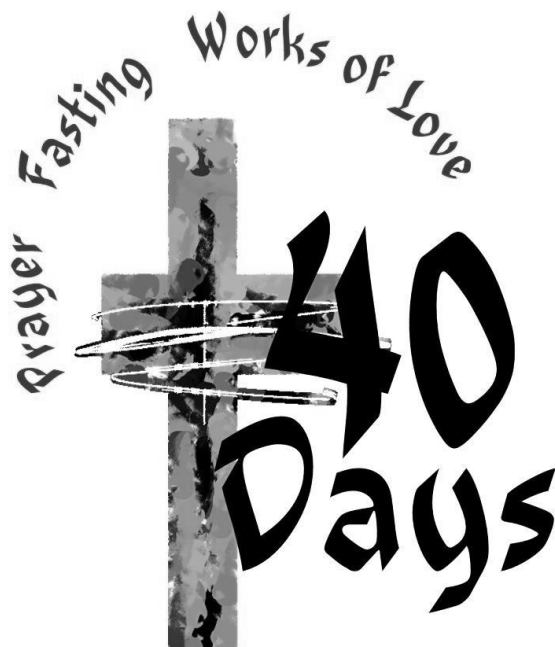


CHRIST CHURCH

NEWTON, NEW JERSEY

The Episcopal Church in the Heart of Sussex County



Founded in 1769

Chartered on August 15, 1774

62 Main Street, Newton, NJ 07860

973-383-2245

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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NEWTON

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

10:00 am – Morning Prayer, Rite I

As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship, please keep conversation to a minimum.

Prelude Jesus walked this lonesome valley Thomas Keesecker

Processional Hymn #470 There's a wideness in God's mercy Beecher

Opening Sentences

Officiant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8, 9*

Jesus said, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." *Mark 8:34*

O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me, and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling. *Psalms 43:3*

Confession of Sin & Absolution

Officiant Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

The Congregation is invited to kneel.

A period of silence is kept, ended by the Officiant.

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O

Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

All standing

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

People And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Jubilate Psalm 100

Chant: G. J. Elvey



O be joyful in the Lord | all ye lands:
* serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his | presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not | we ourselves;
* we are his people and the | sheep of • his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his | courts with praise;
* be thankful unto him and | speak | good of • his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is | everlasting;
* and his truth endureth from generation to | generation.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son,
* and | to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and | ever shall be,
* world without | end. Amen.

Psalm 32

prayed responsively

1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!

2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.

4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.

10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: *
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The First Lesson

Joshua 5:9-12

The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Benedictus es, Domine

Chant: J. Soaper



Blessed art thou, O Lord | God of • our fathers:

*praised and exalted above | all for-ever.

Blessed art thou for the | Name of • thy Majesty:

*praised and exalted above | all for-ever.

Blessed art thou in the temple | of thy holiness:

*praised and exalted above | all for-ever.

Blessed art thou that beholdest the depth,

And dwellest be|tween the Cherubim:

*praised and exalted above | all for-ever.

Blessed art thou on the glorious | throne of • thy kingdom:

*praised and exalted above | all for-ever.

Blessed art thou in the firma|ment of heaven:

*praised and exalted above | all for-ever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son, * and | to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and | ever shall be,

*world without | **end. Amen.**

The Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

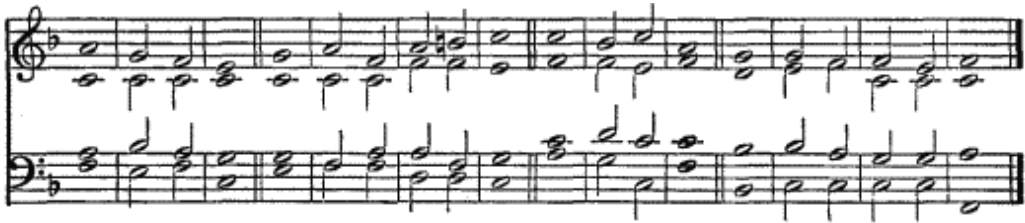
From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Benedictus Dominus Deus

Chant: E. J. Hopkins



Blessed be the Lord God of | Israel;
* for he hath visited and re|deemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty sal|vation for us,
* in the house of his | servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his | holy Prophets,
* which have | been since • the world began;
That we should be saved | from our enemies,
* and from the hand of | all that hate us.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son,
*and | to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and | ever shall be,
*world without | end. Amen.

The Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So Jesus told them this parable: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe – the best one – and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

Leader O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

People **And grant us thy salvation.**

Leader Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

People **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Leader Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People **For only in thee can we live in safety.**

Leader Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

People **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Leader Let thy way be known upon earth;

People **Thy saving health among all nations.**

Leader Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Leader Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

Officiant O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray thee so to guide and govern us by thy Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget thee, but may remember that we are ever walking in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love of thee; for the honor of thy Name. **Amen.**

Sermon Hymn #686

Come, thou fount of every blessing

Nettleton

The Sermon

The Rev. Chris Streeter



*The Return of the Prodigal Son
Rembrandt (1606-1669)*

The Peace

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And with thy spirit.



Welcome & Announcements

The Rev. Chris Streeter

To make a donation or to pay your pledge online,
please visit www.christchurchnewton.org
and click on the "Make a Contribution" tab.



Scan the QR Code with your phone
and you will be directed to our online giving portal.

Offertory Anthem

The Meek (from BEATITUDES)

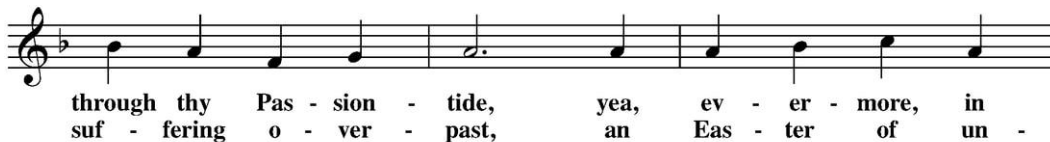
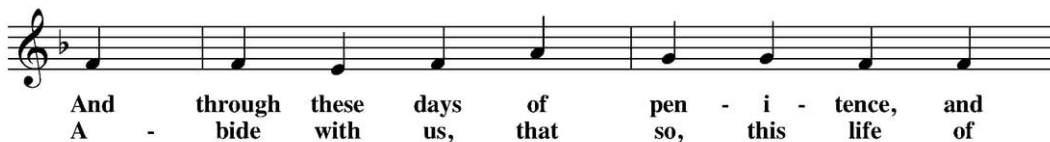
Patrick Hawes

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Matthew 5:5

Presentation Hymn

St. Flavian



The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn #620

Jerusalem, my happy home

Land of Rest

The Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20

Serving in God's House Today

10 am

Lectors: Ceclia Clayton, Mark Hoyer, Alex Zander and
Tim Evans

Ushers: George & Barbara Wink

Joining us in worship & fellowship on March 23, 2025

8:00 am: 33

10:00 am: 110

Christ Church Prayer List

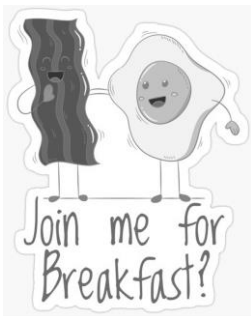
For those who are ill: Fred, Georgeann, Gizelle, Frank, Emily, Bill, Kevin, Lauren, Tricia, Kathy, Chris, Patrick, Marie, Carolyne, Ryan, Lorraine, Patricia, Francis, Rick Jr., Kelly, Antonia, Albie, Daryl, Diana, Joyce, Linda, Andrew, Carol, Maureen, Carole, Walter, Arthur, Katy, Joyce, Marcianti, Mark, Pat, Elaine, Colleen, Joe, Tracy, Michelle, Maureen, Rut, Carroll, Gary, L.F. Connie and Michael

For those serving in the armed forces: Parker, Dean, Michael, Angel and Nicholas.

We rejoice with Messiah Bent, Frederick Pierson, James VanSise, Elizabeth Buonomo, Alan Rosolen, Patricia Taggart and all who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

Please contact Karrie Miller in the church office to have names added or removed from our prayer list.

Announcements & Events



Church Breakfast

Next Sunday, April 6 between services

Join us on April 6th for our always popular (and delicious!) church breakfast.

All are welcome!



**Holy Week 2025
at Christ Church**

Join us throughout this most sacred week as we mark the story of Christ's death and resurrection.

