

Easter Day

The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 5, 2026

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



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."

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP:

The liturgy that we use for worship is from the red Book of Common Prayer (**BCP**). Beginning portions of the liturgy are printed in the bulletin. **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.

We occasionally use supplemental hymn books called *Wonder, Love & Praise* and *Come Celebrate* which will be given to you with your bulletin. These will be listed as WLP or CC followed by the hymn number.

THE WORD OF GOD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

Jesus Christ is risen today!

Hymnal 207

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 IN EXCELSIS:

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.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: *Acts 10:34-43*

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the

baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24 (*remaining seated*)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever. | 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD. |
| 2 Let Israel now proclaim,
"His mercy endures for ever." | 20 "This is the gate of the LORD;
he who is righteous may enter." |
| 14 The LORD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation. | 21 I will give thanks to you, for you
answered me and have become my
salvation. |
| 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents of the righteous: | 22 The same stone which the builders
rejected has become the chief
cornerstone. |
| 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed!
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!" | 23 This is the LORD'S doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes. |
| 17 I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD. | 24 On this day the LORD has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. |
| 18 The LORD has punished me sorely,
but he did not hand me over to death. | |

SECOND READING: *Colossians 3:1-4*

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: *Matthew 28:1-10*

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ**SERMON:**

The Rev. Patrick Perkins

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

BCP 292

The Celebrant invites the Renewal of Baptismal Vows:

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creatures?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world;
...for Doug, our Bishop, Miguelina, our Bishop-elect, for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for the community of St. Francis; and for all ministers and people.
...for The Anglican Church of Mexico; for the parish of St. Paul's, Holyoke; for our Diocesan supported ministries and their work throughout the world;
...for those in our Parish Cycle of Prayer: Steve Donkin; Susan Dresley and Larry Doxsey; Scott, Mary Beth, Samuel, Nate and Ben Dziewietin; Jim Emard;

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well being of all people.
... 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, Sam Richenburg;
...for Donald, our President; Maura, our Governor; and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
...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;
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Rich, Eric Warner, Kathleen Lloyd Jones, Jack, John Dougherty, Paul Stanovich, Tom, Bev, Judy Crosby, Brenda, Hilda Schinsing, Judy Capone, Mary Lee and Bob Kraushaar, Jen Gadowski, Jeanette, James Kelly, Carmelita Bello, Andrea McDonald, Mary Mullahy, Kathy Vogel, Richard, Donna Giuliani, Angela Favulli, Patrick Kelly, Priscilla Morris, Maryann Bello, Mark, Lisa, Joshua Olson, Deirdre, Amy Polwarczyk, Abigail Runstrom, Kevin Greenberg, Diana, Jane, Frank, Jason Cox, Joe, Nancy, Andi; those suffering from homelessness and all types of addiction and mental illness; the residents and staff of Holden Nursing Home; and those who mourn;

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers of thanksgiving or petition, either silently or aloud.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored, especially Francis and Clare; Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Celebrant add a concluding collect.

THE PEACE

BCP 360

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

***The Easter Offering** has been designated to The Mustard Seed Camp*

OFFERTORY HYMN:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

Hymnal 178

OFFERTORY PRESENTATION AND DOXOLOGY

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;

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.**

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:

Agnus Dei

Hymnal S-164

COMMUNION HYMN:

*My Lord, what a mornin'
That Easter Day with joy was bright*

Soloist
Hymnal 193

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.**

THE EASTER BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

Christ is alive!

Hymnal 182

THE DISMISSAL

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

We are very happy to welcome our Archdeacon of the Diocese of WMA,
The Rev. Jane Griesbach, to celebrate Easter Day with us!

SERVERS THIS MORNING:

Altar Guild: Dave Lucas, Mike Reno, Carolyn Schmidt

Nursing Home: Karen Kappes

8:00 a.m.

Reader: Jeremy Sanders

LEMs: Rich Farrell and Chris Berglund

10:00 a.m.

Usher: Ted Kremer

Readers/LEMs: Susan Dresley, Christina Melzar

EASTER MEMORIALS

In Loving Memory of.....

Earleen Head, Anita Collins, Lawrence Collins and Sarah Head given by
The Head Family – Joy, Thomas, Aila and Thomson

Samuel Chase Davenport given by The Davenport Family

Betty Clark given by Wendy, Jenn and Ethan Christainsen

Jonathan Seale given by Terry Hughes Chapman

Iver and Gladys Erikson, Bill and Charlene Stewart, Gord and Dottie Erikson given by
Mark W. and Beverly Erikson Stewart

Michael Foust given by his wife, Sharon Foust

My grandparents, my father, my in-laws, Peter given by Laura Caswell

Allen and Barbara Beck, Christopher Pope, Linda Dodge, Jane Trowell given by
Peter and Nancy Pope

In Loving Memory of.....

