



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Lewes, Delaware

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026, 10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite II

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Towers

Cathy Moklebust (b. 1958)

▲ HYMN IN PROCESSION

Father, we praise thee

The Hymnal 1982, # 1

Celebrant ✙ Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

▲ THE 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

The Hymnal 1982, S 278

▲ THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Acts 7:55–60

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

▲ Indicates the People stand, as able.

✙ Indicates the People may make the sign of the cross.

PSALM 31:1–5, 15–16 *In te, Domine, Speravi*

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; *

make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *

for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, *

for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

My times are in your hand; *

**rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

Make your face to shine upon your servant, *

and in your loving-kindness save me.

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2:2–10

Reader A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

▲ HYMN

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

The Hymnal 1982, # 487

▲ GOSPEL

John 14:1–14

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

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

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where

I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Fred Day

▲ 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

by The Rev. Fred Day

Deacon Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the universe in which we live, and the neighbors with whom we share it.

Leader We pray for the church. Peter reminds us that we are a “holy people” called from darkness into marvelous light. Form and shape your people’s holiness into true godliness. Enliven our witness to the living Christ – our way, truth, and life. Difference-making God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for St. Peter's Church. We gather for mutual support and to extend your love in our surroundings. Make your life-giving presence known among those unable to be physically present with us. God of community,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for the earth. You bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains, valleys, and shorelines. Join us in partnership with you, protecting your handiwork from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. God of majesty,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for nations of the world in turmoil. Reconcile warring enemies. Make a way to lasting peace. Guide political leaders and governments to be agents of compassionate advocacy for victims of hostilities. Hold your people to an unwavering persistence for peace. Merciful God,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader The scripture says: "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. I will recount God's wonderful deeds." (Psalm 9:11) God, thank you for the joys and blessings of this life.

(The people may offer thanksgivings, silently or aloud.) For your love and goodness, O God,

People **We give you thanks.**

Leader We pray for those in times of distress. You soothe the sick, console the grieving and provide for those in need; especially _____, and those we now name silently or aloud.

(Pause) Use us as healing hands. God of well-being,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God, you have prepared a dwelling place for your people so that when we depart this life we may never be separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithfully departed, † especially L. Warde Clarke, and those we now name silently or aloud. *(Pause)* At the last, bring us all together in the heavenly home. God of resurrection power,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world: We commend this nation to your merciful care, that, being guided by your Providence, we may dwell secure in your peace. Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do your will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness, and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve all people in your fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Creator of all, you long for the harmony of the human race and for peace between the nations. In places of conflict bring us your healing, in places of suffering bring us your strength, in places of oppression bring us your protection, and in places of power bring your love and compassion, for the sake of your Son, who endured the violence of hostile humanity, even Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

▲ THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

BLESSING OF BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BLESSING OF THE BLESSING BAGS

OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

Let Us Break Bread Together

arr. Douglas Wagner (b. 1952)

Children are welcome at this altar!

During the anthem, all children are invited to gather in the narthex near the front door. We will then process forward with the collection and gather around the altar as we share in communion together.

▲ PRESENTATION HYMN

Wonder, Love, and Praise, # 822

Through north and south and east and west May God's im-mor-tal name be
 blessed: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Till ev-'ry-where be-neath the
 sun, God's reign be-gins; God's will is done: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
 lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Words: from *Songs of Praise*, alt.

Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), alt. © Oxford University Press

▲ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer D

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, heaven 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.

Setting: William Mathias (1934–1992) © 1976, Oxford University Press. Used by permission.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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." Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

All **We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, † and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. Remember Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Kevin, our Bishop, and all who minister in your Church. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all who have died † in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

▲ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 Hymnal 1982, S 155

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.

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942) © 1985 Aureole Editions. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Please note that this service is being live streamed on Facebook and YouTube. You might be visible on the video feed.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Chris Mark in memory of Cathy Mark and by Nikki Charlson in thanksgiving for the marriage of Mike and Trish Baines.

