

**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 Second Sunday of Easter*  
*April 6, 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 sung responses as you are able.

## **Holy Eucharist at 10 o'clock, Church**

Voluntary *Christ lag in Todesbanden*  
Hymn 209 *Hymnal 1982*

*Georg Böhm*  
ST. BOTOLPH

*Reader* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*Pascha Nostrum*

*Oxford Chant*



- 1 Alleluia | alle- | luia;  
Alleluia | alle- | **lu-** | ia.
- 2 Christ our Passover has been | sacri- • ficed for | us,  
therefore | let us | keep the | feast,
- 3 Not with the old leaven,  
the leaven of | malice • and | evil,  
but with the unleavened | bread of • sin- | cerity • and | truth.
- 4 Alleluia | alle- | luia;  
Alleluia | alle- | **lu-** | ia.
- 5 Christ being raised from the dead will | never • die a- | gain;  
death no | longer • has do- | minion | over him.

- 6 The death he died • he died to sin | once for | all;  
but the life he | lives he | lives to | God.
- 7 So consider yourselves | dead to | sin,  
and alive to God in | Jesus | Christ our | Lord.
- 8 Alleluia | alle- | luia;  
Alleluia | alle- | **lu**- | ia.
- 9 Christ has been | raised • from the | dead,  
the first fruits of | those who • have | fallen • a- | sleep.
- 10 For since by a | man came | death,  
by a man has come also the resur- | rection | of the | dead.
- 11 For as in | Adam • all | die,  
even so in Christ shall | all be | made a- | live.
- 12 Alleluia | alle- | luia;  
Alleluia | alle- | **lu**- | ia.

### Collect of the Day

*BCP, page 224*

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever  
**Amen.**

### THE LESSONS

#### First Reading

*Acts 5:27-32*

When [the temple police] had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 150     *Laudate Dominum*

*George S. Talbot*

*Choir     Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; \*  
              praise him in the firmament of his power.  
              Praise him for his mighty acts; \*  
              praise him for his excellent greatness.  
              Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; \*  
              praise him with lyre and harp.  
              Praise him with timbrel and dance; \*  
              praise him with strings and pipe.  
              Praise him with resounding cymbals; \*  
              praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.  
              Let everything that has breath \*  
              praise the LORD. Hallelujah!*

Second Reading

*Revelation 1:4-8*

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

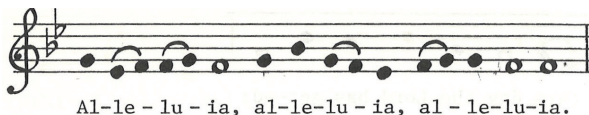
*Reader     The Word of the Lord.*

*People     **Thanks be to God.***

*Please stand for the Gospel Procession*

Gradual Alleluia

*Tone VIII*



*Cantor     You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.*

Gospel Reading

*John 20:19-31*

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name

*Deacon*     The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

*Father Michael Allen*

Nicene Creed

*BCP, page 358*

Prayers of the People

*Leader*     Awake...and arise from death.

*People*     **And Christ will give you life!**

*At the conclusion, the Presider says*

*Presider*     Awake, O Sleeper, rise from death, for Christ has burst forth from the tomb, making all things new. Rise, and live, says the Lord. This day God has made for life and all joy! Amen, alleluia!

*People*     **Alleluia, amen!**

The Peace

*BCP, page 360*

## Welcome and Announcements

*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.*



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### Offertory Anthem

*J.S. Bach*

<i>Den Tod niemand zwingen kunnt</i>	<i>[No one could defeat death</i>
<i>Bei allen Menschenkindern,</i>	<i>among all humanity,</i>
<i>Das macht' alles unsre Sünd,</i>	<i>this was all because of our sins,</i>
<i>Kein Unschuld war zu finden.</i>	<i>no innocence was to be found.</i>
<i>Davon kam der Tod so bald</i>	<i>Therefore death came so soon</i>
<i>Und nahm über uns Gewalt,</i>	<i>and took power over us,</i>
<i>Hielt uns in seinem Reich gefangen.</i>	<i>held us captive in his kingdom.</i>
<i>Halleluja!</i>	<i>Hallelujah!]</i>

—Martin Luther, based on 'Victimae Paschali Laudes'

### The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

*BCP, page 367*

<i>Presider</i>	<i>People</i>
<i>Presider</i>	<i>People</i>
<i>Presider</i>	
<i>People</i>	

### Sanctus

*Hymnal 1982, S 128*


### Memorial Acclamation


### Great Amen

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## Lord's Prayer

*Hymnal 1982, S 148*




Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,  
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.  
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.  
 For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.  
 Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.  
 For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,  
 now and for ev - er. A - men.

