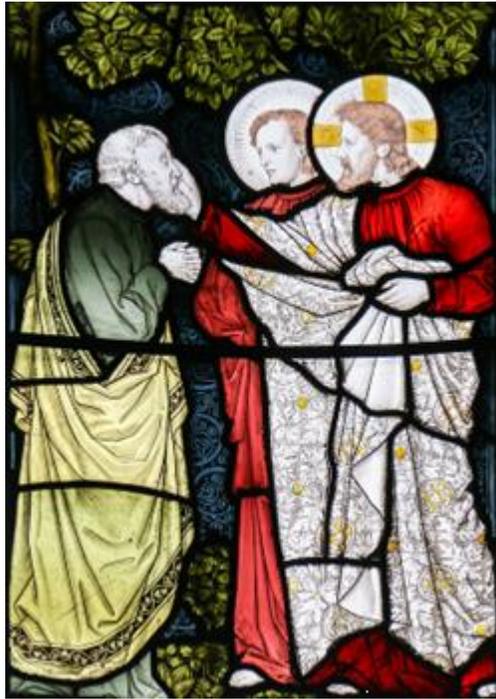


The Fourth Sunday in Lent



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Glenside, Pennsylvania
March 15, 2026
10:00 A.M.

This Lent, please help us make space for prayer and meditation by keeping holy silence before and after the service as you arrive and depart the worship space. Thank you and blessings on your Lenten journey.

Gathering In Joy

Prelude: Prelude in G Minor, Op. 16 No. 1

Clara Wieck Schumann (1819-1896)

Opening Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82)*, #473 Lift high the cross

Presider: Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy all you who mourn over her: that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

People: His mercy endures forever.

Kyrie: *With One Voice (WOV)*, #601

Dinah Reindorf

The Presider says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; 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: *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

Psalm 23 (*Read by all, using the Book of Common Prayer*)

BCP 612

The Epistle: *Ephesians 5:8-14*

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

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

Gospel Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82)*, #466 Eternal light, shine in my heart

The Gospel: *John 9:1-41*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must

work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near

him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of the Lord. **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.**

Prayers of the People , Form I

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

The Presider concludes with this prayer:

Loving God, we offer you our prayers, some in words, others written in our hearts. Break open our hearts, hear our prayers and continue to give us your light, Christ Jesus, this day and forever. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Presider and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. 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

Please greet other members of the congregation with a sign of peace.

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

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrating Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem: We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)

Presentation Hymn: *The Hymnal 1982 (H82), #321 My God, thy table now is spread*

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

BCP 361

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

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 give our thanks and praise.

Presider says

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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: Holy, Holy

Norah Duncan

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are
5 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in__ the high - est.
9 Bless-ed is he whømes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in__ the high - est.

Music: Unity Mass, Norah Duncan IV, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Presider continues

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.

Jesus 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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:

Presider and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer (*Contemporary Version*)

BCP 364

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Presider: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Norah Duncan

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Unity Mass*, Norah Duncan IV, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Presider continues

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion of the People

Communion Music: Jerusalem, My Happy Home arranged by Anna Laura Page (1943-)
Performed by St. Peter's Bell Choir

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Sending Out

The Blessing

Tell Out My Soul: Ministry Moment

Rick DeKalb (radcomtechllc@yahoo.com)

Sunday Lector

Eucharistic Visitor (*occasional*)

Presider: In the name of the congregation of St. Peter's we send you forth bearing the gift of Holy Communion to...

All: We who are many are one body, because we all share in one bread and one cup.

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

Birthdays:

Alyssa Clemens 3/15

Keirstin Sibley 3/15

Tanya Voit 3/15

Rick DeKalb 3/18

Anniversaries:

None this week.

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.

Announcements

- Join us for a FREE viewing and discussion of the film, "Sugarcane" today from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. in the parish hall.
- Taizé Prayer Service: We invite you all to enter the simple rhythms of the Lenten season on Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m. at St. Peter's.
- Giant is running its free ham/turkey promotion from now until April 5. We are asking parishioners to consider donating their free ham or turkey for the St. Peter's Easter Brunch.
- A Stations of the Cross walk will be held on March 27th, beginning at the Episcopal Cathedral Church (19 S. 38th St) and concluding at the local U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement office (114 North 8th St). See the newsletter to sign up.
- See the 2026 Holy Week schedule on page 14 of the leaflet.

