

ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS
A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK
271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07102
973.226.6500 • stpetersef.org



The First Sunday after Christmas
December 29, 2024

Welcome

We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship today. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We are a church rooted in Christian tradition, and open to new ideas, committed to service in community and world as part of the world-wide Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The work of worship is shared by all, and we invite you to participate in the said and spoken responses as you are able.

All are welcome to make a gift and offering in thanksgiving to God for the many blessings we have received. To take advantage of our electronic giving options, please follow the QR code with your capable electronic device. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.



Holy Eucharist at 10 o'clock, Church

Voluntary *Prelude, 'Es ist ein Ros'* *Johannes Brahms*

Entrance Hymn 110 *Hymnal 1982* VENITE ADOREMUS

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation *BCP, page 355*

Gloria *Hymnal 1982, S 277*

Collect of the Day *BCP, page 213*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

THE LESSONS

First Reading *Isaiah 61:10—62:3*

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and

as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God

Psalm 147 *Laudate Dominum*

Robert Knox Kennedy

Please remain seated and sing



- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your **gates**; *
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your **borders**; *
he satisfies you with the finest **wheat**.
- 16 He sends out his command to the **earth**, *
and his word runs very **swiftly**.
- 17 He gives snow like **wool**; *
he scatters hoar frost like **ashes**.
- 18 He scatters his hail like **bread crumbs**; *
who can stand against his **cold**?
- 19 He sends forth his word and **melts them**; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters **flow**.
- 20 He declares his word to **Jacob**, *
his statutes and his judgments to **Israel**.
- Second half of the chant*
- 21 He has not done so to any other **nation**; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments. **Hallelujah!**

Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-24; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ

came, so that we might be justified by faith.... But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, but when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Hymn 81 *Hymnal 1982*

ES IST EIN ROS

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Sermon

The Rev. Michael Allen

Nicene Creed

BCP, page 358

Prayers of the People

The response is Lord, hear our prayer.

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Anthem

Roger Quilter

*I sing of a maiden that matchless is,
King of all kings was her Son iwis.*

*He came all so still where His mother was
As dew in April that falleth on the grass.*

*He came all so still to His mother's bower
As dew in April that falleth on the flower.*

*He came all so still where His mother lay
As dew in April that formeth on the spray.*

*Mother and maiden was ne'er none but she;
Well may such a lady Goddes mother be.*

—Anonymous, 15th century

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

BCP, page 367

Sanctus

Hymnal 1982, S 124

Lord's Prayer

BCP, page 364

Breaking the Bread

BCP, page 364

Christ our Passover

Hymnal 1982, S 154

Invitation

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Bread and Cup to be in communion with God and each other. You may receive only the bread by placing your hands together flat in front of you (Gluten-free wafers are available upon request). Afterwards you may drink wine from the chalice. If you would rather have the bread intincted (dipped) in the wine, you may hand the bread to the person administering the chalice and they will intinct and hand it back to you. If you (or your child) would rather not receive the Sacrament, you may come to the altar rail during Communion and cross your arms on your chest for a blessing.

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

Almighty Father, whose Son Jesus Christ was born at this time to be the Savior of the world: mercifully grant that as he has bestowed upon us the gift of new birth, so he may preserve us in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 87 *Hymnal 1982*

MENDELSSOHN

Blessing and Dismissal

People **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary and Procession

This Week's Parish Notices

WELCOME

Welcome to Father Michael Allen, visiting Presider and Preacher at today's 10 am mass. Our regular services schedule (8 am, 10 am, 4 pm) will resume next Sunday.

STEWARDSHIP 2025

This year's theme is *Walk in Love*, taken from the Letter to the Ephesians: "Walk in love as Christ has loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God (Ephesians 5:2). Make your pledge online at <https://stpetersef.org/donate/pledge-form>. Contact a member of the Vestry or Father Nate to find out more about how you can *Walk in Love* at St. Peter's.

CHRISTMAS THANKS

- Thanks to the Altar Guild for their hard work throughout the season, and the beautiful decorations in the church and the chapel.
- Thanks to our Parish Choir and Handbell Choir for their beautiful music at Christmas—and special thanks to our section leaders Michael Barretti and Giulia Utz for their leadership.
- Thanks to Connor Leach and Vincent Korstein for sharing their musical gifts at the 4 pm Christmas service.
- Thanks to Laura Copeland, Dana Leach, Beth Manfre, and Mark Trautman for their leadership of the Nativity Pageant.
- Thanks to all Acolytes, Lectors, and Ushers for their leadership in all of our Christmas liturgies.
- Thanks to all who gave generously to Christmas Poinsettias and Christmas Music this season.

THE NEXT BAPTISMAL FEAST

The First Sunday after the Epiphany: the Baptism of Our Lord will be celebrated on January 12, 2025. This is one of the four principal Baptismal feasts in the Church Year. If you desire the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, please reach out to the Parish Office (info@stpeters.org).

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION—ALTAR GUILD WELCOMES YOU!

Looking for a way to serve St. Peter's that is do-able and rewarding and doesn't take a lot of time? How about considering Altar Guild? Altar Guild is a quiet ministry of the church, but this quiet ministry offers a big contribution. Consider this:

- Membership in Altar Guild offers flexibility in time commitment;
- Membership in Altar Guild can be done as a couple or even a family;
- Membership in Altar Guild is an avenue to introduce people to stewardship at St. Peter's;
- Membership in Altar Guild can be your introduction to church ministry.

For more information, contact Alice Samuels (inkyretired@aol.com) or Karen Mosher (looker-mosher@msn.com), or the Parish Office at info@stpetersef.org.

