

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY ♦ APRIL 19, 2020 ♦ 9:45 AM

Believe
BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
HAVE NOT SEEN, YET BELIEVE

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY

www.christchurchtomsriver.org

HOW TO LISTEN IN TO THE LIVE TELE-SERVICE

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WELCOME! AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FROM YOUR HOME FOR TODAY'S SERVICE!

WHILE WE ARE NOT ABLE TO PHYSICALLY COME TOGETHER TODAY FOR WORSHIP, WE APPRECIATE YOUR SPIRITUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS SERVICE.

WE THEREFORE INVITE YOU TO REPLICATE MANY OF THE SAME PRACTICES THAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY DO IN A SUNDAY WORSHIP. FOR EXAMPLE, WE INVITE YOU TO SPEND SOME TIME IN QUIET PRAYER TO PLACE YOURSELF BEFORE THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS.

DURING THE SERVICE, WE INVITE YOU TO PERFORM THE SAME GESTURES THAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY DO IN CHURCH (SIGN OF THE CROSS, BOWING, ETC.).

ALSO, IN THOSE PLACES IN THE SERVICE WHERE THE PEOPLE WOULD NORMALLY SAY A PRAYER (SUCH AS, THE COLLECT OF WELCOMING) OR RESPONSE (SUCH AS, "AND ALSO WITH YOU") , PLEASE SAY IT ALOUD.

YOUR PHONE IS MUTED BUT OUR VOICES WILL RISE TOGETHER IN AFFIRMING OUR FAITH. THANK YOU.

TODAY'S MINISTERS

PRIEST: The Rev. Mary Frances Schjonberg

DEACON: The Rev. Ted Foley

MUSIC: Polly Moore

LECTORS: Jeff Genthe, Matthew Genthe

INTERCESSOR: Suzanne Schleck

OPENING HYMN

Welcome, Happy Morning!

Hymnal 179, vs. 1,4-6

1. *“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.
hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!
Lo! the Dead is living, God for evermore!
Him their true Creator, all his works adore!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.*

4. *Maker and Redeemer, life and health of all,
thou from heaven beholding human nature's fall,
of the Father's Godhead true and only Son,
mankind to deliver, manhood didst put on.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.*

5. *Thou, of life the Author, death didst undergo,
tread the path of darkness, saving strength to show;
come then, true and faithful, now fulfill thy word,
'tis thine own third morning! rise, O buried Lord!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.*

6. *Loose the souls long prisoned, bound with Satan's chain:
all that now is fallen raise to life again;
show thy face in brightness, bid the nations see;
bring again our daylight: day returns with thee!
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The people standing, as able, the Priest says

Priest Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

People *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

Priest 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*

The following is said

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest 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.*

The following is said by all

THE COLLECT OF WELCOMING

Almighty and gracious God, we are your church, serving your mission. Lead us forth beyond our walls to seek out all people in our community, to invite and love them as Jesus would. Empower us to welcome to Christ Church all who are hurting or in need, all who are searching for you or for answers to life. Open our eyes to recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives. Transform us all into disciples of Christ. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The following is said by all

PRAYER FOR THE SELECTION OF A RECTOR

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for Christ Church that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The people sit as the lessons are read.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a,22-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The following is said by all

PSALM 16

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer,
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

THE SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

A Reading from the first letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Deacon 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.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Please be seated.

REFLECTION

The Rev. Mary Frances Schjonberg

HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

Hymnal 383

1. *Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son;
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.*
2. *Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.*
3. *Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.*

All stand, as able.

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:
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.

* "catholic" here means the universal Church across time and place

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader In the sure and certain hope of resurrection, we pray to the Lord, saying, God of grace, Hear our prayer.
Gracious God, we pray for all your people, that they may find, and be found, by you. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We pray for peace and good will among all nations. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We give you thanks, Almighty God, for the many blessings in our lives, especially for those blessings we now name and for all blessings. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We ask your mercy for all who are hungry, thirsty, homeless, oppressed, in prison, or in any kind of trouble. God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We pray for those affected by natural and man-made disasters; for those who are sick and suffering; we pray for a quick end to this pandemic and for those with and exposed to the virus; for medical professionals, first responders, and emergency workers; for those who have lost their jobs or suffered financial loss; for those serving our country; for those listed on our parish prayer list, especially Alice Epps, Bethany Graham, and for those we name at this time God of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader For all who have died in the hope of rising again,
especially for Anna Louzen, for those who have died from
the COVID-19 virus, for those who died serving our
country, and those we name at this timeGod of grace,

People *Hear our prayer.*

The Priest adds a concluding collect.

