

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY ♦ APRIL 26, 2020 ♦ 9:45 AM

AND THEIR EYES WERE
opened, AND THEY
recognized HIM.

Luke 24:31

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY

www.christchurchtomsriver.org

HOW TO LISTEN IN TO THE LIVE TELE-SERVICE

DIAL: 712-770-5505
ACCESS CODE: 189853#

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. Petrina M. Pyatt

DEACON: The Rev. Ted Foley

MUSIC: Polly Moore, Cathy O'Neill

LECTOR: Melissa Briggs

INTERCESSOR: Cathy O'Neill

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia! The Strife is O'er

Hymnal 208, vs. 1,2,4,5

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!*

*The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!*

*He closed the yawning gates of hell;
the bars from heaven's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!*

*Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live and sing to thee. Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

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. O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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,36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift

of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The following is said by all

PSALM 116:1-3, 10-17

- 1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me; I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord:
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."
- 10 How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.
- 13 Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his servants.
- 14 O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the Lord'S house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-35

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Deacon Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some

women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

REFLECTION

The Rev. Petrina M. Pyatt

HYMN

Now the Green Blade Riseth

Hymnal 204

*Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many years has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*In the grave they laid Him, Love whom hate had slain,
Thinking that never he would wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again;
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

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 Matt Nickens, Jean Cole, 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 Mildred Moore, 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 14 of this bulletin for additional information and news.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

He is Risen, He is Risen!

Hymnal 180, vs. 1,2,4

*He is risen, he is risen!
Tell it with a joyful voice.
Christ has burst his three days' prison;
Let the whole wide earth rejoice.
Death is conquered, we are free;
Christ has won the victory.*

*Come, ye sad and fearful hearted,
With glad smile and radiant brow.
Death's dark shadows have departed,
All our woes are over now;
And the passion that he bore,
Sin and pain can vex no more.*

*He is risen, he is risen!
He hath opened heaven's gate.
We are free from sin's dark prison,
Risen to a holier state;
And a brighter Easter beam
On our longing eyes shall stream.*

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

DO YOU MISS FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY? Do You Miss Fellowship with Your Christ Church Family? We have been so blessed by our Clergy and Lay Ministers for the many services available each week during this time of suspension of all public gatherings. But what about “Coffee Hour” and the many “Events” that we would typically and regularly gather and socialize with our Church Family? Beginning next week, Christ Church will host on ZOOM a virtual “Coffee Hour” on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm.

For those not familiar with ZOOM, it is a video chat room/meeting space. If you have a phone or computer with video/camera functions, you will be able to join in and SEE the faces of your Church Family as well as show us your face. If you are not interested in being visible, having your video off is an option.

If you do not have or are not comfortable using a computer or internet, you can still participate by calling in on your phone. You will still be able to listen and speak to everyone else participating.

You should have received in your email on 4/23 a ZOOM invitation to register for Monday Evening "Coffee Hour". You MUST register in order to be able to participate. After registering you will receive another email including both the link to Join the Meeting or the Phone # to call in and Meeting ID#.

Don't worry, those without the capability of receiving this email or registering online will be individually phoned and provided all needed information to participate if interested. And, if you did NOT receive an email already, please contact the Church Office by Monday AM.

We look forward to “seeing” your faces in these virtual Coffee Hours as we take this opportunity to say "Hello!" and "How are you?"

If you need any help, please let me know! Blessings!

COMING SOON! SUNDAY SERVICES ON ZOOM—Although advertised last week that we would change our Sunday Services to ZOOM, it has been decided to forego this change. At this time, all future Sunday and Weekday services will remain on Conference Call as we have been doing since March 15th.

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

During this time of “public service suspension” through at least the month of May, 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).

UPDATE FROM THE DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE: Greetings! As all of us are aware, we are in the midst of an unprecedented time in our living history. As buildings have been closed, employment furloughed and life as we knew it came to a grinding halt, the diocese also had to make decisions about people and practices that would be impacted. In light of this, Bishop Stokes and Rev. Dr. Brian Jemmott, Transition Coordinator have suspended all discernment activity with prospective clergy until further notice. The committee has been able to do virtual meetings and we are set and ready to continue once the "all clear" is given. Please pray for those who have applied to be our rector that they may remain safe and healthy as they minister to their parishioners.

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 23, the COVID-19 Fund balance stands at: Contributions: \$19,405.50; Disbursements: \$1,510.00

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 17, we received \$2,324 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)!**

**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
415 Washington Street
Toms River, New Jersey 08753
www.ChristChurchTomsRiver.org**