

# The Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025



*We seek to be instruments of God's peace, bearing witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ for all people.*

# ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Ministers: Every member of the Congregation



**Welcome** in the name of the living Christ to St. Francis Church! May you find renewed grace and peace as we worship together today. St. Francis is an Episcopal Church, part of the wider ministry of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. If you are visiting with us today, please help us get to know you by introducing yourself at the door, and also by signing our guest book or filling out a pew card. *Please be sure to include an email address if you wish to be added to our mailing list.*

Please remember to take your cell phone or electronic device off silent mode at the end of worship.

You are invited to enter in reverence and awe of God's presence in this holy place. Before the liturgy begins we commend the keeping of silence as a time for prayer and reflection.

The fifty days of Easter provide us with an opportunity to renew ourselves to the Baptismal Covenant and awaken to the presence of God's Holy Spirit in our lives. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus we pray that Christ will be revealed to us "on the Way."

*All baptized persons – regardless of denomination or age – are invited to receive the sacrament with us. All are welcome to the Table; even if you choose to not receive, you may wish to receive a blessing. Gluten-free bread is provided for those who request it; please be in touch with one of the clergy or ushers to make this request.*

## **ABOUT OUR WORSHIP:**

The liturgy that we use for worship is from the red Book of Common Prayer (**BCP**). **Bold** print is to be spoken by the people of God.

At 10:00 a.m. our hymns and service music is from the blue Hymnal found in the book racks in the pews. Numbers that begin with an S- are in the front of the Hymnal.

## HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE II

### THE WORD OF GOD

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** 10:00 a.m.     *Awake, arise, lift up your voice*

**Hymnal 212**

**EASTER ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**BCP 355**

Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

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

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:**                    8:00 a.m. *spoken*

**BCP 356**

10:00 a.m. *sung*

**Hymnal S-280**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty**  
**God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus**  
**Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have**  
**mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are**  
**the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy**  
**Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of  
reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show  
forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING:** *Acts 5:27-32*

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 150**

1 Hallelujah!

Praise God in his holy temple;  
praise him in the firmament of his power.

4 Praise him with timbrel and dance;  
praise him with strings and pipe.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts;  
praise him for his excellent greatness.

5 Praise him with resounding cymbals;  
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn;  
praise him with lyre and harp.

6 Let everything that has breath  
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

**SECOND READING:** *Revelation 1:4-8*

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN:** 10:00 a.m.

*We walk by faith, and not by sight*

**Hymnal 209**

**GOSPEL:** *John 20:19-31*

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**SERMON:**

The Rev. Patrick Perkins

**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 IV**

**BCP 388**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

...for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Doug, our Bishop; for our own parish of St. Francis, our clergy, staff, wardens and vestry; for the ministry of unCommon Ground; for the mission of Renewal Works  
...for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean; for the parish of Trinity Church, Lenox; for the mission of The Mustard Seed;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

...for Donald, our President and Maura, our Governor;

... for all Federal and State employees, for the men and women of the Armed Forces and their families, especially J. Pigsley, Gregory Smith, Jason Haynes, Mark Williams, Jacob Pezzini, Tyler Jeck, David Lane, Riley Smith, James Cimochoowski;  
...for the peace and well-being of all international students, studying abroad in the United States;  
...for peace throughout the world; for the victims of war and terrorism, for the people of Ukraine and Afghanistan, for peace in Sudan, Yemen, and the region of the Middle East; and for those facing famine and drought in Somalia and the Horn of Africa;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

...for those in our Parish Cycle of Prayer: Phillip and Mary Warbasse and George; Peggy Webb; Lee and Carol Webber;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

...for those in need of healing; Rich, Eric Warner, Kathleen Lloyd Jones, Jack, Ann Murphy, John Dougherty, Paul Stanovich, Charles Delisle, Matteo Padilla, Tom, Joanne, Elizabeth Heath, Bev, Sheri Dumas, Judy Crosby, Brenda, Dave and Diane, Hilda Schinsing, Brad, Josh McCrillis, Judy Capone, Mary Lee Kraushaar, Sarah, Jen Gadowski, Sharon Seale;

...those suffering from homelessness and all types of addiction and mental illness; the residents and staff of Holden Nursing Home; and those who mourn; and those we name at this time, either silently or aloud;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Joe Ribeiro and Charlie Brinley that your will for them may be fulfilled; and that they may share with Francis, Clare and all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant adds a final collect.*

**THE PEACE**

**BCP 360**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** 10:00 a.m.     *Love's redeeming work is done*

**Hymnal 188**

**OFFERTORY PRESENTATION AND DOXOLOGY**

8:00 a.m.     *All things come of thee, O Lord. **And of Thine own have we given thee.***

10:00 a.m.

Tune: Hymnal 380

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;***

***Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.***

**BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:** *Eucharistic Prayer B*

**BCP 367**

*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 God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*



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**

**8:00 a.m. (spoken)**

**10:00 a.m. (sung)**

**Hymnal S130**

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord 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 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Francis, Clare, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

## 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.

## FRACTION ANTHEM:

8:00 a.m. Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**  
10:00 a.m. Agnus Dei Hymnal S164

COMMUNION HYMN: 10:00 a.m. *Come, risen Lord* Hymnal 306

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION BCP 365

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.

## EASTER BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN: 10:00 a.m. *O praise ye the Lord!* Hymnal 432

## THE DISMISSAL BCP 366

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## **SERVERS THIS WEEKEND:**

Altar Guild: Sharlene O'Connor, Marje Sullivan, Jenny Sanders, Peggy Webb

Nursing Home: Tina Chen

### **8:00 a.m.**

Reader: Ginny Powell-Brasier

LEM: Dick Delorme

### **10:00 a.m.**

Ushers: Cindy Foley and Sara Studley

Reader: Cindy Foley

LEMs: Mary Cook, Laura Caswell

Coffee Hour: Dawn Rooke and Diana Pahl

# St. Francis Episcopal Church



Bearing Witness  
to  
Christ's Love

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