



We exist to **HONOR** God, to **HELP** people grow in the grace of Jesus,
and to **EQUIP** them for their purpose in God's Kingdom.

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

May 3, 2026

The Lord's Day

Preparation

"I am convinced that God's love for His people is a foundational concept, along with God's sovereignty and His holiness, in all of Christian teaching. The infinite, eternal, unchangeable Creator of the universe loves us."
– Paul Kooistra

Prelude

How Great Thou Art

Call to Worship

Psalm 66:1-2

Leader: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

All: sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!

Prayer of Adoration & Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-10

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn of Adoration

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, Hymn 53

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!

Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!

Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;

ponder anew what the Almighty will do, if with his love he befriend thee!

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,

decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.

How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief, spreading his wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly fore'er we adore him.

Call to Confession of Sin

Job 13:23

Leader: How many are my iniquities and my sins?

All: **Make me know my transgression and my sin.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

I Peter 2:24-25

Leader: [Jesus] himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

All: **For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**

Song of Assurance

O Great God

O great God of highest heav'n, occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel pow'r.
Let no vice or sin remain that resists your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me, make me yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear your voice,
did not know your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then your Spirit gave me life, opened up your Word to me
through the gospel of your Son, gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on your grace.
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed.
O great God of highest heav'n, glorify your name through me.

Welcome & Church Life

Offering & Offertory

Jesus Paid It All

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Doxology, Hymn 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below,
praise him above ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Best News According to Abraham

Scripture Reading

Genesis 13:1-18, Pew Bible p. 9

¹ So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb.² Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. ³ And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, ⁴ to the place where he had made an altar at the first. And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD. ⁵ And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, ⁶ so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together, ⁷ and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were dwelling in the land. ⁸ Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left."

¹⁰ And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) ¹¹ So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other. ¹² Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. ¹³ Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD. ¹⁴ The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, ¹⁵ for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever. ¹⁶ I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. ¹⁷ Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you." ¹⁸ So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

Sermon

"How to Journey"

Rev. Chris Florence

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I 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.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

We serve wine and juice in each tray: the juice is in the clear cups in the inner rings. The wine is in tinted cups in the outer ring.

Communion Song (during bread)

There is One Gospel

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Hymn of Rejoicing

Gloria Patri, Hymn 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Benediction & Postlude

Sermon Questions

1. How did the Spirit use the preaching of the Word in your soul this week?
2. As it did with Abram and Lot, strife often occurs due to an abundance of possessions (**v. 6**). Why is that? How does **James 5:1-6** relate to today's passage?
3. What are other reasons for strife among God's people? What often causes strife within faithful congregations?
4. Why do you think American Christians are slow to remove strife among themselves and within the church?
5. How does knowing that your story as a Christian is rooted in God's promise (**v. 16**) nurture humility? How does it nurture hope?

Please Pray For...

Pastor Adam Christiansen Serving at Pamlico PCA in Oriental, NC

Please pray for Pastor Adam Christiansen and the congregation at Pamlico PCA. A long time elder will be moving back to Kansas this summer. They will be having a congregational meeting for the election of a new elder on May 3.

Pray also for their active ministries through the members of the congregation in the prison, in AA, Girls on the Run, Hope Clinic, various schools, and hospice.

Mark & Esther Jeong Serving with Mission to the World (MTW) in Nagoya, Japan

Please pray for Mark and Esther Jeong and family as they serve with MTW in Nagoya, Japan. Pray for Mark as he is working towards becoming proficient in Japanese to be able to better communicate to his students.

Esther is a pediatrician providing medical advice to missionary families and helping at the local hospital. Their daughter, Liya, recently had minor surgery. Praise God for the successful surgery and good recovery.

All Bible quotations are ESV, unless otherwise noted. Hymn numbers are from the Trinity Hymnal 1990. CCLI License #436020.

O Great God—Music and Words by Bob Kauflin; 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise

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Week At-a-Glance

- May**
- 3** Morning Worship | 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
Adult Sunday School | 9:45 a.m.
Peace Church Evening Activities
 Youth Group | Dinner in Fellowship Hall, 5:15 p.m.
 Peacemakers (2nd–5th grade)
 Playtime in Lower Playground, 5:30 p.m.
 Sanctuary, 6 p.m.
 Friendmakers (Age 4–1st Grade) | Music Room, 6 p.m.
 Joymakers (Ages 2-3) | C107, 6 p.m.
 Adult Community Groups | 6 p.m.
- 7** Men’s Event, A Panel Discussion on Parenting | Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.
- 9** Soloists Luncheon | Fellowship Hall, 2 p.m.
- 10** Morning Worship | 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.

