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 after Pentecost
July 12, 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 *Prelude, 'O Gott, du frommer Gott'* *Johannes Brahms*

Entrance Hymn 512 *Hymnal 1982* MENDON

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.**

Gloria *Hymnal 1982, S-280*

Collect of the Day *Proper 10, BCP, page 231*

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

First Reading *Isaiah 55:10-13*

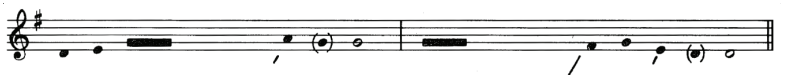
For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and

succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65 *Te decet hymnus* *Tone VIII*



Cantor You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
ALL the river of God is / full of ***wa***ter.

10 You prepare the ***grain***, *
for so you pro / vide for ***the*** earth.

11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ***rid***ges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground
and / bless its ***in***crease.

12 You crown the year with your ***good***ness, *
and your paths over/ flow with ***plen***ty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for ***gra***zing, *
and the / hills be ***clothed*** with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with ***grain***; *
let them / shout for ***joy*** and sing.

Second Reading *Romans 8:1-11*

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

Please stand for the Gospel procession and sing

Hymn 589 *Hymnal 1982* WALDEN

Gospel Reading *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!...Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon *Canon Wright*

Nicene Creed *BCP, page 358*

Prayers of the People *from 'Enriching the Christian Year'*

Leader Lord of life,
People **In your mercy, hear us.**

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

Welcome and Announcements

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 *Felix Mendelssohn*

O God, have mercy upon me, and blot out my transgressions,
according to Thy loving kindness;
yea, even for Thy mercy's sake, deny me not.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Spirit from me, O Lord.
Lord, a broken and a contrite heart is offered before Thee.
I will speak of Thy salvation,
I will teach transgressors,
and all the sinners shall be converted unto Thee.
Then open Thou my lips, Lord,
and my mouth shall show forth Thy glorious praise.
—from Psalm 51

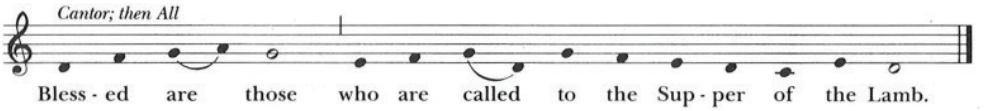
Hymn 380 *(stanza 3) Hymnal 1982* OLD HUNDREDTH

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

Sanctus *Hymnal 1982, S-129*

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 *César Franck*

Panis angelicus, fit panis hominum,
Dat panis cœlicus figuris terminum
O res mirabilis manducat Dominum,
Pauper, servus, et humilis.

[The bread of angels becomes the bread of humankind,
Heavenly bread gives an end to earthly forms.
O what a marvelous thing; all partake of the Lord—
The poor, the servant, and the humble.]

—St. Thomas Aquinas

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

At the Dismissal, all respond

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain standing and sing

Hymn 302 *Hymnal 1982* RENDEZ À DIEU

Please remain in your pew until the Postlude

This Week's Parish Notices

Stewardship and the Summer

Our annual stewardship drive, *Gifts from Our Souls*, continues. While you're on vacation this summer, please remember to keep your pledge up to date. Pledges can be made online using the QR code on page 4 of this leaflet. Contact a member of the Vestry to find out more about how you can support the many ministries of St. Peter's. ***Thank you for all you do to keep our Beloved Community strong!***

Welcome, Canon Wright

We welcome the Rev. Canon Andrew Wright as our guest Preacher and Presider today. Canon Wright joined the diocesan staff in July 2019 to support Bishop Carlye Hughes. In his capacity as Canon to the Ordinary and Chief of Staff, he frequently ministers to Diocesan congregations, leads retreats, and offers transitional support.

Coming Up in July

The next two Sundays—July 19 and 26—will be 8 am in the Chapel and 10 am in the Nave, with the Rev. Anne Thatcher, Preacher and Presider. The Parish Office will be closed from 16 through July 31. There will be one service only at 10 am on August 2.

