

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-FIELDS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*“Lord, make us instruments of your peace.”*



Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
Baptism & New Member Welcome  
The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026  
10:00 a.m.  
Live on Facebook and YouTube

## ***Welcome to St. Francis-in-the-Fields!***

Whether you're a guest or a member, rich or poor, young or old; whatever your political alignment, racial background, gender, ethnicity, or country of origin; no matter if you're a cradle Episcopalian, from another faith expression, or claim no faith at all – we're glad you've joined us for worship today. Please help us get to know you by completing the Guest Card in the rack at each end of the pew and placing the detachable part in the offering plate. There is a welcome table in the narthex (foyer) where you can receive more information about our parish, along with a small gift. Our clergy and greeters look forward to meeting you after the service.

**Worship:** Our liturgy follows the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP), found in the book rack, with some material from *Enriching our Worship* (EOW). Our hymns come from the blue and green hymnals in the pews, along with other resources. All text for the service is printed in the bulletin. You are invited to prepare your soul for worship by kneeling silently in your pew before the service begins.

**Children:** We welcome all young children in our worship services, and ask you not to worry if your child is active or makes noise. “Busy Bags” for kids are available from the Ushers. Our “Children’s Room” in the office hallway is available if at any time your infant or child needs a change of scenery.

**Accessibility:** At different times during worship, the congregation may stand or kneel according to custom. Those who suffer physical discomfort are invited remain seated, or stand or kneel as they are able. During Communion, please notify an Usher if you are unable to come forward and we will bring Communion to you. Gluten-free communion wafers are available.

**Facilities:** Two public restrooms are located in the office hallway.

*(Congregational words and responses are in **bold** text.)*

The Altar Flowers this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of  
Jane Gordon Fletcher given by Kristina & Bob Lange  
and in celebration of Patrick Alan Collins' Baptism given by Diane & Paul Faison.

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

## THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE: April, from *Das Jahr*

Fanny Mendellsohn

## THE GREAT SILENCE

*After the bell rings once, please observe a time of silence.*

*When the bell rings three times, please stand as able for the opening and procession.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: The king of love my shepherd is Hymnal 645 (v. 1, 2, 5, 6)

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine for ever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house for ever.

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

There is one Body and one Sprit;  
There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
One God and Creator of All

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God

Hymnal S280

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**O** God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR BAPTISM

**A**lmighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin: Grant that we, being reborn to new life in him, may live in righteousness and holiness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:42-47

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

**T**hose who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches  
Thanks be to God

### PSALM 23

**T**he Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**ANTHEM: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

Althouse

*My Shepherd, you supply my need, most holy is your name;  
in pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.  
You bring my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake your ways;  
you lead me, for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.*

*When through the shades of death I walk, your presence is my stay;  
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Your hand in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;  
my cup with Blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.*

*Your sure provisions gracious God attend me all my days;  
oh, may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.  
Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;  
no more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.*

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2:19-25

### A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

**I**t is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

Thanks be to God

### SEQUENCE HYMN: Savior, like a shepherd lead us

Hymnal 708

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need thy tender care;  
in thy pleasant pastures feed us; for our use thy folds prepare.  
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2 Early let us seek thy favor, early let us learn thy will;  
do thou, Lord, our only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

## THE GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John  
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria

*A brief time of silent meditation follows the sermon*

## PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

BCP 301

*Celebrant*

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and Godparents*

**We present Patrick Alan Collins to receive the Sacrament of Baptism**

*Celebrant* Will you be responsible for seeing that this child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Parents and Godparents* **I renounce them.**

*Celebrant* Do you renounce the evil power of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Parents and Godparents* **I renounce them.**

*Celebrant* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Parents and Godparents* **I renounce them.**

*Celebrant* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Parents and Godparents* **I do.**

*Celebrant* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Parents and Godparents* **I do.**

*Celebrant* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Parents and Godparents* **I do.**

*Celebrant* Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

*Congregation* **We will.**

*Celebrant:* Please stand and let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant

## THE BAPTISMAL CONVENANT

*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.**

## PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

*Deacon:* Let us now pray for Patrick, who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*Leader:* Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Open his heart to your grace and truth.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Send him into the world in witness to your love.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

*The baptismal party now processes to the font, during which is sung the Veni Sancte Spiritus.*

*Come Holy Spirit, from heaven shine forth with your glorious light. Veni Sancte Spiritus.*

*Come, Father of the poor, come, generous Spirit, come, light of our hearts, Veni Sancte Spiritus.*

*Come from the four winds, O Spirit, come breath of God;*

*disperse the shadows over us, renew and strengthen your people. Veni Sancte Spiritus*

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, God, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE BAPTISM

*Celebrant* Patrick, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon Patrick the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

**Post-Baptismal Hymn:                    We know that Christ is raised                    Hymnal 296 (v. 1-2)**

- 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold;  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. **Alleluia!**
- 2 We share by water in his saving death.  
Reborn we share with him an Easter life  
as living members of a living Christ. **Alleluia!**

*The baptismal party returns to the Altar for the Chrismation.*

*Celebrant*            Patrick you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever.

