

Come 4th Sunday!



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Glenside, Pennsylvania
February 23, 2025
10:00 A.M.

About Come 4th Sunday

At St. Peter's the fourth Sunday of the month is **Come 4th Sunday**. It's a time when we come forth in new ways to celebrate being the Body of Christ.

Children come forth to read Scripture and lead prayer, and to get a better look at what's going on.

Families come forth to take on new roles.

New members come forth for a blessing.

We all come forth to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, and we all go forth as his disciples – with God's help.

The Scripture translations are from the resource *God's Word, my Voice*, by Lyn Zill Briggs, *Church Publishing: 2015*. They are written in a way that is easy for young readers to proclaim and understand.

Our opening prayers are from the supplemental liturgical materials in *Enriching Our Worship 1*.

Our choir will lead us in songs that are simple to sing but full of meaning. When the words aren't written in the leaflet, we use the Blue Hymnal; the thin green Wonder, Love and Praise Book (WLP), or the thin blue With One Voice (WOV) hymnal.

And you can even color the front page of the leaflet. Crayons are available in the basket in the narthex. All ages welcome.

Infants, toddlers and their families can hang out in **our soft space on the right side of the worship space**, which welcomes soft toys, soft activities and soft voices. Wiggles are also welcome.

Overall, this is a great opportunity to ask yourself, how can I come forth to serve Jesus in new ways this year?

Gathering in Joy

Prelude: Just a Little Talk with Jesus

Kristina Marchuk,
Accompanied by Carol Cei

Opening Hymn: All Are Welcome



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, And
3. Let us build a house where love is found In
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be -
5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their



all can safe - ly live, A place where saints and
words are strong and true, Where all God's chil - dren
wa - ter, wine and wheat: A ban - quet hall on
yond the wood and stone To heal and strength - en,
songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for -
dare to seek To dream God's reign a -
ho - ly ground, Where peace and jus - tice
serve and teach, And live the Word they've
taught and claimed As words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions,
new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness
meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus,
known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger
Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter,



Rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the
And as sym - bol of God's grace; Here as
Is re - vealed in time and space; As we
Bear the im - age of God's face; Let us
Prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro - claim from floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

The Opening Acclamation

EOW 1

Presider: Blessed be our God

People: For ever and ever. Amen.

The Presider says to the people

Presider: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Holy One, you taught us that anything done without love isn't worth doing. Send your Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with your greatest gift, which is love. Your love binds us together in peace and goodness, and without love, we are not truly alive. So grant our request to be more loving for the sake of your son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Listening for God's Word

The First Reading- *Genesis 45:3-11,15*

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Joseph's brothers had sold him as a slave to the Egyptians many years ago. They thought he was probably dead by now. But Joseph had become an important man in Egypt, helping the government give out grain to people from the region when there was little to eat. The brothers travelled from home to Egypt to see if they could find food for their families. Little did they know, they would have to ask for help from their brother, Joseph. Joseph's brothers, whom he hadn't seen for many years, were standing in front of him. They did not recognize him. He said to them, "Look it's me, Joseph. Is my father still alive?" His brothers could hardly talk; they were so shocked to see him.

"Come closer," Joseph said. "I am your brother, Joseph, the one you sold into slavery so many years ago. But God turned that into a good thing, so I've forgiven you. I work for the Pharaoh and am in charge of getting grain to people who need it during this famine. Go home and tell our father that I'm alive, that God has blessed me by making me very important here in Egypt.

Bring him here, along with your families and flocks. I will provide for you here, because I've got plenty of food.”

And he kissed all his brothers and they cried together for a long time; and after that, they talked long into the night.

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

Psalm 37:1-12,41-42

The response to the psalm is

Trust in God. Walk God's Way and do good for others.

And you will have nothing to worry about.

Don't give wicked people a second thought,
or wish you could be clever like they are.

They will fade very soon and shrivel up like a weed you pull from the lawn.

All: Trust in God. Walk God's Way and do good for others.

And you will have nothing to worry about.

Trust in God, and do good;

so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

Spend your time in God's company

and God will give you what you need and want.

All: Trust in God. Walk God's Way and do good for others.

And you will have nothing to worry about.

Choose to walk in God's direction.

Trust God, and watch what God does.

God will turn a bright light on everything you do and
highlight the justice of your cause.

In the meantime, calm yourself, and just be in God's company.

Wait patiently and don't worry about what people think or what others do.

All: Trust in God. Walk God's Way and do good for others.

And you will have nothing to worry about.

Don't bother getting angry, and give up trying to be right all the time.

Do not worry-it only leads to trouble.

