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 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 2026

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. Help us make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.

Holy Eucharist at 10 o'clock, Church

Voluntary *Adoration* *Florence Beatrice Price*

Entrance Hymn 594 *Hymnal 1982* CWM RHONDDA

The Word of God

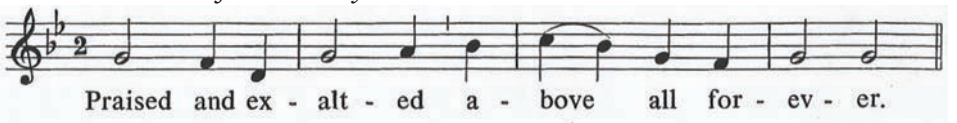
Opening Acclamation

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

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

Song of Praise, *Benedictus es, Domine* *Richard Proulx*

Cantor *Lord God of Creation, you are blest and adored.*



For the glory of your holy name, you are blest and adored.

ALL **Praised and exalted above all for ever.**

For the splendor of your temple, you are blest and adored.

ALL **Praised and exalted above all for ever.**

Throned upon the Cherubim, plumbing the depths, you are blest and adored.

ALL **Praised and exalted above all for ever.**

In the high vault of heaven, you are blest and adored.

ALL **Praised and exalted above all for ever.**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are blest and adored.

ALL **Praised and exalted above all for ever.**

Collect of the Day *Proper 7, BCP, page 230*

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your lovingkindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

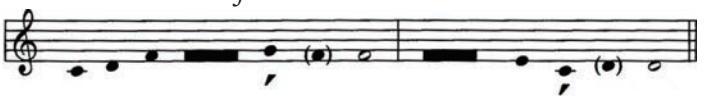
First Reading *Jeremiah 20:7-13*

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 69 *Salvum me fac* *Tone II*



Cantor Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach, *

ALL and shame has cov / ered ***my*** face.

9 I have become a stranger to my own ***kin***dred, *
and an alien to my / mo***ther's*** children.

10 Zeal for your house has eaten me ***up***; *
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen / u***pon*** me.

11 I humbled myself with ***fast***ing, *
but that was turned to / my ***re***proach.
17 Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,
neither let the deep swallow me ***up***; *
do not let the Pit shut its mouth / u***pon*** me.
18 Answer me, O Lord, for your love is ***kind***; *
in your great compassion, / turn ***to*** me."
19 "Hide not your face from your ***ser***vant; *
be swift and answer me, for I am / in ***dis***tress.
20 Draw near to me and re***deem*** me; *
because of my enemies / de***liver*** me."

Second Reading *Romans 6:1b-11*

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

Please stand for the Gospel procession and sing

Hymn 660 *Hymnal 1982* MARYTON

Gospel Reading *Matthew 10:24-39*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples,"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will

they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

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 Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Confession of Sin and the Peace *BCP, page 360*

The Holy Communion

Offertory

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 (right). Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.

Anthem *Spiritual, arr. Steve Milloy*

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again.

If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
and say, "He died for all!"

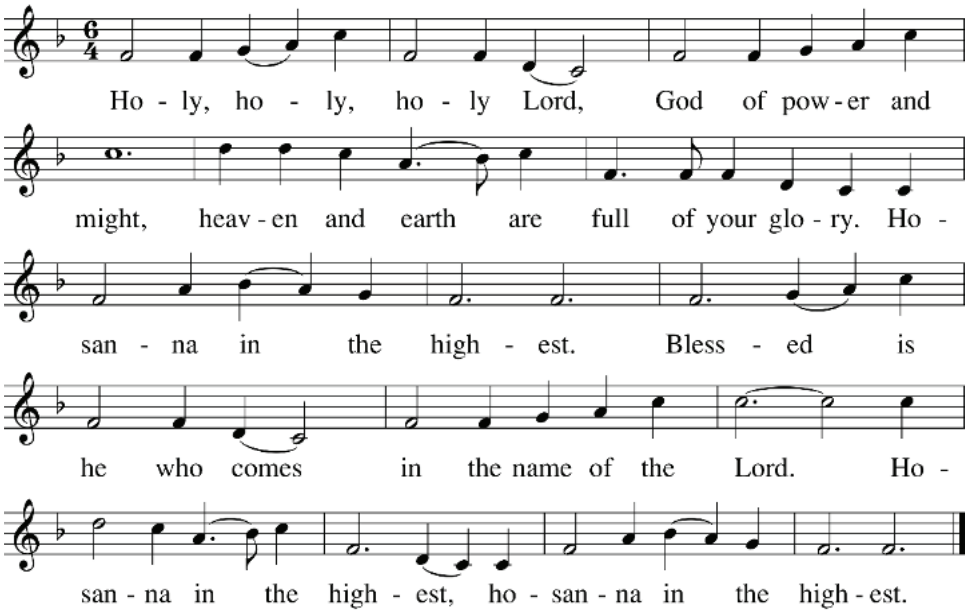
Don't ever feel discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,
And if you lack for knowledge
he'll ne'er refuse to lend.

—African-American Spiritual

Hymn 380 *(stanza 3) Hymnal 1982* OLD HUNDREDTH

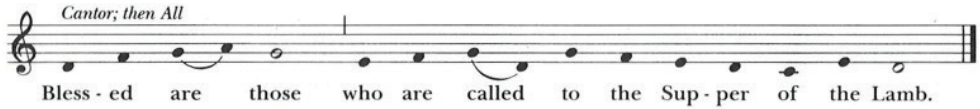
The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A *BCP, page 361*

Sanctus LAND OF REST



Lord's Prayer *BCP, page 364*

Breaking the Bread *Hymnal 1982, S 170*



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.

