



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, WEST PENN

"...where worship and service don't stop with the final hymn."

Rev. Cliffert Herring, Interim Pastor

**August 24, 2025 ~ Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Worship – 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.**

(Please turn off your cell phone.)

Prayer of Preparation

O Great God, we are fragile creatures surrounded by a world of danger and sometimes we are not able to stand upright on our own. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Greeting/Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Prelude

"In The Image of God"

by John W. Peterson

Lighting of the Candles

(All who are able, please stand.)

Centering Hymn

"We Have Come Into His House"

#224

Call to Worship and Invocation

P: We begin our service with a time of silence to center ourselves in the Presence of the Almighty and God's Son, Jesus the Christ.

(A time for silence and reflection)

All: Come, Lord Jesus.. We need to hear your voice and learn of you. Speak to us of gentleness and strength. In your compassion, draw us into your merciful embrace. Hush the distracting thoughts clamoring for attention in our minds. Center our spirits in your peace. Open our hearts to your wise teaching, that we may grow wise and strong in the ways of your kingdom. Amen.

Opening Hymn

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

#2

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek God's Forgiveness

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin *(in unison)*

Gracious and loving Spirit, who moves freely and gracefully through this world, transforming and mending the broken pieces, we confess that we stumble through life, trying to survive on our own power. We feel paralyzed—numbed by fear, by old habits, by the effort we expend in trying to impress others. We try to earn your grace through our own awkward endeavors, forgetting that all that we are comes from you. In your mercy forgive us. Fill us with your liberating Spirit, that our souls might run, leap, and praise you, so that all the world would know your grace and truth. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

P: Friends, our Lord Jesus suffered death on the cross. In that act, the God of grace and glory said No—No to the powers of death, No to the sin that tries to hold us captive. And Christ said Yes to God's promises throughout the ages—Yes to new life, Yes to hope and transformation. The Spirit of God anoints us with that hope and power. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Song of Praise *(sung)*

***Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way;
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord I lift your name on high.***

The Passing of the Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you all.

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

L: Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

(The congregation may be seated.)

Sacrament of Holy Baptism *(Bulletin insert)*

Declan James Lincoln Daniel Imbody
Born Saturday, April 26, 2025
Son of Justin and Jill (Hoppes) Imbody
Brother of Mason and Calvin Imbody

Children's Sermon

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek God's Forgiveness

The Reading of Scripture

The First Reading

Jeremiah 1: 4-10

The Gospel Reading

Luke 13: 10-17

(The Gospel is printed on the back of the bulletin.)

(After the Gospel is announced, all who are able stand and sing:)



Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

(After the Gospel is read, sing:)



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Hymn

"Baptized In Water"

#465

(The congregation may be seated.)

The Sermon *Triumph of Compassion*

Affirmation of Faith *(in unison)*

(The Apostle's Creed)

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Offering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

"Come, Touch the Robe"

by Pepper Chaplin

(All who are able, please stand.)

The Offertory Response *(sung)*

*We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be.
All that we have is Thine alone –
A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication *(in unison)*

We give these gifts to honor, praise and worship You, O Lord. Use them to further the work of your church showing forth the Spirit of Christ in all that we say and do. Amen.

(The congregation may be seated.)

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

*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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

Prayer for Call Committee *(in unison)*

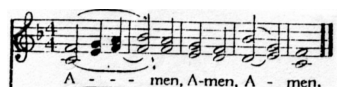
Almighty God, giver of every good gift; look upon this congregation with grace. Guide the minds of our Search Committee members as they discern which of your servants will be our next pastor. Please grant that we might receive a faithful shepherd who will care for us and continue to equip us for ministry in this place. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(All who are able, please stand.)

Closing Hymn “God Be With You”

#232

The Benediction with Three-fold “Amen”



Extinguishing of Candles/Silent Meditation

Choral Blessing *(sung)*

(Tune: "Morning Has Broken")

**New life has bloomed here, God's love has warmed us;
Now the world calls us to spread that love.
God's peace go with you, may it sustain you,
And bring us together to praise God again.**

Postlude

"I Belong to the King, I'm a Child of His Love"

by Ida L. Reed & Maurice A. Clifton



THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented in honor of Merk Hunsicker on his birthday today by his family. Glory, praise and thanksgiving to God for his miraculous healing power.

THE FLOWERS ON THE PIANO are in honor of the baptism of Declan "DJ" Imbody by big brothers Mason & Calvin, and Nana.

LECTOR: Lori Hoppes.

SOUND SYSTEM: Anthony Thomas.