*Celebrant*            Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Congregation*    **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

*The newly baptized are now presented to the congregation. Applause is appropriate.*

## THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

**L**ord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.  
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*Members of the Newcomers Committee, Vestry, or other sponsors come forward to stand with the new members and present them by saying:*

Fr. Kevin, we present Katherine Lane, Paula Turocy, Regis Turocy, and Kristina Lange, and we welcome them to our community as they continue the process of growth in the meaning of baptism.

*Celebrant:* What do you seek?

*Answer:* **Renewal of my life in Christ in this community of faith.**

*Celebrant:* In baptism, you died with Christ Jesus to the forces of evil and rose to new life as members of his Body. Will you study the promises made at your baptism, and strive to keep them in the fellowship of this community and the rest of the Church?

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

*Celebrant:* Will you attend the worship of God regularly with us, to hear God's word and to celebrate the mystery of Christ's dying and rising?

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

*Celebrant:* Will you join us in our life of service to those who are poor, outcast, captive or powerless?

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

*Celebrant:* Will you strive to recognize the gifts that God has given you and discern how they are to be used in the building up of God's reign of peace and justice?

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

*Celebrant:* People of St. Francis, as disciples of Jesus Christ we are all chosen to serve as companions to these persons in the pilgrimage of our faith. Will you support them by prayer and example and help them to grow in the knowledge and love of God? Will you keep these new members in your prayers, share with them in ministry, bear their burdens and, when necessary, forgive and encourage them?

*Sponsors:* **We will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Blessed are you, O Lord, our maker, for you form us in your image and restore us in Jesus Christ. In baptism, these children of God were buried with Christ and rose to new life in him. Renew them by your Holy Spirit, that, as members of this parish, they grow in the love of Christ. Strengthen their union with all of Christ's Body as they join us in our life of praise and service; through our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Please now recognize and welcome the newest members of St. Francis-in-the-Fields.

*People:* **We recognize you as members of the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

**CHURCH SCHOOL ENTRANCE:** *(Please welcome our children to church from church school.)*

*(He's got the whole world in his hands / He's got the wind and the rain in his hands)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MEDITATION MUSIC**

# HOLY COMMUNION

## DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 380 (v. 3)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

Hymnal S129

**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.**

And so, Creator, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Rachel and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, O God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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

**O**ur Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE FRACTION

This is the true bread which comes down from Heaven and gives life to the world.  
Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

## FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S155

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the fest. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*This is the Table of the Lord. Wherever they may be on their spiritual journey, everyone present is invited to receive Holy Communion, including young children. Anyone unable to come forward may signal an Usher to receive communion in their seat.*

## COMMUNION HYMN: Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

Hymnal 343

- 1 Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless thy chosen pilgrim flock  
with manna in the wilderness, with water from the rock.
- 2 We would not live by bread alone, but by thy word of grace,  
in strength of which we travel on to our abiding-place.
- 3 Be known to us in breaking bread, and do not then depart;  
Savior, abide with us, and spread thy table in our heart.
- 4 Lord, sup with us in love divine thy Body and thy Blood,  
that living bread, that heavenly wine, be our immortal food.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

EOW 70

**L**oving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## SEASONAL BLESSING

BOS

**T**he God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN: Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim Hymnal 535

- 1 Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
and publish abroad his wonderful Name;  
the Name all-victorious of Jesus extol:  
his kingdom is glorious; he rules over all.
- 2 God ruleth on high, almighty to save;  
and still he is nigh: his presence we have.  
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,  
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.
- 3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne!  
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son.  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.
- 4 Then let us adore, and give him his right:  
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,  
and honor and blessing, with angels above,  
and thanks never-ceasing and infinite love.