If you're on God's side, you will be blessed in many ways.

But if you're wicked, you will be totally lost.

God will help you walk this path, and keep you safe when you run into trouble.

**Trust in God. Walk God's Way and do good for others.
And you will have nothing to worry about.**

The Second Reading- *Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50*

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians [15:35-38,42-50]

People ask, "But how can dead people be brought back to life? What kind of body will they have?" Silly questions. All things move toward life. A seed in the ground dies, until it is brought to life in the spring and grows into something you can eat. Same thing with our bodies; they die, but will be raised in glory. First, we are made from dust of the earth, but when God raises us we will be heavenly and reflect God's shining face.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: We will be changed from flesh and blood, and will receive God's kingdom in bodies that will never die.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982, # 490 I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light*

The Gospel – *Luke 6:27-38*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Everyone, listen to me. I'm telling you to love your enemies. Be good to people who hate you. If they throw curses at you, throw blessings back. Pray for them. If they punch you in the face, don't punch back, but shame them by offering your other cheek to hit. Give your coat to someone who asks, and food to beggars. Treat people the way you would want them to treat you and you can't go wrong.

I know it's hard. If it were easy, everyone would do it. If you love only people who are good to you, what would be special about that? That's simple. "Love

your enemies, do good, give from your heart and expect nothing in return.”
That's how God works. Follow God's example.

Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and you will find that you have so much more to give. You won't believe how many ways God will bless you if you love as God loves, and give as God gives.

The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, Lord Christ**

The Sermon

The Rev. Barbara Ballenger

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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

Reader: Dear Lord, hear our prayer. We pray for people everywhere:

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for our neighbors, our country and our world.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for your church, all who lead, who minister and who share your
good news.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for the earth and all your good gifts.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for all who are suffering from storms, floods, and fires, especially
those who worked in and lived near the big factory fire in Glenside this week.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for those who are sick or lonely, and need kindness and care.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for all who have died and all who miss them.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for our country, that our leaders act with justice and mercy.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for peace all over the world and for all who are in harm's way.

All: Help us to love with your love.

We pray for the needs deep within our hearts.

All: Help us to love with your love.

Dear Lord, hear our prayer.

All: And bless your people everywhere.

Confession of Sin

EOW 1

Presider: Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy,

We confess that we have sinned against you,

Opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied the goodness in each other,

In ourselves and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,

The evil we have done,

And the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore and strengthen us

Through our Savior Jesus Christ,

That we may abide in your love

And serve only your will. Amen.

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrating Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem: Let Us Be Known by Our Love

Words and music: Matt Armstrong, Ryan Flanigan, Micah Massey, Nate Moore

The congregation is invited to join the folk group in the choruses.

Chorus 1: For the glory of the Father,
For the glory of the Son,
For the glory of the Spirit,
Let us be known by our love.

Chorus 2: Let us be known by our peace.

Chorus 3: Let us be known by our joy.

Chorus 4: Let us be known by our love.

Presentation Hymn: *Wonder, Love and Praise*, # 812 | the Lord of Sea Sky
(Here I Am Lord)

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord is here.

People: God's Spirit is with us.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Presider: God, you made us, and the world and everything in it.
All the good we see comes from you. You have always loved us but people
have not always loved you. You sent Jesus to show us how to live and to
bring us back to you again. He died for us on the cross so that through your
Spirit, we can all be your people.

And so with thanks we praise you singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy (See pew card)

Presider: We are here because on the night before he died Jesus shared a meal with his friends. There he took some bread and gave thanks to you, God. He broke it into pieces and gave it to them. “This is my body,” he said, “Do this and know that I am with you.”

Later, he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to you. He shared it with them, and said “This is my blood, which brings new life. Do this and know that I am with you.”

And so, remembering Jesus, who died, was raised to new life by you, and is alive forever, we are glad to share that life and live in him.

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Memorial Acclamation (See pew card)

Presider: Send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and wine can be for us the body and blood of Jesus, and through this food give us strength to live as your people.

Help us to care for your world and for each other in the way that Jesus showed us. Until he comes again, with all your people in every time and every land we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours Almighty Father, forever and ever.

Great Amen (See pew card)

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

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP 364

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Jesus Lamb of God (See pew card)

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion of the People

Communion Music: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas O. Chisholm

Arranged by Benjamin Jusino, Debbie Panebianco

Accompanied by Carol Cei

The Day of the Lord

Words and music by Wendell Kimbrough

Folk Group

The Post-Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and people 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.