LAST WEEK'S BIRTHDAY OFFERINGS received from Elaine Rex and Merk Hunsicker.

*One tiny hand to guide and hold,
One tiny life to shape and mold,
each child, a gift from God above
a symbol of his strength and love.*

~ unknown



**Blessings and prayers to the family and friends of
Declan James Lincoln Daniel Imbody.**

"Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein." Mark 10:15

Clothing Drive



What's in your closet?

Help our organization raise funds by cleaning out your closets, attics, garages, and basements. Please place your gently used/unwanted items in tightly tied bags. **PLEASE DON'T MAKE THE BAGS TOO HEAVY ~ OUR VOLUNTEERS LOADING THE TRUCK ON SEPTEMBER 20TH APPRECIATE IT!** Every bag counts.

Give your items a second chance to be worn/used again. The more our collection weighs the more we raise. Thank you for your support! **Dates for drop off will be now ~ through Friday, September 19th** in the last 2 Sunday School rooms on the left.

What We Accept: All Merchandise in Plastic or Paper Bags Bags that are of different colors that are directly packed and folded from the homes and not re-bagged once they have left the homes. Adult & Children Clothing, Shoes, Apparel, Handbags, Purses, Wallets, Sandals, Sneakers, Boots, Jackets, Coats, Rain Gear, Leathers, Belts, Ties, Pants, Shirts, Sweaters, Vests, Blouses, Dresses, Skirts, Robes, Undergarments, Sheets, Towels, Linens, Tablecloths, Hats, Scarfs, Gloves, Wallets, Jewelry, Watches, Uniforms, Jerseys, Backpacks, New Diapers, and NOW ACCEPTING Household Items, Utensils, Hard & Soft Toys, Electronics, Small Bric-A-Brac Items which all must be bagged.

Please, **We Do Not Accept:** Thrift Store Goods, Flea Market, Yard Sales, Furniture, Books, Pillows & Curtains. Any merchandise that has holes, rips, stains, mold or has an odor. Any items once they have been re-bagged after they have left the home.

FUNDRAISER FOR PEDIATRIC CANCER

Gage Bishop, the son of Marsha and Joe Estep is working with the Lehigh Lioness and Lions Club to raise money for pediatric cancer. He has been diabetic since 7 years old and wants to give back to the cause. He will be collecting recyclables (plastic drink bottles and aluminum cans), as well as selling daily number calendars for November (\$10.00 each) to give back to pediatric diabetes.

He has worked hard to be as healthy as possible and would like to contribute money back to the people who have helped him get there. We will be setting up an area by the shed for recyclables and the money raised from them and the calendars will be donated. Anyone with a large amount of cans, can call Marsha to arrange a pick up at 570-778-8082.

Thank you for your support!
Gage, Joe, and Marsha

**PRAYERS FOR OUR ARMED FORCES
AT HOME AND ABROAD**



Deployed to:
USS Harry Truman
Austin Resch

Deployed to Japan:
John McGuire

Deployed to Germany:
Joyce Steigerwalt



**Active Duty,
Not Deployed:**

Mark Habel
Dustin Hoppes
LeRoy E. Kromer II
Timothy Kromer
Ezekiel Kuneck
Sean Kurtz
Antonio Lorenzo
Dominic Lorenzo
Amanda Miller

Tyler Resch
Alexis Scott
Trevor Schilling
Andy Snyder
Ryan Snyder
Alexander Thomas
Chad Wehr
Mark West
Scott West
Michael Zeigenfuss

PRAYERS FOR THSE ON OUR VISITATION LIST

**Maple Shade Meadows: Hazel Arner, Edith Coombe,
Barbara Kershner, Gary Steigerwalt**

Scenic View: Olga Faust

St. Luke's Miner's Coaldale ~ 5th Floor: Althea Zehner

At Home:

Buddy Arner	Robert Coombe
Larry Miller	Doris Wolfe

PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Michael, Kay, Mikayla, Leilani, & Michael Killar in Thailand
**Maude, Valera, Zarina, Alexander, & Nicolas Motovilov in the
Czech Republic**

Say a Prayer for:

Recent

Loved Ones of

Jacquelin Riotto

Harry & Janie Connor

Barbara Bardo

Ongoing

Alyssa Whiting

Austin Klein

Barbara Kershner

Beth Pravozino

Betty Breiner

Bonnie Miller

Brad Steigerwalt

Bruce Miller

Carolyn Lantz

Clyde

Cody Wolfgang

Darlene Kunkel

Darryl Moyer

Debbie Mooney

DeRue Kistler

Donald Hank Williams

Erin Coombe

Erlin Moyer

Franklin Mackes

Gregory Slivka

Hannah Frey

Judy Gerber

Kay Faust

Kenneth Breiner

Kenny Oliver

Leon Kunkel

Linda Garber

Loretta Beers

Maggie Wehr

Mark Wolfe

Marsha Rodgers

Mary Lou & Jim Walk

Mary Lou McGowan

Michelle Broadt

Mike Canty

Nadine

Parker Brode

Paul David

Ralph Fisher

Renee Troutman

Ricky Everett

Rita Yarmell

Robbie Trainer

Sharon Horning

Sue Hower

Teresa Fowler

Terry Abrachinsky

Tim Kistler

Wayne Lazarus



**If you know of someone to be added or removed from the Prayer List, please contact
Rev. Herring, Chris Miller or the church office.**

WELCOME BACK SUNDAY/ RALLY DAY

Everyone is encouraged to get back into the habit of attending worship on Sunday morning. A great time to begin will be by attending our first Sunday of the Fall Season on ***Sunday, September 7th at 9 AM.*** We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion that day. Join us to worship God and recommit ourselves to helping one another in the Spirit of Christ.

Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under the trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across God's blue sky, is by no means a waste of time.

~John Lubbock, "Recreation," The Use of Life,

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

Today, Sunday, August 24:

9:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Adult Sunday School

Next Sunday, August 31:

9:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Adult Sunday School

**For complete details on these events, please consult your newsletter.*

AN OPEN MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pastor Cliff is calling a meeting for all current Sunday School teachers and officers; ALL Parents of children who have not been confirmed (and children); and anyone who would like to help with educating our youth to a meeting in our fellowship hall on ***Sunday, September 7th*** following our 9 AM worship service. Ice Cream will be available for one and all as we discuss ways to move forward with educating our children about our faith.

Why are children not attending Sunday School now? Can we be more effective by having classes at other times than Sunday morning? What if we had a 3 or 4 hour session once or twice a month following the "Bible School" model? You are all invited to join us as we discuss our options and seek commitment from children and adults to strengthen our church's education program.



CONFIRMATION CLASS WILL BEGIN

All youth eligible for Confirmation (age 12 and above) and their parents are invited to meet on ***Sunday, September 14th*** following the worship service to begin the confirmation process. If you are interested but cannot attend, or if you have any questions, please contact the Pastor before the 14th.

LAST CALL

Anyone wishing to have some of the old organ pipes should notify Dan (570-778-6903) or Lou Ann Algard (570-778-4063) ASAP. The pipes will be available until August 31st, unless you make arrangements with Dan.

August 17, 2025

Attendance: 86

Plate Offering: \$ 117.00

Total Current Offering: \$ 3,285.00

Building Maintenance Fund: \$ 277.00

Year-to-date Fuel: \$ 1,527.00

Year-to-date Elevator: \$ 1,307.50

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**Benevolence:**

**Total YTD: \$ 7,334.50**

**2025 combined benevolence goal is \$10,000.00**

**St. Peter's Church, West Penn**

**184 St. Peter's Road Tamaqua PA 18252      570-386-4388**

**Rev. Cliffert Herring, Interim Pastor ~ 484-553-9175**

**Denise Moyer, Board President ~ 484-695-1887**

**Lori Hoppes, Vice President ~ 610-393-0901**

**For pastoral care, visitations, please call Pastor Herring at 484-553-9175**

**Contact Denise Moyer, Board President for general concerns at 484-695-1887**

**Contact for our TLC Committee for Your Special Needs:**

**Please call Nancy Knadler at (570) 956-6851 , or email at Lukie@ptd.net**

**Sexton: Lou Ann Algard 570-778-4063**

**Financial Secretary: Jacqueline McCandless      Church Office: Elaine Koons**

**Substitute: Anne Scott**

**Church Office Phone: (570) 386-4388**

**NOTE: Office will close at 12:00pm on Wednesday, August 27th**

**Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00am—1:00pm,  
Friday from 10:00am-2:00pm (Hours subject to change)**

**E-mail addresses:      Rev. Herring ~ reched@rcn.com  
                                 Church Office: info@stpwp.com  
                                 Financial Secretary: financials@stpwp.com  
                                 Sunday School: spwpsundayschool@gmail.com**

**Web Site Address:      <https://www.stpeterschurchwestpenn.com>**

**Web Master email:      [info@stpwp.com](mailto:info@stpwp.com)**

**Facebook:      St Peter's Church of West Penn**