## DISMISSAL

*The “house” microphones are still on! Please take any post-service conversations into the Narthex so those who wish, including our streaming audience, can enjoy the organ postlude.*

**POSTLUDE: Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 53**

**J. S. Bach**

**Music in Ministry**

**by Mr. Joe Perry, Music Director**

Happy Good Shepherd Sunday! Every year on the fourth Sunday after Easter, all liturgical texts revolve around the image of Jesus as the good shepherd sent to care for his flock. I always love programming music for this Sunday because the sound of music in the fields is evoked by musicians, lyricists, and poets in every age. Of particular note is the beloved 23rd psalm, which we will chant today. This psalm has inspired many hymns including our opening hymn and the choir's anthem. All of the text paraphrases the original psalm, meant to fit different song meters. As we sing together today, it is especially appropriate to look toward the fields. If only we could invite a flock of sheep to come visit!

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The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria, Rector  
The Rev. Diane E. Faison, Deacon  
Mr. Joseph Perry, Minister of Music

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 26, 2026

**TODAY - Sunday, April 26 – New Member Breakfast & Welcome Liturgy:** This morning, our new members are being treated to a special breakfast, followed by a Liturgy of Welcome at the 10:00am service. Our thanks to all of those involved with welcoming and caring for our new St. Francis members!

**Tuesday, April 28 - Brown Bag Lunch:** We are excited to welcome Dr. Troy Baker, Church Farm School's fifth head of school, who began his tenure in July 2025. Invite your friends and family, **and please arrive by 11:45 AM** to greet one another and enjoy some conversation before the presentation. Founded in 1918 in Exton, Church Farm School is an Episcopal boarding and day school that offers a rigorous college preparatory education, with every graduate going on to college.

**Sunday, May 3** – “Worship in the Garden”: It's that time of year! Our first outdoor service of worship for the season will take place on Sunday, May 3, at 10:00am (weather permitting). The service is held under the trees near the main parking lot. Our pet friends are always welcome to attend! Outdoor worship will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month through October.

**Tuesday, May 5 - Enneagram Growth Group:** The “EGG” meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, at the home of Kevin & Donna Dellaria. This monthly group meets to go beyond basic Enneagram theory through group discussion and reflection. Everyone with interest and some experience with the Enneagram is welcome.

**Partner Red Cross Blood drive results:** Pleased to share that our partner drive surpassed their goal by 30% and collected 31 units, and will help save over 90 lives! They have raised the bar quite a bit! St. Francis donors have the opportunity to elevate our results at our next blood drive, on **Tuesday, June 23rd, 2 pm-7 pm**. Please watch for the flyer to schedule an appointment, or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and use our joint drive code **SFXWUMC**, to schedule your next donation. Together we can make a difference!

**Confirmation:** In the Episcopal Church, *Confirmation* is “the sacramental rite in which the candidates express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop’ (BCP, p. 860).” All mature

Episcopalians are expected to affirm their faith through the rite of Confirmation. A Confirmation Service is being held on June 6 at Church Farm School. In preparation, Fr. Kevin will hold a simple, two-part Confirmation Class on Sunday, **May 3 and Sunday, May 31, beginning at 11:20 am** in the Library.

**Saturday, June 6, 10:30am:** Brandywine Deanery Convocation & Confirmation Service at Church Farm School. Please make plans to attend this special service of our Deanery in the beautiful *Chapel of the Atonement* at Church Farm School in Exton. As Dean of the Brandywine Deanery, Fr. Kevin will be preaching, with Bishop Gutierrez celebrating Holy Eucharist. This is wonderful opportunity for Episcopalians from the 14 congregations in our Deanery to share common worship together and celebrate our Confirmands.

**Weekly Lectionary Bible Study:** The weekly Bible Study meets at 10 am, in-person and on Zoom to discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Holy Eucharist follows on most Wednesdays at 11:15. A weekly email link is sent out for those who desire to attend virtually.

**Contemplative Prayer:** The group will meet in the library on Sunday evenings beginning at 6:00pm. The service includes simple prayers and singing, with 20 minutes of Centering Prayer. Everyone is welcome.

**Church School:** Church School meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays until summer. Our Church School uses the *StoryMakers NYC* curriculum, encouraging children to use their imagination to explore the world of the Bible through activities, crafts, and storytelling. We welcome your children and/or grandchildren to be part of our growing group of young disciples! Our Church School Leader is Mrs. Sherri Lewis.

**NAMI: Two New Programs!:** In recognition of May as National Mental Health Awareness Month, NAMI of Chester County is launching two new programs. *Sharing Hope* is a program for Black and African Ancestry communities to have a safe space to talk about mental health and wellness. It promotes awareness, explores signs and symptoms of mental health conditions, and provides guidance on how and where to find help. This series will meet on zoom Tuesday evenings from 7 - 8:30 PM on 4/28, 5/5, and 5/12. *Peer-to-Peer* is a free, eight-session program for adults with mental health conditions or who experience mental health symptoms. This program is co-led by volunteers with lived experience, offering a safe and confidential space for mutual support and growth. Participants gain insights, set goals, practice coping skills, share experiences in an accepting environment.