Closing Hymn: *Lift Every Voice and Sing II (LEVAS), #145 Have thine own way, Lord*

The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: : *The Rev. Barbara Ballenger*

Deacon: *The Rev. Bob Smith*

Acolytes: *Michael Colino, Patrick McMahon, Alex Stevers-Radtke*

Lectors: *Bill Hower, Rick DeKalb*

Intercessor: *Matt Moore*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Carol Lorentz-Burnett, Deborah Way*

Ushers: *Audrey Kipphut, Dave Kipphut, Kelly Sacco, Keirstin Sibley*

Vestry Steward: *Debbie DeKalb*

Altar Guild: *Donna Kulp*

Welcomer: *Marsha Blake*

Counter: *Mike Reeve*

Bell Ringer: *Bill Bacon*

Director of Music: *Sam Faust*

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

Vestry

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

Debbie DeKalb: *sojourner_44@yahoo.com*

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

Mark Evans: *MarkCarverEvans@gmail.com*

Anne Gibson: *irishmom68@comcast.net*

Julia Guerrero: *juliaAguerrero@gmail.com*

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

Noel MacNeil: *noelmacneil@gmail.com*

Debbie Panebianco: *lalume71@comcast.net*

Terita Reeve: *teritar1005@gmail.com*

Chris Teleha: *chris.teleha@gmail.com*

Matt Torpey: *mtorpey79@gmail.com*

Deborah Way: *djway0602@aol.com (Rector's Warden)*

Staff

The Rev. Barbara Ballenger (Rector) *stpeter654rector@gmail.com*

The Rev. Bob Smith (Deacon) *rjsmith3636@gmail.com*

Charlese Freeman (Communications Administrator) *stpeter654@gmail.com*

Tim Valera (Caretaker) *timvalera@gmail.com*

Sam Faust (Music Director) *music@stpetersglenside.org*

Kathy Flaherty (Bell Choir Director) *stpeter654music@gmail.com*

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 The Pharisees Question Jesus (Les pharisiens questionnent Jésus) by James Tissot

via Brooklyn Museum.

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

*Lift High the Cross, words and music ©1974 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by
permission.*

*Eternal Light Shine in My Heart, music by Jane Manton Marshall © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.
Text by Christopher Idle © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Company. All rights
reserved. Used by permission.*

*Unity Mass, music by Norah Duncan ©2010 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by
permission.*

*We Shall Walk through the Valley, Setting ©1977 Augsburg Fortress Text: Spiritual, adapt. Undine
Smith Moore © Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Jerusalem, My Happy Home, music by Anna Laura Page ©1996 Alfred Sacred*

Journey to the Cross **2026 Holy Week Schedule**

Palm Sunday, March 29

A choral Eucharist starting outside in the courtyard (weather permitting) with the blessing and procession of palm branches at 10 a.m.

Self-Guided Stations of the Cross

Starting March 29 and continuing through Holy Week, a self-guided booklet on the Stations of the Cross will be available in the church. The guide is based on ten images from Kathrin Burleson's *The Soul's Journey: An Artist's Approach to the Stations of the Cross*, prints of which will be in the window wells of the church. The worship space is open from about 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for quiet prayer and reflection throughout the week.

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Agape Meal at 6 p.m. — A simple supper of soup and bread, with traditional prayers over the food and sharing of Scripture, will precede the service. Sign up to bring soup, bread, or wine available soon.

Maundy Thursday Eucharist, 7:15 p.m. — A choral Eucharist including foot washing and the stripping of the altar, following the Agape Meal.

Good Friday, April 3

Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7 p.m. As the church slowly dims to darkness, contemplate through Scripture, music, prayers, and silence the saving work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Holy Saturday, April 19

The Great Vigil of Easter, Saturday, April 19, at 7 p.m. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Whitemarsh, 7020 Camp Hill Rd. Fort Washington, PA. Rev. Barb will be preaching during this service.

Easter Sunday, April 5

Easter service at St. Peter's at 10 a.m. Celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus with this joyful choral Eucharist, followed by a Brunch in the parish hall and an Easter Egg hunt in the courtyard.

Garden of Repose

Plantings and flowers in the St. Philip-in-the-Fields chapel at St. Peter's create a space for quiet, personal contemplation during the three days leading up to Easter.

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

654 N. Easton Road

Glenside, PA 19038-4310

(215) 887-1765

E-mail: stpeter654@gmail.com

Website: www.stpetersglenside.org