Sunday, April 13 **8 am & 10 am**
Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion **Holy Eucharist w/ Procession**
We will gather at 9:45 am in the Newton Town Square for our opening procession

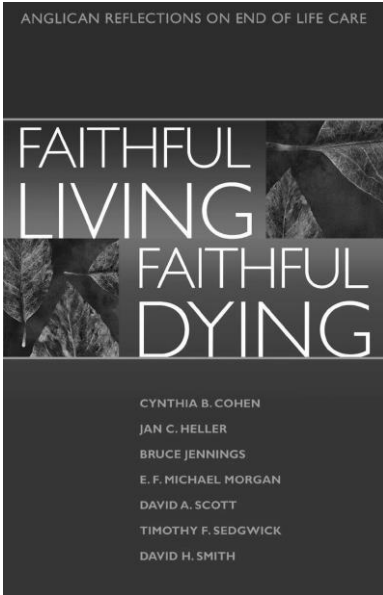
Monday, April 14 **7 pm: Evening Prayer**
Tuesday, April 15 **7 pm: Sung Tenebrae Service**
Wednesday, April 16 **7 pm: Evening Prayer**

Thursday, April 17 **7 pm**
Maundy Thursday **Holy Eucharist & The Stripping of the Altar**
Our night-long Watch begins immediately following the service.

Friday, April 18 **8 am: Mass of the Presanctified**
Good Friday **4 pm: Holy Week Family Service**
This new, 45 minute offering is geared especially for families and young children.
We'll begin in the sanctuary and walk to different stations to learn the story of Holy Week.
7 pm: Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, April 19 **8 am: Holy Saturday Liturgy**
Holy Saturday **7 pm: The Great Vigil of Easter**
Festive Greek Dinner immediately following in Holley Hall

Sunday, April 20 **8 am & 10 am**
The Sunday of the Resurrection **Holy Eucharist**
Easter Egg Hunt immediately following the 10 am service



2025 Lenten Series
Wednesday Evenings from 7-8 pm
Continuing this Wednesday, April 2

Sociologists point out that we are culturally both “death obsessed” and “death avoidant”. Our faith in Christ invites us not to avoid conversations and reflections on our mortality, yet we often put off end of life decisions.

Our five-week Lenten series will invite discussion and offer insight from experts. We hope you will join us for this important series of conversations.

April 2: Robert E. McCracken, Funeral Director

Robert is former owner and president of Smith-McCracken and Wood Funeral Homes. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Atlantic Health System.

April 9: The Rev. Chris Streater – Planning a Funeral Service at Christ Church

Thursday Morning Worship...each Thursday beginning at 10:00 am.

Need to recharge your spiritual juices mid-week? Join with Father Chris and others on Thursday mornings at 10 am in the parlor for a time of worship, discussion and fellowship. We reflect on the lessons for the upcoming Sunday, engage in group discussion on the topics raised in Scripture, and share the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist together. Consider adding a Thursday morning session to your Lenten practice.



Christ Church Calendar: Week of March 30, 2025

Sunday March 30 - The Fourth Sunday in Lent
8:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I, spoken)
9:00 am Adult Bible Study
9:30 am Sunday School Classes
10:00 am Morning Prayer (Rite I, with music)
Fellowship & Coffee following
11:45 am Sunday Brunch in a Bag

Monday March 31 (*Church Office Hours: 8 am to 1 pm*)
9:00 am Vita Tax (Norwescap)
6:30pm Confirmation Class
7:30 pm Sussex County Oratorio Society

Tuesday April 1 (*Church Office Hours: 8 am to 1 pm*)
7:00 pm Sussex County Youth Orchestra

Wednesday April 2 (*Church Office Hours: 8 am to 1 pm*)
7:00 pm Lenten Forum

Thursday April 3 (*Church Office Hours: 8 am to 12pm*)
10:00 am Thursday Morning Worship Group
7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday April 6 - The Fifth Sunday in Lent
8:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I, spoken)
8:45 am **Parish Breakfast**
9:30 am Sunday School Classes
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I, with music)
Fellowship & Coffee following
11:45 am Sunday Brunch in a Bag



Christ Church Leadership

The Rt. Rev. Carlye J. Hughes, 11th Bishop of Newark

The Rev. Christopher M. Streeter, Priest-in-Charge

cstreeter@christchurchnewton.org
585-730-0904: *pastoral emergencies*

Geri Livengood & Mary Ann Risley, Wardens

Karrie Miller, Parish Administrator

Luz Quintero, Sexton

Joseph Mello, Director of Music/Choirmaster

Diana Greene, Organist

Deborah Mello, Youth Choir

The Rev. Jenny Streeter, Christian Formation

Sue Mittelstadt, Children's Ministry

Alex Zander, Altar Guild

Beth Batastini, BSN, RN-BC, Faith Community Nurse

Staff can be contacted through the Parish Office:

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Phone: (973) 383-2245

Email: office@christchurchnewton.org