Anthem *Charles H. Gabriel, arr. H.Boyer*

Why should I feel discouraged?
Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely
And long for heav'n and home,
When Jesus is my portion?
My constant Friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;

"Let not your heart be troubled."
His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness,
I lose my doubt and fear.
Though by the path He leadeth,
But one step I may see:
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;

Whenever I am tempted,
Whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing,
When hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him;
From care He sets me free:
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy—
I sing because I'm free—
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.

—Civilla D. Martin

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

Hear, O merciful Lord, the prayers of those whom you have fed with the precious Body and Blood of your Son: and grant that these holy mysteries, which we celebrate with faith and devotion, may be to us a sure pledge of eternal redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

At the Dismissal, all respond

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain standing and sing

Hymn 539 *Hymnal 1982* TIDINGS

Please remain in your pew until the Postlude

Voluntary

This Week's Parish Notices

Coffee Hour—*A special time for fellowship!*

Every Sunday after the 10 am service, we gather in Upper Room to meet and greet fellow parishioners. All are welcome to attend Coffee Hour. This ministry depends on volunteers to provide light refreshments and to help with set up. Please consider being a part of this fellowship by signing up for a Sunday to host! As the host, you will provide sweet and savory goodies (store bought or homemade, whatever is most convenient for you). There are serving platters, paper goods and utensils available for use in the kitchen. Directions on setting up are provided. Use the *QR* code here, or contact Barbara Gargiulo at barbara.gargiulo9@gmail.com. *Thanks to today's host, Valerie Felix.*

A Celebration of Ministry Next Sunday

Join us next Sunday as we bid a fond farewell to Father Nate and his family and Deacon Ginny. We will celebrate their ministry among us and wish them well as they move to their next ministries. If you can assist with this special celebration, contact Barbara Gargiulo at barbara.gargiulo9@gmail.com.

Music this Sunday

In recognition of the *Juneteenth* observance, the Parish Choir will sing an arrangement of the African American Spiritual *There is a balm in Gilead*, a text answering the question asked in Jeremiah 8:22, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" No earthly cure can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul." The Communion offering is *His Eye is on the Sparrow*, based on Mathew 10:29-30. Its tune was composed by one of the most popular gospel song writers of the early 1900s. The opening voluntary is *Adoration* by Florence Beatrice Price, the first African American female composer to gain national status.

Vacation Bible School 2026

Save the date: We are excited to announce that registration for VBS 2026 is now open! The dates this year are August 3-7. You can register using the QR code here. Children in Pre-K (at least age 3 and fully potty-trained) through 5th grade are welcome to join us as campers and anyone entering 6th grade or older can serve as a volunteer. If you register your camper before June 30, the cost is $75. After that date, the price goes up to $90 per camper. Please register as soon as possible, since space is limited. Registration will close on July 20. Please note: There is no cost for volunteers. Contact Sarah, Jack, and Luke Latson: spefvbs@gmail.com.

Ministers of the Liturgy

Altar Guild	Alice Samuels, Diane Waitts, Carolyn Wescott
Usher	Chris Shearin
Acolyte	Colin Carr
Readers	Nancy Connor, Christine DiGiovanni
Eucharistic Minister	Eloise Monzillo Hiris
Cantors	Taryn Spoto, Kevin Johnson
Director of Music	Mark Trautman
Deacon	The Reverend Virginia Jenkins Whatley
Presiding	The Reverend Nathaniel Darville

Prayer List

Laurie Alcott, Joan Aliotta, Stanley Au, Amye Becker, Nancy Bivona, Kris Blake, Carl, Muriel Bowness, Kathy Calfee, Martha Capel, Adele Corcoran, Gabriel Cowell, Tony DiFazio, Mark Gerardi, Arnie Hartelius, Wayne Hill, Tania Jenkins, Eddie K., Jeffrey Kamel, Katherine Kamen, Robert Kazimir, Ed Kamper, Colin Kelley, Katie King, Neal King, Lauren L., Laurieann, Sally L., Mark Lewis, Marino Family, Tom Marriott, Bill Musser, Nunno Family, Lisa & Gary Pyne, Brenda Restivo, Richardson & Dickhaus families, Craig Roper, Ruth Ann, Sarah, Kathy Stanton, Frank Zupa.

Anglican Communion—*The Church of South India*

Diocese of Newark— *All Saints', Millington*

Birthdays/Anniversaries— *Kayla Felix, Katherine Aliotta, Michael Barretti, Julia Di Giovanni, Kathleen McLaughlin, George Waitts; Richard & Nancy Connor, Timothy & Stephanie Cutting*

St Peter's Episcopal Church

WORSHIP • WONDER • WORK • ALL IN LOVE

The Vestry

Jim Irwin and Barbara Gariulo, *Wardens*;
Christine Albano, Erika Grothues, Sarah Latson, Karen Mosher, *Vestry Members*

The Staff

The Rev. Nathaniel K.M. Darville, *Rector (darville@stpetersef.org)*
The Rev. Virginia Jenkins Whatley, *Deacon (whatley@stpetersef.org)*
Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music and Administrator (trautman@stpetersef.org)*
Lindsay Thompson, *Director of Sunday School (thompson@stpetersef.org)*
Chris Shearin, *Sexton (shearin@stpetersef.org)*
DJ Elmore, *Bookkeeper (bookkeeper.stpeters@gmail.com)*

All music used by permission for broadcast and reprint, OneLicense.net, 742829-A