer, Elizabeth Heimbach Registrar
Senior Warden, Elizabeth Heimbach
Junior Warden, Cookie Davis
Brad Volland – Music Director & Organist
The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks, Rector
The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus
(540) 809-7489, (540) 898-1586, stpetersrev@gmail.com
Christ Centered, Biblically Based, Spirit Filled, Caring

Prayer List

Cookie Davis, Laura Carey, Fred and Crystal Pannell, Ken Pogue, Susan and Helmut Linne von Berg, Brad Volland, Rob Dobson, Lydia O' Neil, John Hess, Charles McGuire, Barbara and Tommy Segar, John and Toni Faibisy, Linneth Feliciano, Thom Guthrie, Vivian McDonald, Bill Wick, Barbara and Boyd Wisdom, Jim Heimbach

Ollie Powers Anderson (Linda Upshaws' granddaughter), **Sherie Franssen** (Matt Hood's aunt), **Max and Rita Jensen** (Duke friends), **Ralph Powell** (Hicks friend), **Barbara Deal, Roberta Rutledge** (friend of the Pogues), **Patterson family, Valerie Leitch, Liz Ruthven, Charlene Schnakenberg**, (Becky Fisher's mother), **Wayne Cohen** (cousin of Andrea Pogue), **Jimmy and Nancy Davis** (Johnny Davis' brother and sister in law), **Herb Collins, Mrs. Watson, Hyacinth Wallace, Bethune Andrews, Orville Watson** (Linneth Feliciano's mother, sisters and brother), **Sylvia and Jonathan Coleman** (Cleo's daughter and son), **Milijana Grayson, Nika Corwin** (friend of Marcia Kole), **Nathaniel Schnakenberg, Otis Felts** (friend of Johnny Davis), **The Glasgows** (friends of the Felicianos), **Ann Pyle** (Carolyn Duke's mother), **Harvey Yarus** (friend of Tom Kramer), **Joanne Wilkerson and Julie Davis** (sister and daughter of Johnny Davis), **Lois Christie, Rosie Dowdy, Bill Lauck, Anthony Bowman, Dylan Puryear** (BJ's grandson), **Ruth Smith, Joyce Smith** (Laura Carey's sisters-in-law), **Gloria Jewell, The Hill family** (Lydia O'Neil's family), **Lorena McElwain**, (friend of the Pogues), **G. Lee Baldwin, Linda Oliver, Pat Crenshaw** (Brad's cousin), **Joan Pemberton** (Brad's aunt), **Albert Barnett** (Andrea's uncle), **Louise Chapman** (Barbara Segar's cousin)
Passed into eternal life: Roger Charters (friend of the Segars), **Bill McKnight** (Chris Fisher's uncle)

Serving in the Armed Forces

PJ Koons	Scott Estes	Cliff Lance
Steven Lee	Greg Merkl	Grace Grimaldi
Alexis Rye	Michael Hobbs	Alex Long V