

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 Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle
January 18, 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.

Holy Eucharist at 10 o'clock, Church

Voluntary

Pastorale for Flute and Organ

Charles Callahan

Entrance Hymn 525 *Hymnal 1982*

AURELIA

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.



Praised and ex - alt - ed a - bove all for - ev - er.

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

BCP, page 238

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader Let us pray. Almighty Father, who inspired Saint Peter, first among the apostles, to confess Jesus as Messiah and Son of the living God: Keep your Church steadfast upon the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace we may proclaim the one truth and follow the one Lord, our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Reading

Acts 4:8-13

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.” Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Marty Haugen

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
 yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Cantor God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want
 I rest by the meadows of faithfulness and love,
 I walk by the quiet waters of peace. **Refrain**

Cantor Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
 You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
 My spirit shall sing the music of your name. **Refrain**

Cantor *Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. Refrain*

Cantor *You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred
Crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. Refrain*

Cantor *Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God for evermore. Refrain*

Second Reading

1 Peter 5:1-4

As an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it—not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

MCKEE

Text: Adam M.L. Tice, 2005; Tune: Spiritual, adapt. H.T. Burleigh, 1940



1. The Church of Christ can - not be bound By
2. True faith will o - pen up the door And
3. True love will not sit i - dly share When
4. If what we have we free - ly share To
5. The Church of Christ can - not be bound By

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
step in - to the street. True serv - ice will seek
jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
meet our neigh - bor's need, Then we ex - tend the
walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and

love are found, There can the Church be known.
out the poor, And ask to wash their feet.
home - less cry And wel - comes them in - side.
Spir - it's care Through ev - 'ry self - less deed.
love are found, There can the Church be known.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-19

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

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

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” [Jesus] said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rector

Nicene Creed

BCP, page 358

Prayers of the People

Intercessor ...let us pray to the Lord:

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*O how amiable are thy dwellings thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:*

*even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house,
 they will be always praising thee.
 The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us,
 prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
 O prosper thou our handywork.
 O God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Our shelter from the stormy blast,
 And our eternal home.*
 —Psalm 84:1-4, Psalm 90:17, Isaac Watts

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

OLD HUNDREDTH

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, page 361

Sanctus

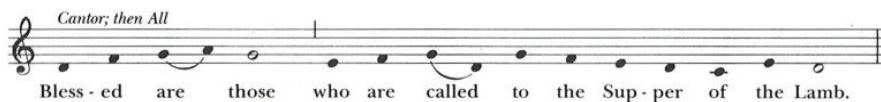
Hymnal 1982, S-128

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.

Communion Hymn

Gregory Norbet



Choir Give us peace, God, peace for all, like a river running freely. **REFRAIN.**

Choir God of nearness, God of life, you are with us; we rejoice. **REFRAIN.**

Choir Set us free, God, from mindless ways; guide us in pursuing good. REFRAIN.

Choir You renew us with great love; God among us: this our joy! REFRAIN.

Choir Be our breath, God, deep and pure; feed our hunger for your truth. REFRAIN.

Choir Maranatha: come to us with your healing gift of peace. REFRAIN.

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand and say together*

Let us rejoice, O Lord, in these holy gifts you have given us, and grant us the grace to recognize your Son, Jesus Christ, as the Messiah, the Son of the living God; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

Presider May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

People Amen.

Presider May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

People Amen.

Presider And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People Amen.

The Deacon dismisses the People; all respond

People Thanks be to God.

Please remain standing and sing

Hymn 539 *Hymnal* 1982

TIDINGS

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NOTICES

STEWARDSHIP 2026—GIFTS FROM OUR SOULS

Our annual stewardship drive, *Gifts from Our Souls*, continues. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus tells us whatever we value most will be the focus of our deepest affections. As we prayerfully consider how much we want to give, let's ask ourselves the question, "What do we love about St. Peter's, and how can help these good things grow?"

THE CONFESSION OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE

We celebrate the Feast of the Confession of St. Peter the Apostle this Sunday in honor of our patron saint and our Annual Parish Meeting. This major feast celebrates Peter's confession in Matthew 16:16: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus tells Peter, "you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it." The Collect of the Day makes plain that the Rock on which the church is built is not Peter himself but the faith which he confessed. Today also marks the beginning of the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*, a focus of annual ecumenical worship, education, and work since 1908.

ST. PETER'S ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Parish will follow today's 10 am service. We will vote for six Vestry positions; three delegates to Diocesan Convention; and three alternates to Diocesan Convention. *Childcare will be available during the meeting.*

ST. PETER'S YOUTH (SPY) PANCAKE SUPPER

Be sure to sign up for our pre-Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, *Tuesday February 10*, Adults \$10; Kids \$5; Families \$25; Tickets will not be sold at the door. Venmo [@Christina-Doyle-15](https://www.venmo.com/Christina-Doyle-15) (last four digits: 7878) or make your payment during Coffee Hour by February 8. Please indicate how many are attending. *The supper is being held a week before Shrove Tuesday due to school schedules.*

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, Amye Becker, Duffy Bell, Nancy Bivona, Kris Blake, Carl, Carl Carvell, Muriel Bowness, Kathy Calfee, Martha Capel, Frank Cintron, Adele Corcoran, Becky Dawson, Gabriel Cowell, 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, Ben M., Marino Family, Tom Marriott, Bill Musser, Nunno Family, Lisa & Gary Pyne, Richardson & Dickhaus families, Craig Roper, Ruth Ann, Sarah, Kathy Stanton, Michael Whatley, Frank Zupa.

ANGLICAN COMMUNION—*Anglican Province of the Congo*

DIocese of Newark—*St. John's, Boonton and Christ Church, Budd Lake*

RECENTLY DIED—*Father Jim Warnke*

JOIN A CHOIR

The *Parish Choir* (Adults and older teens) rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:30 in the Choir Room. The *Handbell Choir* rehearses on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the south transept of the nave. Contact Mark Trautman. *Thanks to Laura Papparatto, flutist today.*

COFFEE HOUR—*A special time for fellowship!*

Please consider signing up to host a coffee hour on Sundays immediately after the 10 am service. It is an important time for us to connect with one another and meet our guests and visitors. You can sign

up on the sheet posted in the upper room or contact Mary Shearin at shearchaos38@gmail.com to let us know the date you prefer. Feel free to sign up with a friend! All instructions will be provided.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

I am currently looking for volunteers to help teach Sunday School. This is not a weekly commitment rather an opportunity to volunteer when you are available; teaching experience isn't necessary! It is a lot of fun and the children are brilliant. If you are interested please be in touch—*Lindsay Thompson* (thompson@stpetersef.org).

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 the Parish Office (info@stpetersef.org). *The flowers this week are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Linda Carr.*

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Eloise Mozillo Hiris, Sheila Valenti, Carolyn Wescott
<i>Usher</i>	Wayne Copeland
<i>Acolyte</i>	Colin Carr
<i>Readers</i>	Nancy Connor, Garrison Block
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Mary Shearin
<i>Cantors</i>	Michael Barretti, Kevin Johnson
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mark Trautman
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Virginia Jenkins Whatley
<i>Presider</i>	The Rev. Nathaniel Darville



ST PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WORSHIP • WONDER • WORK • ALL IN LOVE

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THE VESTRY OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Jim Irwin and Mary Shearin, *Wardens*; Christine Albano, 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)

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)

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