



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

A Faith Community Offering Hospitality, Hope and Healing

www.stpeters-smyrna.org

Sunday, March 21, 2021 – 8:00 A.M.

Announcements

St. Peter's Preschool is having a Raffle Fundraiser!

1st prize is a LEGO basket (valued approx. \$200.00) and 2nd prize is a Movie basket (valued approx. \$50.00). If anyone is interested in tickets you can contact the Church Office during office hours. Tickets are \$5.00 a ticket or 5 tickets for \$20.00. Drawing will take place on March 29th.

Next Sunday, March 28th, is Palm Sunday. Make sure you come to either the 8am or the 10:30am Service to receive your Palm.

The “Spire Newsletter” will once again be coming out monthly to your email. I hope to have a short March Newsletter out by the end of this week or first of next. I will mail out to those of you who do not have an email address as long as you let me know. Also, if you have information you would like added in, please feel free to email it to me and I will try my best to get it in.

Harvest Sharing (Outreach) Opportunity: In March, St. Peter's will be collecting food and/or monetary donations (checks need to be made out to St. Peter's Church with “Food Pantry” in the memo line) for the Smyrna/Clayton Food Pantry. Food or Funds can be dropped off at St. Peter's during Sunday Services or during Office Hours. To give online, click [HERE](#). **In the Fund box, scroll down to bottom to select **OUTREACH** and then in Memo line type *Food Pantry*.**

Beginning March 17, 2021: Pharmacies in Delaware may begin vaccinating Delawareans aged 50+. Health care providers and hospital systems may vaccinate patients 16+ with **high and moderate risk medical conditions**. Non-paid caregivers of Delawareans with **high and moderate-risk medical conditions** may also qualify for vaccination through medical providers.

Beginning March 23, 2021: The State of Delaware will open the COVID-19 vaccination waiting list to any Delawarean 50+

Ongoing: FOR DELAWAREANS 65 YEARS OR OLDER: Requests for appointments for Delaware Division of Public Health vaccination events are now being taken at vaccinerequest.delaware.gov. Those without computer access may call the COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at **1-833-643-1715** and a call center operator can assist you in making the initial request.

The Episcopal Church in Delaware has a [COVID-19 response page](https://delaware.church/covid-19-response/) that can be found by following this link: <https://delaware.church/covid-19-response/>.

Our Church Office is open by Appointment. Please call the office (302-653-9691) Monday through Thursday from 8:30AM to 12:30PM or contact Mo. Donna Jean (302-670-3800). Please do not hesitate to call if you need something.



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Fifth Sunday in Lent The Holy Eucharist Rite One Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer 1

The Word of God

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People **His mercy endureth for ever.**

DECALOGUE

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honor thy father and thy mother.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

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*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

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 unto mankind 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 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.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

³¹“The days are surely coming,” says the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,” says the LORD. ³³“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” says the LORD: “I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” says the LORD; “for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.”

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

PSALM: Psalm 51:1-13

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, *
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.

⁵And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.

⁶Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁷For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

⁸Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

⁹Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

¹⁰Hide your face from my sins, *
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹¹Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹²Cast me not away from your presence, *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

¹³Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; ⁶as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent

submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE 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.***

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers [especially **Michael our Presiding Bishop and Kevin our Bishop**], that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially [**insert Universal Church and**] to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land [especially our President and Legislators], that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. [**Insert Welfare of the World and Concerns of Local Community.**]

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. Today, we ask thee to uphold and bless those on our Parish Cycle of Prayer: [**insert names**].

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor those named in the Book of Intentions [**and today we add _____ and**] all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. We pray for an end to this pandemic and the restoration of human touch and embrace among peoples throughout the world.

We give thee thanks for the gift of life and lift up to thee those celebrating birthdays this week [**especially _____**]. We ask thy guidance and blessing on all

families and bless those couples celebrating anniversaries this week [**especially** _____] in all that is yet to come, confirming and strengthening in them the vows which they have made to one another in thy name.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially those named in the Book of Remembrance [**AND today we add** _____], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of [St. Peter and of] all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

The Holy Communion

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

All things come of thee, O Lord...

The Vestry of St. Peter's, wishes to thank all who are able to maintain their pledges and gifts to the Church during these challenging times. Offerings may be mailed to the Church office or made online using the information included:

To financial contribute to our ministry, click on <https://onrealm.org/StPetersSmyrna/Give> to give online **OR** text **RISENCHRIST \$amount** (ex: RISENCHRIST \$30) to **73256** to give by phone. *Thank you in advance for your generosity!*

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord
People: **And of Thine Own have we given Thee**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most

precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

**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.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. If you are watching by video, please say the following prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works

as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

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Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Donna Jean Kiessling, Rector

Reader: Terri Anderson

Thank you for worshipping virtually with *St. Peter's Episcopal Church* in Smyrna, Delaware this morning! Your presence and participation are important to us.

The video of this service will be posted to our Facebook page at **St. Peters Smyrna** as well as on the homepage of our website: www.stpeters-smyrna.org.

Stewardship Reflection: Lent V “*Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.*” What a blueprint for a steward to follow! Love the Lord, follow and serve Him, and reflect his immeasurable love to all whose lives touch yours - and a rewarding life both now and eternally is God's promise!

Prayers for this Week

All Members and Friends who have asked for our prayers

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Evangelical Lutheran Church of America & Christian Council

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of England

Smyrna/Clayton Ministerium Cycle of Prayer: Ewell~St. Paul United Methodist Church

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Ed Drake

Nan Eddy

Welfare of the World: Healing for all those infected with the Coronavirus; Consolation for Loved Ones of those who have Died during this pandemic; For the efficient and widespread distribution of the vaccines and medication to help those who are ill; and ALL medical staff and First Responders.

Aumbry Candle

Given to the Glory of God