Please listen to the following prayer

PRAYER IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with all essential workers. Be with all emergency responders, law enforcement, and medical professionals who seek to help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of all people, particularly those who are poor and most vulnerable. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Adapted from prayer written by Kerry Weber, America Magazine

The following is said by all

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.

**We use the modern translation of Lord's Prayer because it is closer to the Greek original text; particularly for the verse, 'Save us from the time of trial' since God does not deliberately lead us into temptation.*

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

The priest invites the following prayer to be said by all:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. 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.

The ministries of Christ Church “thank you” for your continued giving during these times of uncertainty. Your generous donations and pledges keep Christ Church moving forward. Please continue to mail to Christ Church (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753) or set up with your individual bank, a bill pay, to be directly submitted to Christ Church. Please contact the Church Office with any questions or concerns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please also read “Parish News” beginning on page 13 of this bulletin for complete and latest events.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

Hymnal 178

Refrain:

*Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name*

*Jesus is Lord of all the earth:
He is the King of creation.*

(Refrain)

*Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.*

(Refrain)

*We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live for ever.*

(Refrain)

*Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior.*

(Refrain)

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

PARISH NEWS

CHRIST CHURCH WELCOMES MOTHER MARY FRANCES

SCHJONBERG! "...retired on July 1, 2019 as the senior editor and reporter for the Episcopal News Service, a denominationally sponsored organization. She spent nearly 25 years working as a newspaper reporter, editor, photographer, copy editor and page designer before becoming a priest. Mary Frances served as assistant rector at Christ Church in Short Hills, New Jersey, before joining ENS in 2005. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in journalism and mass communications from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master of divinity degree from Church Divinity School of the Pacific. In 2010, CDSP, the Episcopal Church-related seminary in Berkeley, Calif., granted her a doctor of divinity degree, *honoris causa*, for her body of work since graduation. She lives in Neptune, New Jersey."

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY: We burn the candle in our homes to remember the Holocaust. The date of Holocaust Remembrance begins at sunset on April 20 thru April 21. In years past, yellow candles have been available at church for you to pick up and then to use to burn in your home. This year, we ask that you safely burn any type or color candle you may have on these dates. Let us join with our brothers sisters as we remember the 6 million Jews victim of the Holocaust.

COMING SOON! SUNDAY SERVICES ON ZOOM VIA YOUR PHONE OR INTERNET! Coming Soon (scheduled to begin May 3). Stay tuned for more details!

JOIN US FOR “SERVICE” FROM THE SAFETY OF YOUR HOME!

During this time of “public service suspension” your Clergy and Staff are providing multiple times a week live and recorded services via phone and email.

The current weekly schedule of live services via phone are:

Sundays, 9:45am — Wednesdays, 10:00am — Fridays, 7:00am

We plan to have each service recorded and then provided to you via email as well as posted on our website www.christchurchtomsriver.org.

To listen to the live service please:

Dial: 712-770-5505

Enter Access Code: 189853#

If you have any difficulty, please email or call the church office (leave a voicemail).

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS RECEIVING VOICEMAILS, EMAILS & MAIL:

If you need to reach us for any reason, please 1) Call the church office at 732-349-5506 and leave a voicemail. Voicemails are being immediately received offsite and we are calling you back as soon as possible. Or 2) Email NicoleStrada@ChristChurchTomsRiver.org and she will reply as soon as possible. We are also receiving our USPS mail.