Prayer List:*(names usually stay on for about a month):* Sharon Bembry, Irene Blair, Nancy Brown, Barbara Cangiano, Fr. David Canan, Richard Carbonara, Fr. Tom Carlson, Pat Casadei, Russ Consaul, Ginger Craft, Carol DeCatur, Angelique Devlin, Patricia Ditmars, Jody Ebert, Arline Fleisher, Anna Maria Francis, Pere Yvan Francois, Al Gensch, Paul Goebel, Anita Gossett, Charles Graham & Ray Myrtle, Bill Granger, Nancy Grasing, Linda Gregory, Norma Jane Henry, Judy Howard, Bob, Vernon Huber, Brian Jenkins, Pastor Bob Kriesat, Keith Levan, John Martus, Gibson McDade, D & S, Helen Murphy, Fran, Kristen Nelson, Debbie Padgett, Ruby Peters, Tom Popovich, Steve Portalupi, Diane Potter, Janet Ross, Jay Rooney, Angie Rummel, Pat Schofield, Hugo Seta, Mary Shea, Debbie Simms, George Singer, Ronnie Smith, Nancy Treiber, DJ Turnell, Rosemary Vasan, Patty Warden, ML, Tom Welch, Don Wessel, Marianne Wiedmann, Sara Wilkinson, Jerry Williams, Joleen, Jaxon, Julie, Kyle, Genevieve, Connie, Dennis, Rick, Steven, Tim **Deaths:** L. Ward Clarke

Calling All Gardeners!

Plant Sale on Sunday May 17th! If you're cutting back, dividing, re-shaping your plants, save some for us! Start potting your leftovers so you can donate them to St. Peter's Weeders for the Plant Sale, May 17th. Don't forget the Boutique with fascinating garden complements. Find someone's donations as a treasure for your garden. Meet the famous St. Peter's Weeders! We're here during and after the 8 am and 10:15 am services. Bring donations Saturday night or earlier and leave in the shade behind shrubs or trees of old terrace. Please label your donated plants. Donations can be ornamental and/or edible. St. Peter's Weeders uses receipts from the Plant Sale for the purchase of bulbs and new plants to make our gardens gorgeous. The Garden suffered terribly from The March Storm and we are now trying to plant back some of what we lost. Many thanks to the Vestry for support with the fundamentals of mowing, mulching, irrigation, tree services etc.

Planting Coleus and Begonias around the old terrace happens Saturday May 2nd at 9:00 am. St. Peter's Weeders usually does this, and new gardeners are very welcome. Bring a kneeler, a trowel, garden gloves and lots of energy. Donuts and coffee provided. Please mark your calendars – it's coming up soon! Questions? Please call or text Helen S. Waite, Garden Manager at (302)236-2437 or email at hwaite@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

Morning Prayer is offered daily at 9 am on Facebook

Sunday, May 3

8 am Holy Eucharist
 9³⁰ am Godly Play
 10¹⁵ am Holy Eucharist
 1 pm Robin Chambers Funeral

Monday, May 4

11 am Yoga
 1 pm Yoga
 6 pm Pack One Committee
 7 pm AA
 7 pm Parish Nurses

Tuesday, May 5

10 am Art Strong
 Noon AA
 Noon Stephen Ministry
 1 pm STaR Class
 6 pm Scouts
 7 pm Vestry

Wednesday, May 6

9³⁰ am Clergy Bible Study
 10³⁰ am Centering Prayer
 11 am Staff Meeting
 Noon STaR Class
 3 pm Holy Eucharist @ The Moorings

Wednesday, May 6 (continued)

4 pm Holy Eucharist @ The Lodge
 5 pm Stephen Ministry
 7 pm AA
 7 pm Holy Eucharist

Thursday, May 7

9³⁰ am Bible Study
 11 am Yoga
 6 pm Scouts
 7 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 8

Saturday, May 9

8³⁰ am Men's Breakfast (offsite)
 9 am Spiritual Companion Group (offsite)
 9 am St. Peter's Family Welcome Day
 at Camp Arrowhead
 3 pm Outrigger Canoe Orientation
 5 pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday, May 10

8 am Holy Eucharist
 9³⁰ am Godly Play
 10¹⁵ am Holy Eucharist

Today's Servants

Lay Eucharistic

Acolyte	Lector	Minister	Ushers	Altar Guild
Joe Milani	David Jost	Jackie Ferris & Mary Beth Krytzer	Shannon & Taylor Cameron	Jackie Ferris

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED The second most important hour of our week together at St. Peter's (after Holy Eucharist) is our fellowship/coffee hour. **Today's Host:** Spotlight Ministries Fair

PLEASE NOTE: All the locks on the property are in the process of being changed. If you have a key, you will need to see Kelley in the office for a new one.

