

ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS
A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK
271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07021
973.226.6500 • stpetersef.org



***The Seventh Sunday of Easter:
The Sunday after the Ascension
June 1, 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, open to new ideas, and 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. 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 canticle Pascha Nostrum may be found on page 83 of the BCP

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

Psalm 97 may be found on page 726 of the BCP

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



Holy Eucharist at 10 o'clock, Church

Prelude

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Ach, bleibe doch, mein liebstes Leben,
Ach, fliehe nicht so bald von mir!
Dein Abschied und dein frühes Scheiden
Bringt mir das allergrößte Leiden,
Ach ja, so bleibe doch noch hier;
Sonst werd ich ganz von Schmerz umgeben.*

*[Ah, just stay, my dearest Life,
ah, don't flee so soon from me!
Your farewell and Your early departure
brings me the greatest of all sorrows,
ah, truly, just stay awhile here;
otherwise I will be completely undone with grief.]*

—Ascension Oratorio, BWV 11

Please stand and sing the following hymn at the Procession

Entrance Hymn

WEISSE FLAGEN

Text: Somerset T.C. Lowry, 1893, alt.; Tune: Cologne, 1741

1 Born of God, E - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life, of truth and grace,
 2 Christ, as you have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live;
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, grant - ing love and joy and peace;
 4 See the Christ-like host ad - vanc-ing, high and low-ly, great and small,
 Hu - man One, whose birth in - car - nate hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant-ed, free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Linked in bonds of com - mon ser - vice, an - swer - ing the Sav - ior's call.
 Come a - gain, in all your glo - ry; come to us, in - spire and lead;
 All the wealth that we may gath - er is for use in caus - es just.
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 Je - sus Christ, we hear your plead - ing that your peo - ple should be one.
 Fill us with your lov - ing-kind-ness; heal our wrongs, and help our need.
 We are stew - ards of the boun - ty loaned to us in sol - emn trust.
 Quench our fe - vered thirst for plea - sure, shame our self - ish greed for gain.
 Grant, O grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth, your will be done.

Presider
People

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
 The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.



- 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 225

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not

leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

THE LESSONS

First Reading

Acts 16:16-34

[With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi of Macedonia, a Roman colony, and] as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.” She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 47 *Omnes gentes, plaudite*

chant: Richard L. Falk, Jr

Choir *O clap your hands together, all ye people; **
 O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
*For the LORD is high, and to be feared; **
 he is the great King upon all the earth.
*He shall subdue the people under us, **
 and the nations under our feet.
*He shall choose out an heritage for us, **
 even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
*God is gone up with a merry noise, **
 and the LORD with the sound of the trumpet.
*O sing praises, sing praises unto our God; **
 O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
*For God is the King of all the earth; **
 sing ye praises with understanding.
*God reigneth over the heathen; **
 God sitteth upon his holy seat.
*The princes of the people are joined **
 unto the people of the God of Abraham;
*For God, which is very high exalted, **
 doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

Second Reading

Revelation 22:12-14; 16-17, 20-21

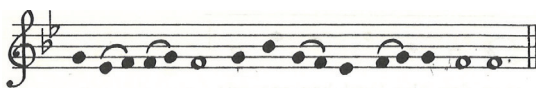
“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.... It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let everyone who hears say, “Come.” And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. ...The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the Gospel Procession
Gradual Alleluia

Tone VIII



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

*Cantor The Lord said, I will not leave you desolate; *
I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice.*

Gospel Reading

John 14:23-29

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

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

[Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said,] “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rector

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

William Grant Still

*All that I am, all I ever can be
I owe to You, Lord, for You have molded me.
All that I have, all that I call mine
I owe to You, Lord, for all things are Thine.
You are the source of light: Light that's offered all men.
In Your wisdom You give to each his due.
You are the source of love: Love that binds in brotherhood.
In Your love and mercy I find lasting peace.
All that I love, all that's dear to me,
All of my blessings, come, my Lord, from Thee.
All that I own, all that belongs to me,
All I surrender, my Lord, to Thee.*