Men's Event, A Panel Discussion on Parenting | May 7, 6 p.m.

How can we be better parents and grandparents? Come to our next men's panel discussion regarding parenting and enjoy a pizza dinner.

- Sign up for the Panel Discussion on Parenting at peacepca.org/events.

Installation Service at Wesleyan Church | May 16, 12 p.m.

You are invited to attend the installation of Elder Cynthia Wilson as pastor at Wesleyan First Church in Raleigh. There will be a light reception after the service.

Memorial Day Sunday Service | May 24

We will have one service on May 24 at 11 a.m. only. There will be no Sunday School and no evening activities due to the Memorial Day holiday.

VBS Registration Now Open | June 22-26, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Online registration is now open on your Church Center app or at peacepca.org/vbs.

Classes are available for Sunday Peace Kids ages PK2 through 5th grade. Visitors are welcome in our classes for those entering kindergarten in the fall and elementary ages. Nursery available for children of VBS volunteers only.

- Questions? Email us at kids@peacepca.org.

Now Hiring: Executive Administrative Receptionist

We are accepting applications for an executive administrative receptionist. This part-time position is 16-28 hours per week over four days (Tue.-Fri.), from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. up to 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

- Learn more at peacepca.org/job-opening, or contact Todd Blonshine at toddb@peacepca.org.

Now Hiring: Preschool Director

We are now accepting applications for a new preschool director. This part-time position is 20-25 hours per week, 10 months per year. Begins **Aug. 3**.

- Learn more about the Preschool Director role at peacepca.org/job-opening.
- Questions and resumes should be directed to Kris Lohr at jklohr685@gmail.com.

Welcome Back Laura Cate Westerbeek

We are thrilled to welcome back Laura Cate Westerbeek as our Children's Ministries Summer Intern through early July. Laura Cate is a graduate student in education at UNC-Charlotte where she is captain of the women's soccer team and serves on the FCA Leadership Team.