Men's Breakfast Come join us on Saturday, May 9th at the Midway Cafe. located in the Midway shopping center (just a few doors down from the Movies at Midway). Separate checks will be available. These monthly get-togethers are held on the second Saturday of each month, September through June. All St. Peter's men are welcomed to join these informal gatherings, regardless of which worship services they may usually attend. The breakfasts afford us the opportunity to establish and/or renew acquaintances, especially as the parish continues to grow. **For further information and to RSVP (always helpful) contact Stu Brahs at sjbrahs@prodigy.net.** PLEASE RSVP SO WE CAN LET THE RESTAURANT KNOW HOW MANY THERE WILL BE!

Spotlight Ministries Fair: The Newcomers committee (formerly IWC) invites you to a Spotlight Ministries Fair at each of the Coffee Hours on Sunday, 3 May 2026. As we emerge from our winter "hibernation", representatives from our more "social" ministries will be present to answer any questions you might have about these opportunities to connect with others. We'll also provide information about volunteering with The Little Cupboard and the St. Peter's Art Show. Please join us for coffee and fellowship. Featured ministries: Foyer Groups * Round Robin Bridge * Mahjongg * St. Peter's Weeders * Men's Breakfast * St. Peter's Readers * The Little Cupboard * St. Peter's Art Show

Experience Hawaiian Outrigger Canoe Paddling in Lewes! Do you like being on the water, having a great workout in a team atmosphere, and curious to join a unique ministry out in nature? Consider joining the New Hope Canoe Club Ministry- Team Atlantic. No experience necessary! Interested? Attend a New Paddler Orientation Meeting Saturday, May 9, 3:00 PM St Peters Church, Parish Hall, 200 2nd St, Lewes. Saturday, May 16, 11AM - 3:00 PM Hands-on Paddling Session at Lewes Maritime Festival Canalfront Park, Lewes Thursday, May 21, 6:30 PM, St Peters Church, Conference Room, HOE PA'A = PADDLE STRONG! Contact: David Schofield 808-347-2587, Newhopeatlantic.org

The Women's Spirituality Group (WSG) at St. Peter's generally meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. We meet in the new Seminar Room, located across from the restrooms. For our meetings in May, June, and July, we will discuss our next book selection, The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage by Drew Jackson and Richard Rohr. Read the Intro and Ch. 1 for May 1st. Discussion is facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Carol Flett and the Rev. Rebecca Brenner. Women are welcome to attend any meeting and are expected to obtain their own copy of the books. If you have any questions, please contact revflett@gmail.com

St. Peter's Art Show Volunteer Opportunities The Art Show is currently seeking volunteers for certain key Traffic Control and Street Captain positions. These volunteers are crucial to keeping traffic flowing correctly as artists arrive early on Saturday morning, helping them unload and get set up efficiently, and ensuring that dismantling and traffic flow at the close of the Art Show run equally smoothly. There will be specific training sessions provided in June, so don't worry if you haven't done this before. The important requirements are energy, stamina and good vocal projection. Please contact Annie Freeman at abfenator@gmail.com to sign up. Sign ups for all other positions will start in mid-May.

Financial Fraud Seminar Join an informative seminar to help you protect yourself from financial fraud on Wednesday, May 13th, at 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Advancements in technology and the introduction of AI (Artificial Intelligence), have resulted in a rise in financial fraud. This important seminar will introduce you to common and evolving fraud schemes as well as steps you can take to protect yourself from becoming a victim of fraud. Representatives from M&T Bank will present a seminar and facilitate a questions and answers session on the 13th, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

CLERGY & PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Jeffrey Austin Ross, *Rector*

Kelley Mallon, *Parish Administrator*

Jessica Potter, *Family Ministry and Communications*

T. J. Thomas, *Minister of Music*

Rick Jarosh, *Sexton*

+

The Rev. Celeste Cox *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Deacon Chris Miller-Marcin, *Assistant to the Rector*

The Rev. Deacon Paula Waite, *Chaplain to Beebe Hospital*

Helen Waite, *Garden Manager*



ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Give online