—Verna Arvey (1910-1987)

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

BCP, page 367

Presider *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Presider *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Hymnal 1982, S 128

Memorial Acclamation

We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -

rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

Great Amen



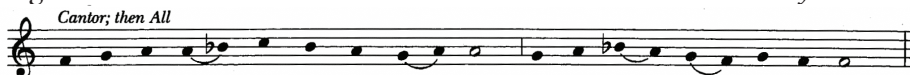
Lord's Prayer

Hymnal 1982, S 148



Breaking the Bread

Hymnal 1982, S 167



Cantor; then All

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 intinct (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.

The Bread and Cup are given with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Motet

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, [As the deer longs for the water-brooks,
Ita desiderat anima me ad te, Deus. So longs my soul for you, O God.]*

—Psalm 42:1

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

Hear us, O God of our salvation, and through the celebration of these holy mysteries strengthen us in faith: that even as we confess that you have exalted your Son Jesus Christ to your right hand, so we may with sure confidence await the glorification of the whole Church, his mystical body; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please remain standing and sing

Hymn 460 *Hymnal* 1982

HYFRYDOL

Blessing and Dismissal

At the Dismissal, all respond

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NOTICES

ASCENSIONTIDE

Throughout the scriptures, the number forty designates a period of testing and trial. In the Old Testament, examples include the children of Israel being tested in the wilderness for forty years, and Noah's faith put to the test of forty days and nights of rain. In the New Testament, Jesus' fasting of forty days before he began his public ministry is the basis for our observance of Lent each year. In the church calendar, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) is forty days after Christmas, and the Ascension of Our Lord is the fortieth day after Easter.

In Acts 1:3, we are told of another time of testing, that Jesus "presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during the forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God" before miraculously ascending into the heavens in the sight of the apostles. The shock of Jesus' disappearance caused the disciples to enter into a period of intense prayer with members of Jesus' family. As Jesus withdrew his visible presence from that particular place and time so that he could be invisibly present with his followers everywhere and all times, the apostles began the business of forming the church. After the Ascension the eleven chose Matthias as the twelfth apostle, and prepared for the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

The Day of Pentecost is next Sunday, June 8, 2025. Pentecost is celebrated on the fiftieth day after Easter. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles in "tongues of fire" and marks the foundation of the Christian church. It is one of the four principal Baptismal feasts in the Church Year. It is also our last Family Eucharist for the academic year. *Be sure and wear red in commemoration of the coming of the Holy Spirit!*

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>.

STREET FAIR

Our beloved Street Fair is Friday, June 6 from 4-10 pm. Please join us in welcoming our community for this fun-filled event. There's plenty of opportunities for everyone to help with this exciting ministry, first held at St. Peter's in the early 1930s. We are looking for donations of gently used stuffed animals and old china. Contact Mary Shearin (shearchaos38@gmail.com, 973-590-1678).

PENTECOST PRIDE MASS & RECEPTION

On Pentecost Sunday, June 8, at 6 pm, the Episcopal Diocese of Newark LGBTQ+ Action Group / Taskforce invites members of the LGBTQ+ Community and allies throughout the diocese to a special service of Holy Eucharist with reception and fellowship to follow. This year the service and reception will be held at Grace Church, 200 Highfield Lane, Nutley. Find out more at <https://oaisisNewark.org>.

CARE & CONNECT

Prayer Circle: Join us *June 8 and 22* 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. Feel free to reach out to me if you'd like to add an intention.

