

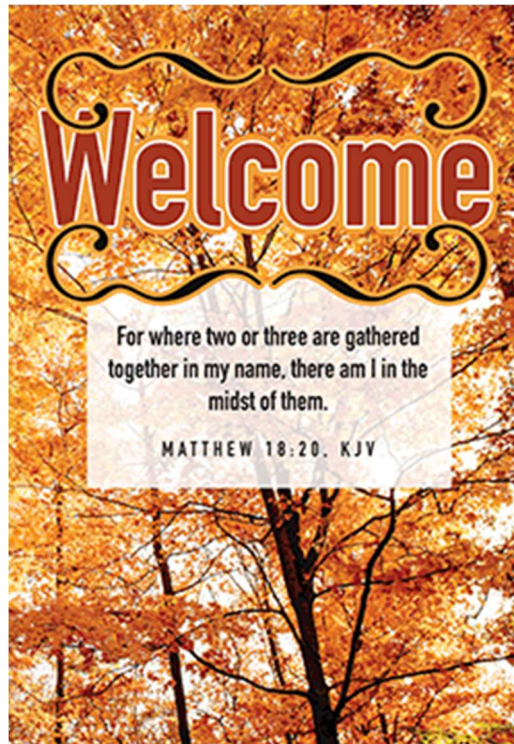


St. Peter's Episcopal Church

22 N. Union St., Smyrna, Delaware

***A Faith Community Offering Hospitality, Hope and Healing
A Church Worth Finding***

**Bulletin for Sunday, September 6, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Rite II- Prayer A- 9:00 am**



Thank you for joining us for Worship!

Liturgy and Music through rite planning License SB157752, expires 4/30/2027

Podcasting and Music through One License A-736373, expires 8/26/2027

Images through Church Online Subscription, Account # 74074931

Church Office (302) 653-9691 – Hours: Mon & Fri Closed, Tues - Thurs - 9:00AM – 1:00PM

Email: Office: stpeters.smyrna@verizon.net Rector: smyrnarector@gmail.com

www.stpeters-smyrna.church

Sunday, September 6, 2026

WORSHIP SERVERS:

Celebrant: Rev. Lorna Williams, Supply Clergy

Musician: Ms. Bonnie W. Forgacs, Music Minister

Lay Server	9:00AM
Reader	Tom Schultz
Chalicer	Tom Schultz
Ushers	Larry Decker & Mary Sanders

A special thank you to Rev. Lorna Williams for being our celebrant today.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church in the Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: The members of the Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, and Trustees in the Episcopal Church of Delaware

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Tom & Lillian Reynolds & Mary Sanders

Birthdays: Wendy Lampe, Cyndi Marciano and Stan McIntyre

Anniversaries: Dawn & Kelvin Arnold

Aumbry Candle

To the Glory of God and in Honor of Patty Beth Murray's 54th birthday on Sept. 3rd.

By: Paul & Paula Buckley

Altar Flowers

Given to the Glory of God and in Honor of our daughter, Patty Beth Murray's on her 54th birthday on Sept. 3rd

By: Paul & Paula Buckley

Search Committee Members:

Dawn Adams, Vestry Liaison

Terri Anderson, Allison Embert, Allison Gallo, Catherine Huidekoper, Tom Schultz and Linda Slicher, Parish Members.

Vestry

2026 Officers

Shirley Biddle, Sr. Warden

Wayne Burris, Jr. Warden

Temple Carter, Treasurer

Lisa Embert, Secretary

Members:

2023-2025

Harold Warnett

Dawn Adams

Wayne Burris

2024-2026

Patty Murray

Shirley Biddle

Michael Richards

2025-2027

Larry Decker

Ray DePhillis

Dawn Arnold

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite Two

PRELUDE: *The Master Has Called Us*, Gerald Peterson. Tune: ASH GROVE, a trad. Welsh melody

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *All creatures of our God and King (Lasst uns erfreuen)* (H 400)
Sing verses 1,2 and 7



- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
4 Dear ma - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
*6 And ev - er you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



- 1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Word: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel.

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, “As I live,

says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?"

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40

Remain seated.