USHERS

Grow our St. Peter's community—join the ministry of ushers! This work is important as we are the first impression people have as they arrive at Church. Schedules are flexible and made a month in advance. Contact Wayne Copeland (waynecopeland@keyconsult.com).

CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME

The Parish Choir (Adults and older teens) rehearses Thursday evenings at 7:30 in the Choir Room. The Handbell Choir rehearses Wednesdays at 7 pm in the south transept. Choir is great fun, Christian formation, and a wonderful way to be a part of a great community. For more information, contact Mark Trautman (trautman@stpetersef.org). *Everyone is welcome!*

ST. PETER'S ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Parish will be Sunday, January 19, following the 10 am service. We will vote for six Vestry positions: one for warden, two for two-year terms; three for three-year terms; three delegates to Diocesan Convention; three alternates to Diocesan Convention. Candidates must be a baptized member of the Episcopal Church who has been a member of St. Peter's in good standing for at least one year, is at least 16 years old, makes a regular financial contribution to the parish, and worships regularly at St. Peter's. Childcare will be available during the meeting. Annual Reports are due January 13, 2025; please send to info@stpetersef.org.

CALENDARS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Thanks to the generosity of the Shook-Farmer Funeral Home, 2025 Episcopal Calendars are available. Please take one home—they are available in the narthex of the church and on the back table of All Saints' Chapel.

NEW FLOWER CHART IN THE NARTHEX

Beautiful flowers adorn our church weekly. Flowers may be given at any time in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, or any other occasion of thankfulness for God's creation. A check for \$50 may be made to St. Peter's—put 'altar flowers' in the memo. To reserve a date, use the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or email Alice Samuels (inkyretired@aol.com) or the Parish Office (info@stpetersef.org).

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carolyn Westcott, Eloise Monzillo Hiris, Diane Waitts
<i>Ushers</i>	Chris Shearin
<i>Acolytes</i>	
<i>Reader, Eucharistic Minister</i>	Mary Shearin
<i>Cantors</i>	Michael Barretti
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mark A. Trautman
<i>Presiding</i>	The Reverend Michael Allen

PRAYER LIST

Laurie Alcott, Stanley Au, Amye Becker, Duffy Bell, Grace Bishop, Nancy Bivona, Murriel Bowness, Kathy Calfe, Martha Capel, Adele Corcoran, Gabriel Cowell, Mark Cowell, Robin Delehanty, Wayne Hill, Bunny Jenkins, Tania Jenkins, Sheila & Norman Johnson, Eddie K., Jeffrey Kamel, Katherine Kamen, Ed Kamper, Colin Kelley, Katie King, Lauren L., Laurieann, Sally L., Mark Lewis, Marino Family, Tom Marriott, Mike, Nicholas Nunno, Lisa & Gary Pyne, Richardson & Dickhaus families, Craig Roper, Ruth Ann, Sarah, Jean Whiting Smith, Kathy Stanton, Marge Vere, Frank Zupa.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

In loving memory of

*Alvin Andersen, Sydney & Hugh Kennedy, Anskar & Esther Andersen by Eileen Andersen
George P. & Mary deC. Bartholomew, William Bartholomew, Stephen & Laura Bartholomew,
Betty Bartholomew by Ann Bartholomew Powers
Nick Bowness by Christine Albano
Clem & Susan Boyers by Sheila Valenti
Connor loved ones by Nancy Connor
Bunny Dockrell, Val Pettit by Margot Dockrell
Carolyn Faloni by Faloni, Capen, Adams Families
Pam Kamel by Michael Kamel
Looker-Mosher loved ones by Larry Looker & Karen Mosher
Michale Mazur, Agnes Hill, Lottie & Blythe, Anita & Walter Bach by Sue Mazur
Father John Negrotto by Sue Negrotto
John and Valerie Pettit by Larry Pettit
Nan & Bob Rame, Willard & Jacki Haight by Tom & Laurie Haight
Margaret & Raymond Morrison, Gary Samuels by Alice Samuels
Gerardina Piserchia by Pat Scaglione
Carolyn Faloni by Faloni, Capen, Adams Families
Joan Waitts by George & Diane Waitts
Lee Wescott, Earl Wescott, Carles & Priscilla Pierce*

In thanksgiving for

*St. Peter's Church by Joan Loiacano
Brittany & Gregory by Sue Mazur
The McLaughlin grandsons by Kathleen McLaughlin
The work of the Altar Guild by Eloise Monzillo Hiris
Family & friends by Carolyn Westcott*

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

In loving memory of

*George P. & Mary deC. Bartholomew, William Bartholomew, Stephen & Laura Bartholomew,
Betty Bartholomew by Ann Bartholomew Powers
Clem & Susan Boyers by Sheila Valenti
Gregory Counce, Oliver Counce, Ted Irwin, Jonathan Pope by Liz & Jim Irwin
Connor loved ones by Nancy Connor
Bunny Dockrell, Val Pettit by Margot Dockrell
Pam Kamel, Gloria Kelley by Diane Kazimir
Priscilla Hannen Kleinman by Mark Trautman and Ben. Sifuentes*

In thanksgiving

*Valerie Felix
For the McLaughlin grandsons by Kathleen McLaughlin
Joan Loiacano*

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

*In thanksgiving by Valerie Felix
In loving memory of Father John Negrotto by Sue Negrotto
In thanksgiving by the Wohltmann family*



THE VESTRY OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH
Mary Shearin and Wayne Copeland, *Wardens*
Valerie Felix, Jim Irwin, Christine Albano, Eloise Monzillo Hiris,
David Cowell, Kurt Vonderahe, *Vestry Members*

STAFF

The Rev. Nathaniel K.M. Darville, *Rector*
darville@stpetersef.org
Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music and Administrator*
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