This program will be held on Wednesday evenings, starting May 20th through July 8th from 6pm-8pm at Central Presbyterian Church in Downingtown. For more information and registration options, visit <https://namichescopa.org/>.

**Ministries in Need!** St. Francis is an active and growing parish, and we need additional help and leadership in several ways. Currently, we are especially in need of Church School Teachers, a Children's Room Manager, and new members for the Altar Guild. If the Spirit prompts you on any of these, please let Fr. Kevin, Deacon Diane, or any Vestry member know and we will follow up. (For the first three jobs listed above, see descriptions in the March edition of Fieldnotes!)

**Church Farm School Clothes Closet:** Spring is here! The Griffin Clothes Closet could use the following items: Raincoats, socks, caps and boots. They can also use sport jackets, black and brown shoes, both casual and dress, black and brown belts (small and medium), deodorant, body wash, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Donated items can be put in the bin located in the narthex. Thank you! For more information about donating please contact Cindy VanHefter.

**This week we also pray for:** Alice, Debbie Bachman, Carol Estornell, Leslie Fant, Tom Grady, Gretchen Hall, Bridget Herrighty, Jojo, George & Jackie Kennedy, Dorothy Langton, Diane Lemon, Alejandro Morales, Matt, Ryan & the Newman family, Barbara McCoy, Barbara Pearse, Shirley Powell, Ryan, Larry Schroepfer, John Smith, Jock Sommese, Julie Sommese, Bill & Mary Alice Spane, Georgeanne Speaker, Rowland Watson, and the Rev. Phil Geleibter.

**Birthdays:** Nolan Alconera, Mary Nelson, Roland Watson, and Mark Graham.

**Our Ministries:** In the Parish Prayer Cycle we pray for our Discipleship leaders and groups of all ages, that they may help us be formed in the image of Jesus Christ.

**Our Diocese:** The Delaware Deanery, especially St. Alban's, Newtown Square; Brandywine Deanery (Our Deanery) & St. James', Downingtown. In our Deanery, please pray for Holy Trinity, West Chester and St. Peter's in the Great Valley as they each proceed in their search process for new Rectors.

**Our Vestry:**

Roberta Torian, *Rector's Warden*; Lisa Buono, *Accounting Warden*; Tom Neely, *Secretary*;  
Ed Damerau, John Groch, Carol Forte, Laura O'Brien, John McGovern, Susan Nangle

**St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church**

689 Sugartown Road, Malvern, PA 19355

(610) 647-0130; [stfrancisfields@stfrancisfields.org](mailto:stfrancisfields@stfrancisfields.org)

Parish Office Hours: 9pm to 2pm, Monday - Friday

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutierrez, *Bishop*; The Very Rev. Kevin Dellaria, *Rector*;

The Rev. Diane Faison, *Deacon & Parish Administrator*; Joe Perry, *Music Director*

**MINISTERS OF WORSHIP & SERVICE**

	<b>April 26</b>	<b>May 3</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Noah Alconera, Lana Alconera Mike Quinn	Charlotte Goff, Luca Barbato Tim Kelly
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sherri Lewis Meridith Ridington	Roberta Torian, Susan Thomas
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Mer Groch	Suzanne Steinberg
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Lynd Meyer	Ida Guckes
<b>Intercessor</b>	John Healey	Paul Faison
<b>Readers</b>	Connie Black, Mike Quinn	Dave Dutton, Charlotte Goff
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Martha Naylor, Hope Hoffman	Judy Culver, Lisa Buono
<b>Greeter/Usher</b>	Tim & Sue Kelly	Everett & Shirley Warren
<b>Audio/Visual</b>	Everett Warren	John Groch
<b>Front Sign</b>	John McGovern	Ed & Ellen Simek
<b>Counters</b>	Susan Callahan	Jane Brooks
<b>Linen Schedule</b>	Shirley Warren	Sherri Lewis
<b>Sacred Bread</b>	Joe Perry	Tom Ridington
<b>Vestry Member of the Month</b>	Ed Damerau	Lisa Buono

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to make a donation to St. Francis.  
Thank you for your support!\*\**



*\*\*Please do not use the QR link to pay your pledge. The fees that are charged for using the service for pledge payments negatively impacts our budget.*