Sending Out

The Blessing

Litany of Welcome

Priest Dear people of God, I invite your prayers for the saving presence of Jesus in this world,

Assembly **Christ is risen!**

Priest In this Church,

Assembly **Christ is risen!**

Priest In this community,

Assembly **Christ is risen!**

Priest In the hearts of all faithful people,

Assembly **Christ is risen!**

Priest We pray especially today in thanksgiving as we welcome ... into the body of Christ in this place.

Priest Do you desire to join St. Peter's Church?

New Members **We do.**

Assembly **We welcome you with open hearts.**

Priest We welcome you and pledge to be a community for you.

Assembly **We offer you our gifts, our care and concern, our hope and our faith, our brokenness and frailty.**

Priest We welcome you, trusting in Christ because we know our imperfections all too well.

Assembly **We will rejoice together, mourn together, learn together, grow together, take risks together, make mistakes together and forgive one another.**

Priest We welcome the gifts and needs that you bring, and rejoice that you make us stronger and more complete in Christ.

Assembly Thanks be to God!

Priest We welcome you knowing that you will change who we are.

Assembly Thanks be to God.

Priest May God bless our new life together, and lead us in new pathways, in the hallowed name of God, we pray.

Assembly AMEN.

Birthday & Anniversary Prayer

BCP 830

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When your birthday or anniversary is announced, please stand in your place and remain standing as we pray.

Birthdays:

Max Clemens 02/25

Laurel Mosteller 02/28

Calvin Pieczonka 03/01

Stephen Spencer 03/01

Anniversaries:

None this week.

Announcements:

- **Souper Sunday:** Soup is available following morning worship for a free will donation. *Please note Souper Sunday will now be held on the 4th Sunday of each month, instead of the third.*
- Join us for today's Health Check forum with Kristina Marchuk and Deborah Way following morning worship.
- Thanks to Tim Voit and all who assisted and participated in our Trivia Night event.

- Prepare for Lent during our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Talent Show on Tuesday, March 4 at 6 p.m. Sign up using the link in the newsletter to help.

The Closing Hymn: *Wonder, Love and Praise, #751 Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit*

The Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: *The Rev. Barbara Ballenger*

Acolytes: *Alyssa Clemens, Rosalinda Ibañez-Memba, Brodie Memba-Ibañez*

Lectors: *Grayson Torpey, Henry Bennecoff, Lana Fabijonas*

Intercessor: *Brodie Ibañez-Memba*

Counter: *Anne Gibson*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Audrey Kipphut, Laurel Mosteller, Melissa Olson*

Ushers: *Bill Bacon, Amy Neske, Maureen Schaeffer, Jack Wilbur*

Vestry Steward: *Dave Mosteller*

Altar Guild: *Wendy Hartung*

Fellowship: *Kitchen Coordinator*

Bell Ringer: *Bill Bacon*

Director of Music: *Carol Cei*

Tech Team: *PJ Linke, Mike Levin, James Moore*

Sunday Coordinator: *Bob Hartung*

Vestry

Beth Carlin: *Elizabeth.mcdonald90@gmail.com*

Debbie DeKalb: *sojourner_44@yahoo.com*

Ernie Dixon: *marzelldixon@me.com (Accounting Warden)*

Mark Evans: *MarkCarverEvans@gmail.com*

Sam Hogg: *samahogg235@gmail.com*

Audrey Kipphut: *ajkipphut@verizon.net (People's Warden)*

Dave Mosteller: *davemos2010@gmail.com (Rector's Warden)*

John Olson: *john.olson@villanova.edu*

Amy Neske: *amyh120@yahoo.com*

Douglas Pneuma: *douglas.pneuma@gmail.com*

Terita Reeve: *teritar1005@gmail.com*

Chris Teleha: chris.teleha@gmail.com
Matt Torpey: mtorpey79@gmail.com

Staff

The Rev. Barbara Ballenger (Rector) stpeter654rector@gmail.com
Charlese Freeman (Communications Administrator) stpeter654@gmail.com
Tim Valera (Caretaker) timvalera@gmail.com
Carol Cei (Music Director) carol@carolcei.com
Kathy Flaherty (Bell Choir Director)stpeter654music@gmail.com
Linda Toia (Folk Group Director) linda.toia@verizon.net
Kristina Marchuk (Parish Nurse) Kmarchuk923@gmail.com

*Reprinted/ Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #
A-719834. All rights reserved. Used with permission.*

The cover image is licensed by creative commons and used by permission.

*Hymn permissions by Rite Song, a one-time use reprint license
for congregational use.*

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
654 North Easton Road
Glenside, PA 19038
Phone: 215-887-1765
Email: StPeter654@gmail.com