Jack Holden given by The Holden and Jensen Families

Janice, Walter, Alene, Susan and Anthony given by Bill

The Rev. Ted Harris given by Deborah Harris, wife

Anson and Madelyn Betts, Marcel and Elvina Delorme, Tyke Crowley, Charles Delisle given by Richard and Susan Delorme

William and Jean Andrews, Charles and Ruth Nowak, Richard Falcon and Fred Edlin given by John and Lucy Nowak

Lynch and May Family given by Kathryn May

My mother, Barbara Van Schermbeek given by her daughter, Elizabeth Adams

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Plante, Mrs. Lisa St. Martin given by Jeffrey and Nancy Plante

Don Engstrom, Jon Greisbach given by Deacon Jane

Ted and Sylvia Cleveland, Robert King given by Mary and Phillip Warbasse

Don Webb given by his family

David Dill and David Whamond given by Kim Whamond

Raymond and Bertille Stanovich given by The Stanovich Family

Arnold, Joan, Arn, Claire, Donald, Katherine, Margaret, Emma, Carl, Herbert, Mildred, Edward, Jack, Ellen, Rich, Cousins, Aunts, Uncles, Friends given by their family

Richard Peterson, Fordyce and Shirley Freeland, Steven Freeland given by Ron and Debbie Freeland

Donald and Patricia Cone, given by Patrick and Carol Perkins & family

Kathryn Cone, given by Patrick and Carol Perkins & family

Betsy Perkins, given by Patrick and Carol Perkins & family

Family and friends who have passed given by Randy and Carolyn Schmidt

Charlene Griffin and Robert Chabot given by a friend

Clint Brown given by Sylvia Brown

In Loving Memory of.....

Peter R. Carr Jr., The Rev. Amy Groves Heller, Jeffrey and Sally Groves
given by Donald and Barbara Groves

James and Anna Giarusso, Richard H. and Edith L. Jones, Helen Jones, Paul Zenaro, Scott Zenaro
Given by Vincent and Beverly Giarusso

William Carroll given by Nancy Carroll and Elizabeth Carroll

Diana Carroll given by Nancy Carroll and Elizabeth Carroll

Sandra Charbonneau given by Nancy Carroll and Elizabeth Carroll

David Dill given by Jeanette Dill

In Thanksgiving for the Blessing of.....

Abigail Runstrom and Kevin Greenberg given by Naomi Kremer

Ohana given by Beth Ann Carrigan

Josh, Greg, Sadie, Simon, Dan, Brie, Emery, Austin given by Laura Caswell

Rosie Pope and Henry Brick-Pope given by Peter and Nancy Pope

Jennifer and Jeffrey Bastien, Michael Delorme given by Richard and Susan Delorme

Chris, Callan and Maggie Whamond given by Kim Whamond

Kyle Emma and James given by their family

Ashley, Sam, Max, Alex and Marlowe given by Ron and Debbie Freeland

Justin Brunelle given by MaryAnn DiPinto

Family and friends and our grandson's first birthday given by Randy and Carolyn Schmidt

Richard, Allison and Adrian given by Vincent and Beverly Giarusso

Our children, Mark and Kimberley, our grandchildren, Maggie and Christopher, Callan, Jason, Chrystle, Victoria, Nicholas, Joshua and Emmaus and our great grandchildren, Cianna and Eeva given by Jeanette Dill

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

Monday, April 6

Easter Monday – Offices Closed

Wednesday, April 8

12:00 p.m. – Mustard Seed Prep

4:15 p.m. – Mustard Seed Delivery

5:45 p.m. – Al-Anon Workshop

Friday, April 10

7:00 p.m. – TED Talk

Saturday, April 11

9:30 a.m. – Food Drive

Sunday, April 12

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

9:00 a.m. – Sunday Scripture Reflection

9:45 a.m. – Church School

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

11:15 a.m. – Mission Ministries Meeting

11:30 a.m. – BEMA Discussion Group

St. Francis Episcopal Church



Bearing Witness
to
Christ's Love

Office Phone: 508-829-3344 Email: parishadmin@stfranchisholden.org
Web Page: www.stfranchisholden.org

Rector: The Rev. Patrick R. Perkins
Music Minister: Elizabeth Keusch
Parish Administrator: Elena Poirier
Church School: Amy Mellors

rector@stfranchisholden.org
music@stfranchisholden.org
parishadmin@stfranchisholden.org
churchschool@stfranchisholden.org