Teaching Elders

Chris Florence

Lead Pastor

chris@peacepca.org

Doug Domin

Associate Pastor of

Adult Discipleship

doug@peacepca.org

Ken Langley

Associate Pastor of

Worship & Enfolding

kenl@peacepca.org

Jono Darville

Assistant Pastor of Youth

jono@peacepca.org

Ruling Elders

Stan Ayers

Grant Buckner

Joe Frazier

Tim McDonald

Nathan Parker

Scott Parrish

Michael Pendley

Chuck Smith

Bill Stern

Dale Walley

Steve West

Elders

session@peacepca.org

Deacons

Hal Belk

Rick Chapman

Steve Grube

Jon Lohr

Chris Nichols

Joey Roberts

Kurt Rundle

Jonathan Schultheis

Ryan Swanson

Rick Thomas

Piet Westerbeek

Deacons

activedeacons@peacepca.org

Mercy Team Deacons

mercy@peacepca.org

Staff

Alisa Arslan

Director of Children's Ministries

alisa@peacepca.org

Susan Auten

Nursery Coordinator

susan@peacepca.org

Todd Blonshine

Office & Facility Manager

toddb@peacepca.org

Caroline Bowersox

Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

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Marta Bowser

Financial Assistant

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Meaghan Clayton

Assistant Music Director

meaghan@peacepca.org

Rhea Crider

Communications Manager

rhea@peacepca.org

communications@peacepca.org

secretary@peacepca.org

Sara Innes

Children's Church Coordinator

sara@peacepca.org

Jennifer McGehee

Director of Peace Preschool

jennifer@peacepca.org

Nicole Nichols

Children's Ministries Assistant

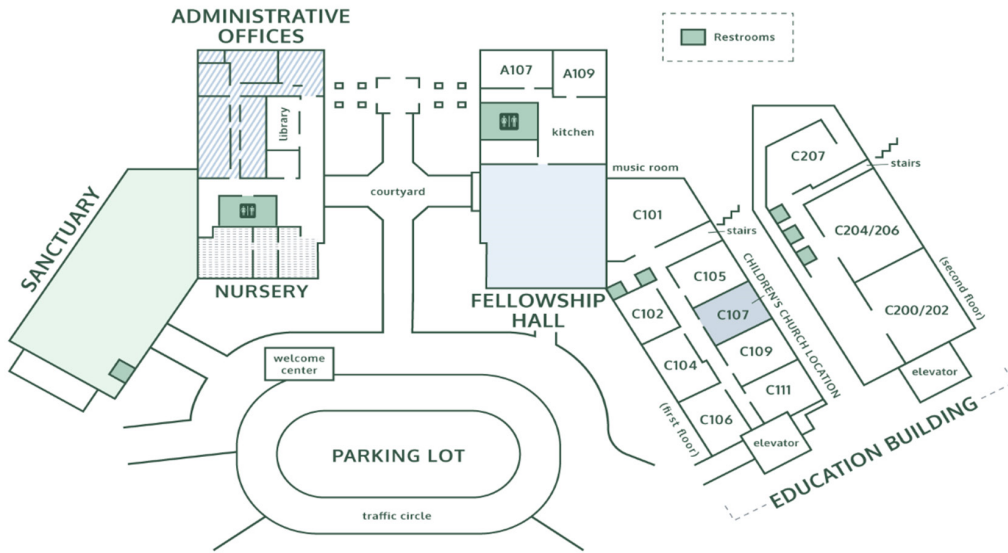
nicole@peacepca.org

Steven Powell

Youth Ministry Intern

scpowel3@ncsu.edu

For Prayerline requests nights & weekends (Sat.-Mon.), contact Cheryl Somerville at cheryl6058@gmail.com.



PEACE KIDS Sunday School

- 2, 3-year olds — C105/C107
- 4, 5-year olds & kindergarten — C109/C111
- Grades 1-2 — C104
- Grades 3-4 — C106
- Grade 5 — C102

PEACE YOUTH Sunday School

- Grades 6-8 — C200/C202
- Grades 9-12 — C204/C206

Nursery & Children’s Church

During worship services and Sunday school, we offer Nursery (for infants and toddlers) in the rooms adjacent to the sanctuary. Children’s Church (ages PK2-kindergarten) is available during worship services in Room C107.

Wiggly Children?

We welcome your children as they learn to worship with you in the sanctuary! But if their wiggles are too much for you, additional locations to hear the service are available:

- Cry Room, at the back of the sanctuary
- The Cove, across from the bathrooms

Adult Sunday School

Peace 101

New to Peace or curious about what we believe? Peace 101 covers our mission, vision, doctrine, leadership, and ministries—and how Scripture guides everything we do. Discover who we are, meet our pastors and ministry leaders, and find out how to get involved in the church community.

Peace 101 is offered twice a year.

(Library)

Responding to Our Cultural Moment: A Christian Perspective

How should Christians respond to today’s debates on gender, politics, race, the unborn, and related issues? These questions often generate deep division—even within the church. In this class, we will offer responses that are biblically grounded, historically informed, scientifically attentive, and relationally sensitive.

Led by Jono Darville. (Fellowship Hall)

The Bible Class

Maybe you have heard of “The Roman Road” as a method for evangelism. The idea is to take a person through Romans, examining key verses about the Gospel. Paul’s letter to the church in Rome is his most outstanding teaching of the Gospel. Romans is a treasure of rich theological truth, providing not only how to know the forgiveness of sin but also what to believe about God and how to be changed by the Holy Spirit.

Led by Bill Stern. (C207)

For those new to Peace, welcome!

Visit peacepca.org to learn more about the mission and ministries of Peace Church.

Sermon Series: *The Good News According to Abraham*

May 10	Gen. 14:17-24
May 17	Gen. 15:1-21
May 24	Gen. 16:1-16
May 31	Gen. 17:1-14

Giving Options

Online giving through the **Church Center app** is available. Visit peacepca.org/giving for details.

Be aware that a *3% processing fee* is charged to Peace when giving via credit card.

Traditional giving methods are always accepted. Should you wish to mail a check, use the following address to send it to our secure box:

Peace Church
P.O. Box 518
Cary, NC 27512-0518



Office Hours

Tuesday–Friday
9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Tel: (919) 467-5977