## Breaking the Bread

*Hymnal 1982, S 167*

*Cantor; then All*



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

*Cantor The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. Refrain*

*Cantor One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. Refrain*

## 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 712 *Hymnal 1982*

DONA NOBIS PACEM

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

**Grant, we pray, almighty God, that in our hearts and minds we may devoutly revere this Paschal sacrament which we have received; and that it may bring**

**forth in us the fruits of godly living; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please remain standing and sing*

Hymn 193 Hymnal 1982

PUER NOBIS

Blessing and Dismissal

*At the Dismissal, all respond*



*Please remain in your pew until the Procession has left the nave*

### ***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.

#### EASTER 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 throughout Holy Week and Easter—and special thanks to our section leaders Meghan Tannella, Giulia Utz, Michael Barretti and Kevin Johnson for their leadership. The Parish Choir sang for 8 services from Palm Sunday to Easter Day.
- Thanks to Sunday School children for singing so beautifully at the 9 am mass on Easter, and to their parents for all their support.
- Thanks to all Acolytes, Lectors, and Ushers for their leadership in all of our Holy Week and Easter liturgies.
- Thanks to all who gave generously to Easter lillies and Easter Music this season.

#### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The children will remain in church today, and Sunday School classes will resume on May 4. The Adult Forum will resume today at 9 am.

#### 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](mailto:trautman@stpetersef.org)). *Everyone is welcome!*

#### CARE & CONNECT

*Prayer Circle:* Join us *today* as we gather to focus our prayers of healing and thanksgiving for ourselves and others, both aloud and quietly in our hearts and minds. We meet in the All Saints' Chapel on the second and fourth Sundays of each month following the 10 am service. There is plenty of time following our Prayer Circle to enjoy the special fellowship of coffee hour.

*Wednesdays Away:* Mark your calendars for the next two retreats at Cross Roads: May 7 is *Music and Meditation* and June 4 is *Move Like the Wind*. They both sound great and I've already registered! *Wednesdays Away* is from 9:30 am-3 pm, cost is \$50, and it is open to all. A lovely lunch is served. Cross Roads is in Port Murray, about 45 minutes away. For more information and/or to register you can visit their website ([www.crossroadsretreat.com/wednesdaysaway](http://www.crossroadsretreat.com/wednesdaysaway)) or reach out to me. Dana Leach, [leach@stpetersef.org](mailto:leach@stpetersef.org), c 201-694-6543.

#### FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Margaret and Raymond Morrison.

#### COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Help make St. Peter's a welcoming place by signing up to be a Coffee Hour host! This is an important time for us to connect with one another and meet our guests and visitors. Please either sign up on the sheet posted in the upper room or contact Mary Shearin ([shearchaos38@gmail.com](mailto:shearchaos38@gmail.com), 973-590-1678) to let us know the date you prefer.

#### MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Annetta Benedict, Nancy Connor, Diane Waitts
<i>Ushers</i>	Jim Irwin, Maggie Wohltmann
<i>Acolytes</i>	Chris Alliota
<i>Readers</i>	Connor Mulcahy, Valerie Felix
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Pat Alliota
<i>Cantors</i>	Kevin Johnson, Meghan Tannella, Giulia Utz, Michael Barrett
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mark Trautman
<i>Presiding</i>	The Reverend Michael Allen

#### THE VESTRY OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Jim Irwin and Mary Shearin, *Wardens*; Christine Albano, David Cowell, Barbara Gargiulo, Erika Grothues, Sarah Latson, Kurt Vonderahe, *Vestry Members*

#### THE STAFF OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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