Our Interim Rector

The Rev. Dr. Timothy Mulder will serve as Interim Rector of St. Peter's, Essex Fells as of August 1. Please be in touch with our wardens, Jim Irwin (jwirwin62@yahoo.com) and Barbara Gargiulo (barbara.gargiulo9@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns.

Pastoral Care

For pastoral emergencies in July, please contact Jim Irwin, Barbara Gargiulo, or Mark Trautman. They will reach out to the appointed clergy for you.

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! During the summer, we'll have cold lemonade and cookies, etc. 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.

Vacation Bible School 2026

We are getting excited for VBS 2026, which will take place August 3-7! Our theme is "Snowball Mountain Challenge: Find Your Strength in God." Throughout the week, we will reflect on this Bible verse: "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Children in Pre-K (at least age 3 and fully potty-trained) through 5th grade are welcome to join us as campers. The cost is $90 per camper. Need-based scholarships are available upon request. Spaces are filling up fast, so be sure to register soon; use the QR code here. ***We are also looking for volunteers!*** Anyone entering 6th grade or

older can help; register using the link above. One last request: We are collecting paper towel-sized cardboard rolls for crafts. If you have any to contribute, please email spefvbs@gmail.com. *Thank you! Sarah, Jack, and Luke Latson*

SPY Mission Trip

The St. Peter's Youth (SPY) will be gone for the annual Mission Trip, July 16-21, this year to Boston, Massachusetts. Please pray for our youth.

Monthly Prayer Vigil Outside Delaney Hall

On the fourth Sunday of each month at 3 pm, the Episcopal Diocese of Newark will hold a brief prayer vigil outside the Delaney Hall ICE detention facility, 451 Doremus Avenue in Newark. The next prayer vigil will be 3 pm, Sunday, July 26. Visit https://dioceseofnewark.org/event/prayer-vigil-at-delaney-hall for details, guidelines for attendees, and flyers to share.

Ministers of the Liturgy

Altar Guild	Candace Carr, Nancy Connor, Sheila Valenti
Usher	Jim Irwin
Crucifer	Chris Aliotta
Acolyte	Joseph Wohltmann
Readers	Matthew Grothues, Garrison Block
Eucharistic Minister	Pat Aliotta
Cantor	Kevin Johnson
Director of Music	Mark Trautman
Presiding	The Rev. Canon Andrew Wright

Prayer List

St. Peter's is a community of prayer and service. Holding one another's joys, sorrows, and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice at the heart of our life together as a parish family. We encourage you to pray throughout the week for these members of our parish family. We invite you to add yourself or others to the St. Peter's prayer list by submitting a request to the Parish Office.

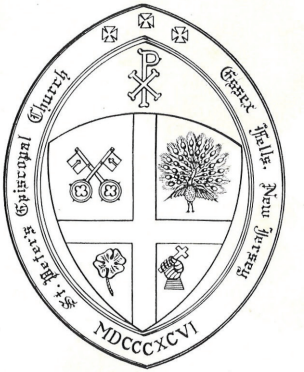
Laurie Alcott, Joan Aliotta, Stanley Au, Nancy Bivona, Kris Blake, Carl, Kathy Calfee, Martha Capel, Gabriel Cowell, Arnie Hartelius, Tania Jenkins, Jeffrey Kamel, Katherine Kamen, Robert Kazimir, Ed Kamper, Colin Kelley, Neal King, Lauren L., Bill Musser, Lisa & Gary Pyne, Brenda Restivo, Richardson & Dickhaus families

Anglican Communion—*Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan*

Diocese of Newark— *Redeemer, Morristown and St. Peter's, Morristown*

Birthdays/Anniversaries—*Candace Carr, Jeffrey Kamel*

The flowers this week *are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert & Dorothy Kramer by Barbara Lopez and Clem Boyer by Sheila Valente*



St Peter's Episcopal Church

The Vestry

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

The Staff

The Rev. Dr. Timothy Mulder, *Interim Rector (beginning August 1)*
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