Wednesdays Away is 9 am-3 pm, cost is \$50, and it is open to all, and a lovely lunch is served. *June 4* is *Move Like the Wind*: "At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is said to have come as a great wind, reminiscent of Jesus' description of the Spirit in us (John 3:8). Wind carries things away. Wind fans flames, fills sails, brings rain, makes waves, and carries seeds and pollen through the air to germinate new life. How is the Holy Spirit moving like a wind in you?" This session will be led by Laurie Matarazzo who grew up at St. Peter's and whose father was the Reverend Norman Rice, associate rector under the Reverend Harold Onderdonk in the 1960s. Find out more at www.crossroadsretreat.com/wednesdays-away or reach out to me.—*Dana Leach*, leach@stpetersef.org, 201-694-6543

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration is now open for VBS! Our 2025 theme is *Road Trip: On The Go With God*. Our fun-filled camp will be held August 4-8 from 9 am-noon. It is designed for children in Pre-K (at least age 3 and fully potty-trained) through 5th grade. Anyone entering 6th grade or older can serve as a volunteer. The cost is \$75 per camper until June 30 (\$15 late fee after that); there is no fee for volunteers. Need-based scholarships are available upon request. Register at <https://stpetersessefells.mycokesburyvbs.com>—*Sarah, Jack, & Luke Latson* (spefvbs@gmail.com)

FLOWER MINISTRY

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). *Next Sunday, the Day of Pentecost, is open!*

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 for worship. The commitment is not more than once per month and schedules are worked around your availability. Contact Wayne Copeland (waynecopeland@keyconsult.com).

CONGRATULATIONS, CONFIRMANDS

Congratulations to Colin Carr, Matthew Grothues, and Koen Vonderahe who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Church of the Saviour, Denville yesterday morning.

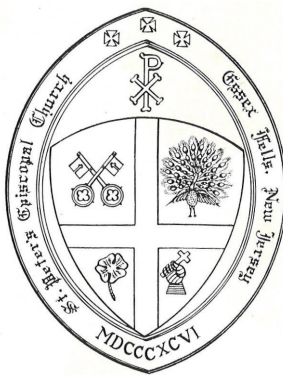
PRAYER LIST

You are always welcome to add intercessions to the weekly Prayers of the People. Please let the Parish Office (info@stpetersef.com) know if a name should be retained or removed from this list. We will not remove any names unless we hear from you. Also, let the Parish Office know birthdays and anniversaries, as we will include them in the Prayers of the People. We also include the names of loved ones in whose memory the flowers are given. Thank you!

Laurie Alcott, Stanley Au, Amye Becker, Duff Bell, Grace Bishop, Nancy Bivona, Kris Blake, Carl, Murriel Bowness, Kathy Calfee, Martha Capel, Adele Corcoran, Gabriel Cowell, Wayne Hill, Tania Jenkins, Sheila Johnson, Eddie K., Jeffrey Kamel, Katherine Kamen, Ed Kamper, Colin Kelley, Katie King, Julie Lanning, Lauren L., Laurieann, Sally L., Mark Lewis, Ben M., Marino Family, Tom Marriott, Nunno Family, Lisa & Gary Pyne, Richardson & Dickhaus families, Craig Roper, Ruth Ann, Sarah, Jean Whiting Smith, Kathy Stanton, Frank Zupa.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Annetta Benedict, Carolyn Wescott, Sheila Valenti
<i>Ushers</i>	Wayne Copeland, Chris Recio
<i>Acolytes</i>	Kayla Felix, Alexis Felix
<i>Readers</i>	Christine DiGiovanni, Valerie Felix
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Christine DiGiovanni
<i>Cantors</i>	Michael Barretti, Kevin Johnson, Giulia Utz
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mark A. Trautman
<i>Presiding</i>	The Reverend Nathaniel Darville



ST PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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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
The Rev. Nathaniel K.M. Darville, *Rector*
darville@stpetersef.org
Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music and Administrator*
trautman@stpetersef.org
Dana Leach, *Care and Connect*
leach@stpetersef.org
DJ Elmore, *Bookkeeper*
bookkeeper.stpeters@gmail.com

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