- ³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, * **and I shall keep it to the end.**
³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; * **I shall keep it with all my heart.**
³⁵Make me go in the path of your commandments, * **for that is my desire.**
³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees * **and not to unjust gain.**
³⁷Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; * **give me life in your ways.**
³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant, * **which you make to those who fear you.**
³⁹Turn away the reproach which I dread, * **because your judgments are good.**
⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments; * **in your righteousness preserve my life.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN: *Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling (Ubi caritas (Murray)) (H 577)*

Sing verses 1 and 2

Refrain



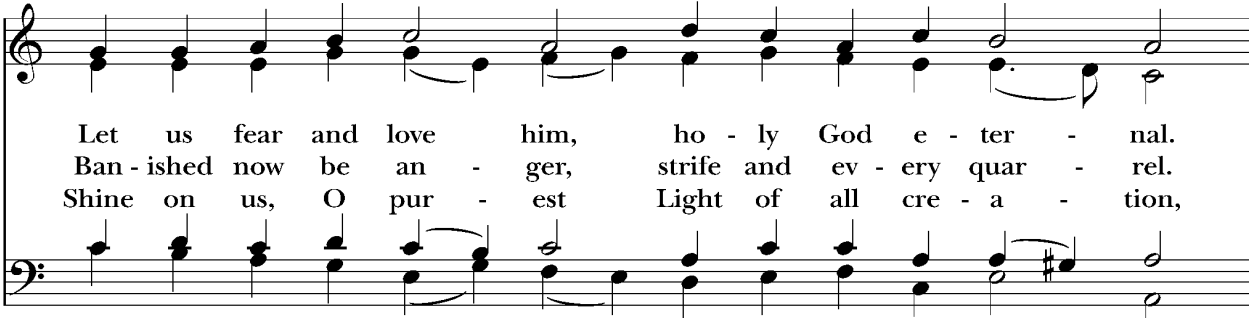
God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.



1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
 2 When we Chris - tians gath - er, mem - bers of one Bo - dy,
~~3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,~~



Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.
 let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
 when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.



Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
 Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
 Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,

Repeat Refrain



Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
 Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
 be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

Words: Latin; tr. James Quinn (b. 1919), alt. Music: *Ubi caritas (Murray)*, A. Gregory Murray (b. 1905)

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

All stand.

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

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

[Jesus said,] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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.
Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

CONGREGATIONAL ANTHEM: *Christ is made the sure foundation (Westminster Abbey) (H 518)---* *Sing verses 1, 3 and 4*

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

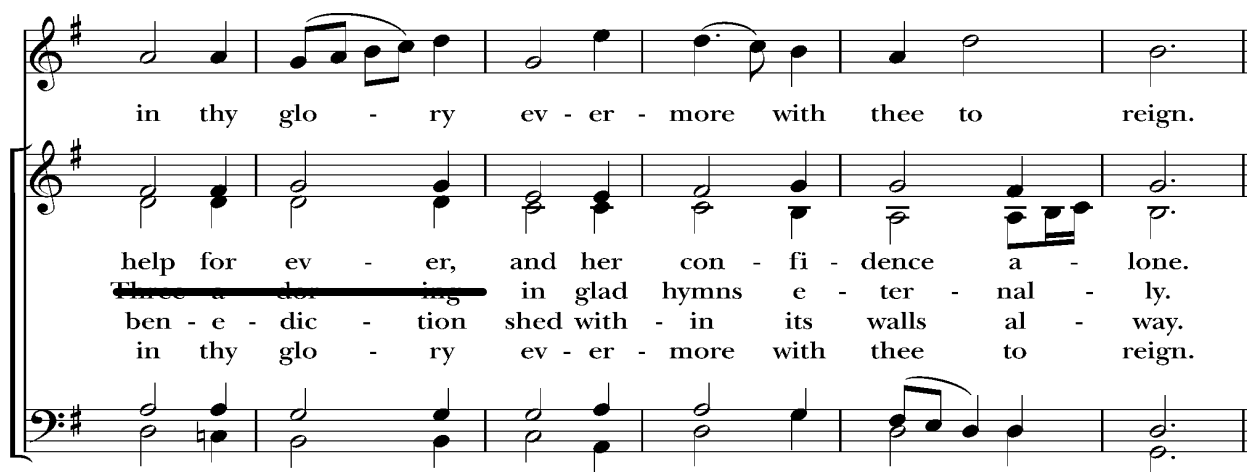
1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that dwell in this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
3 To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt. desc James Gillespie (b. 1929).

OFFERTORY PRESENTATION HYMN FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES (OLD 100TH) VERSE 3

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Celebrant

**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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN: *Lord, make us servants of your peace* (Dickinson College) (H 593)

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on prayer att. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) Music: Dickinson College, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you 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

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee (Hymn to Joy)* (H 376)

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, bloom-ing mea-dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach— us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di-vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Holsworthy Church Bells*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-76. Revised and edited by Charles Callahan



HOPE & *Healing*