

ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS
A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK
271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07021
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***The First Sunday after the Epiphany:
The Baptism of our Lord
January 12, 2025***

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 8 o'clock and 4 o'clock, All Saints' Chapel

The service begins in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), page 355

The Lessons may be found in the 10 o'clock portion of this worship bulletin (below)

Psalm 29 may be found on page 620 of the BCP

The Baptismal Covenant may be found in the 10 o'clock portion of this worship bulletin (below)

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B, may be found on page 367 of the BCP

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Holy Eucharist at 10 o'clock, Church

Epiphanytide Blessing: Chalking the Doors

All gather at the west doors of the church. As Epiphanytide begins, Christians throughout the world use chalk, which has been blessed, to write the letters "CMB" and the calendar year on their doorway in a traditional Epiphany celebration. The letters represent the traditional names of the Magi—Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar—and could also stand for the Latin blessing: 'Christus mansionem benedicat'—meaning 'May Christ bless this house.'

As the Procession begins, the Choir sings this Introit

*Choir I was glad when they said unto me,
 We will go into the house of the LORD.
 Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.
 Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity in itself.
 For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD,
 to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the LORD.
 For there is the seat of judgment, even the seat of the house of David.
 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee.
 Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.
 For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will wish thee prosperity.
 Yea, because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do thee good.
 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.*

Entrance Hymn

SWEET SPIRIT
Doris Akers, 1962



1. There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, _____ And I
 bless - ings you can - not re - ceive _____ Till you
 say He saved you from your sin, _____ Now you're



1. know that it's the Spir - it of _ the Lord. _____ There are
 2. know Him in His full - ness, and _ be - lieve. _____ You're the
 3. weak, you're bound, and can - not en - ter in, _____ you can



1. sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, _____ And I
 2. one to pro - fit when you say, _____ "I am
 3. make it right if you will yield; _____ You'll en -



1. know they feel the pres - ence of _ the Lord. _____
 2. going to walk with Je - sus all _ the way." _____
 3. joy the Ho - ly Spir - it that we feel. _____

Sweet Ho-ly Spir-it, Sweet Heav-en-ly Dove,
 Stay right here with us, fill-ing us with your love.
 And for these bless-ings we lift our hearts in
 praise; With-out a doubt we'll know that we have
 been re-vived when we shall leave this place. 1. 2. There are 3. If you place.

THE WORD OF GOD

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Gloria

Hymnal 1982, S 277

Collect of the Day

BCP, page 214

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and

honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103 *Benedic, anima mea*

Taizé

Please remain seated and sing

Cantor *It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. Refrain*

Cantor *The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. Refrain*

Cantor *As a father has compassion on his children,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him;
for he knows of what we are made,
he remembers that we are but dust. Refrain*

Second Reading

Acts 8:4-17

[Now] when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for

them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 711 *Hymnal 1982*

SEEK YE FIRST

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:15-17

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ...Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rector

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Dear People of God: We who are followers of Christ have been received through our baptism into his Body, the communion of saints. As we remember Jesus' baptism, I call upon you now to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People 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.

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Presider May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People Amen.

Prayers of the People

The response is **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Confession of Sin and the Peace

BCP page 360

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Anthem

Calvin Hampton

*Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature
You are of God and earth the Son;
You will I cherish
You will I honor,
You, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

*Fair are the meadows,
Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

*Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling garb of spring:
Jesus shines brighter
Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels heaven can boast.*

— *Münster Gesangbuch, 1677; tr. comp.*

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.

Hymn 325 *Hymnal 1982*

SPIRITUAL

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

Hear, O merciful Lord, the humble prayers of those whom you have nourished with the bread of life: and grant that by listening in faith to your only-begotten Son we may be made worthy to be called your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 135 *Hymnal 1982*

SALZBURG

Blessing and Dismissal
People **Thanks be to God.**
Organ Voluntary and Procession

This Week's Parish Notices

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.

GIFTS AT THE ALTAR

The flowers are given loving memory of Linda Carr and in celebration of Helen Yee's 98th birthday.

CARE & CONNECT

We meet in the chancel today. If you can't join us and wish to add an intention, reach out to Dana Leach (201-694-6543, leach@stpetersef.org)

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. *Childcare will be available during the meeting.* Annual Reports are due tomorrow; please send to info@stpetersef.org.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Altar Guild: Karen Mosher, Candace Carr, Annetta Benedict; *Family Eucharist Youth Ministers:* Claire Grothues & Katerina Manfre, *Readers;* Charlotte Albano & Eva Convery, *Ushers;* Nicholas Rose, *Oblationer;* Colin Carr, *Acolyte;* Michael Barretti, *Cantor;* Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music;*
The Reverend Nathaniel Darville, Presiding

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.

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,* trautman@stpetersef.org
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