

ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
St. Francis Episcopal Church is a diverse community accepting all.
We gather to worship God, grow in faith, and share in fellowship.
We go out to serve Christ by serving others.
Everyone is Welcome Here!



Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024 10:00 am

St. Francis Episcopal Church
400 New Market Rd. Dunellen, NJ 08812
Ph: 732-968-6761

The Rev. Ayden J. Petrone
Priest-in-Charge

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPARD LEAD US BY WILLIAM B. BRADBURY

PROCESSIONAL HYMN CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING! HYMNAL 1982 #182

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS S 280 (POWELL)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spt - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: ACTS 3:12-18

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 4

Please join in reading the Psalm responsively by half verse.

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *

you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *

how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?”

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; *

when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin; *

speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices, *

and put your trust in the Lord.

Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” *

Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

You have put gladness in my heart, *

more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 2:1-7

A Reading from the First letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

SING PRAISE TO OUR CREATOR *HYMNAL 1982 #357*

GOSPEL: LUKE 24:36B-48

All stand.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was
buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is
worshiped and glorified. He has spoken
through the Prophets. We believe in one
holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Almighty God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for all those who live in the midst of conflict, and your children who serve in harm's
way, especially Gina Robles.
Hold safely, God, all who serve.

We pray for the people of Ukraine, Palestine, and Israel, and all lands at war.
Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief, sickness, or trouble; Especially _____,
and anyone we now name. *(Pause for intercessions from the congregation.)*
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We celebrate those having birthdays this week, especially_____. We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy, especially any we now name.

We also celebrate those celebrating anniversaries this week, especially_____.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

(Silence)

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
(Ephesians 5:2)

OFFERTORY HYMN

DOXOLOGY

HYMNAL 1982 #380, V. 3

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord;
People **And of Thine own we have given Thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A, BCP PG 361

SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

S 129 (POWELL)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The People stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

EPICLESIS

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with St. Francis and Clare, and all your saints, into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

And for those of who are joining online we pray; in union O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your church where the holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer You praise always be united to you. And since we cannot not receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to some spiritually into our hearts.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

S 154 (HURD)

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

INVITATION

Celebrant Behold what you are:

People **May we become what we receive.**

COMMUNION HYMN

AWAKE, ARISE, LIFT UP YOUR VOICE HYMNAL 1982 #212

THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS (sung)

*Make me a Channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred,
let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring
hope. Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console.
To be understood as to understand.
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**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

The Priest blesses the people, saying

“Life is short. We don't have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk this way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind.” (Amiel) And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN SING, YE FAITHFUL, SING WITH GLADNESS HYMNAL 1982 #492

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

SOON AND VERY SOON

BY ANDREA CROUCH

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We gather to worship God, grow in faith, and share in fellowship.
We go out to serve Christ by serving others.

Parish Staff

The Reverend Ayden J. Petrone, LCSW
Priest-in-Charge

Rachel Gasataya,
Music Director

Trina Rios
Office Assistant

Vestry

Pam Maiolo (Senior Warden)
Amy Myzie (Junior Warden)
Ilia Scriven (Parish Treasurer)
Christy McGuire
Marie Petit-Homes
Elaine Patania

Cynthia Pelliccia
Gerrienne Breck
Grace McDougall
Michelle Klastava
Paul Sinckler
Oliva DiAgostino

Church Office Hours:

Mondays & Thursdays
10am-2pm

Rev. Ayden's In-Office Hours:

Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays
8:30 am- 1:30 pm

Work from Home: Thursdays

Sabbath: Fridays

If you would like a pastoral visit at home, please reach out to Ayden on their cell phone or call the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRAYER & SERVICES:

CENTERING PRAYER

Tuesdays, 3 pm, St. Francis' Zoom

COMPLINE PRAYER:

Wednesdays, 7 pm, St. Francis' Zoom

INTERCESSORY PRAYER:

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday, 6:15 pm, St. Francis' Zoom

FELLOWSHIP:

COFFEE WITH A CLERIC:

Monday's at 8:30/8:45 am at DaLuca's Coffee Shop, on North Ave., Dunellen

COFFEE HOUR:

Sunday's after 10 am service in Milbank Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS:

STEVE MINZER QUARTET

Sunday, April 21, 2024, 2 pm, at St. Francis

Free will offering for food

SPRING CLEAN UP

Saturday, April 28, 2024

DUNELLEN GARAGE SALE

Saturday, June 8, 2024

PISCATAWAY STREET FAIR

Saturday, June 8, 2024

MASS ON THE GRASS

Sunday, June 9, 2024