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS DISCRETIONARY FUND: While everyone's life has been impacted by the coronavirus, we have become aware of several people in our parish who have already lost their jobs and income and are in dire need of emergency assistance. Also, as this disaster continues, we expect that more jobs will be affected. For this reason we are setting up a Coronavirus Discretionary Fund. This fund will provide emergency assistance to people affected by this disaster. If you are in need of emergency assistance, please contact one of the clergy (Mother Petrina, Deacon Jose, or Deacon Ted). If you are able to contribute to this fund, please send a check to Christ Church (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753) with "Coronavirus Fund" in the memo. A restricted account has been established specifically for this purpose. May God bless us all. We will get through this together.

** As April 16, the COVID-19 Fund balance stands at: Contributions: \$18,530.50; Disbursements: \$1,210.00

The **FOOD PANTRY** remains open to anyone in need on TUESDAYS from 9:30am to 12noon. The pantry is well stocked and we are still serving many in our community.

WE DO HAVE SOME ITEMS WE ARE URGENTLY IN NEED OF:

Jelly, grape — Jelly, strawberry — White rice — Canned fruit

We are also in need of:

Sugar — Peanut butter — 2% or fat free long life milk — Pasta sauce — Spam — Canned chicken — Canned stew — Canned diced tomatoes — Ketchup — Pinto Beans — Mayo — Mustard — Pancake mix — Pancake syrup — Canned peas — Ramen noodles

If you are still comfortable shopping, can shop safely and would like to drop off donations, please drop them on the lower table (outside) marked DONATIONS ONLY, between 9:30am and 11am on Tuesday mornings. This allows our volunteers time to log and load the food while we are there. If you need to schedule a different drop off time, please contact the Church Office.

If you have any questions at all, or are not considered ‘at risk’ and would like to volunteer for the Food Pantry, please free feel to contact (text/call) Claire Koerner at 732-600-5709 or email Clairekoerner1503@gmail.com. Thank you, more than ever, for your support of the CHRIST CHURCH FOOD PANTRY.

WEEKLY FINANCES: During the year 2020, we have budgeted \$5,635 to come from pledges and loose offerings each week. For the week ending April 10, we received \$4,715 in pledges. (There were no loose offerings due to there not being any services in church.)

CONTRIBUTIONS & PLEDGES DURING COVID 19: Our pews will be empty for the next several weeks, that also means our collection plate is empty. We are asking if you would please continue to send in your pledges even though our weekly worship services have been suspended. Although most of life as we know it has come to a halt, the bills continue to come in and need to be paid. You can help us keep our bills current by keeping your pledge up to date. You can do this by mailing a check to the office (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753), or you can set up online bill pay through your bank (see your bank for details). Please consider doing this, so that once we are back in church, we can continue moving forward without the worry of how we are going to “catch up”. Thank you!

PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW YOU ARE DOING — We want to hear from you! And know that you are doing “ok” amongst this pandemic. Please leave us a Voicemail or send us an Email!

BECKER YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP: ATTN: High School Seniors and College Students! Completed applications must be submitted by May 7. Need the application? Reply to this email and we will email it to you. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica DeRiggi at jessderiggi@gmail.com or 732-330-9092.

THE ANNUAL SPRING RUMMAGE SALE originally scheduled for May 14 & 15 has been **CANCELLED**. We will hope for better and healthier circumstances in September for a Fall Sale.

BIRTHDAY CLUB: We all have one day of the year that is just for us; it's our birthday. We may celebrate in grand style with family and friends singing that special song, eating cake and GETTING gifts; or we may choose to celebrate in a quiet fashion. However you choose to celebrate, it is YOUR special day. The Endowment and Stewardship Committees have come up with another way to celebrate this day. How about GIVING a gift that will KEEP ON GIVING? Each year on your birthday, we are inviting you to join the Birthday Club by writing a check in the amount of your age to Christ Church, which will be deposited into the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is invested with the diocese. By giving to this fund on your birthday, you will be contributing to the day-to-day life of the parish as well as the future of Christ Church. It is truly a gift that will keep on giving! How can you donate? Simply write out a check for the amount of your age, put Birthday Club in the memo and put it in the offering plate, mail it or drop it off to the office mailbox. So that we can all watch our gifts grow, we will update you on what we have received. We look forward to celebrating each of your birthdays! **Total contributions for the month of April are currently \$140 (2 birthdays)!**

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