The Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025
10:30 AM



"The Great Commandment"
Artist: Ed de Gazman

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025 at 10:30 AM

CHRIST CHURCH

5 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901
732.545-6262 • ChristChurchNewBrunswick.org

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH, an Episcopal parish of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship this morning, and to receive Holy Communion or a blessing at the communion rail. We invite you to ask questions, explore, and to make yourself known to those around you. Please pick up any other information about the parish located on the table in the back of the church. Tell us more about yourself by filling out one of the cards located in each pew. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ALL SERVICES. Changing stations are available in both rest rooms at the Paterson Street entrance; you can get there through the side door of the church.

WE REJOICE that you have chosen to worship here this Easter season. If you would like to learn more about our Parish, please phone the Parish Office at 732.545.6262. Many of our upcoming events are listed on our web site, christchurchnewbrunswick.org; we hope that you decide to join us.

ABOUT THE LITURGY

Inclusive Language in Worship: Because language has the power to shape our thinking about God and one another, Christ Church makes every effort to bring the language of worship in line with biblical theology that affirms that the personhood of God embraces all that is truly female and male, and that men and women are equals. In our liturgy some historical texts that are widely known and loved are left unchanged.

INTERCESSIONS

AT EVERY CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST prayer is offered with intercession for the Universal Church, the nation, the welfare of the world, the concerns of this community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and the departed. Please feel free to add your own petitions during the prayers, either silently or aloud. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, you may also fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church.

WEEKLY INTERCESSIONS

We remember in today's prayers:

The Sick and Others in Need— *Arnold, Barb, Brianna, Dennis, Doreen, Edith, Erica, Florence, Georgia, Hansford, Jean, Jeannine, Jefferson, Jim, Julia, Kristen, Margaret, Pam, Pat, Robert, Stanford, Steve, Thalia, Theayer, Timothy, Tisha, Vivian, Yvonne*

Anglican Cycle *– we pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean*

Diocesan Cycle *– Members and Ministry of the Trustees of Diocesan Investment Trust*

Christ Church Ministry *– Laundry Love*

Birthdays this week *– Isaac DesBordes, Liard Weston, Kira Kozachek, Hugh Pemberton, Daryl Phills,*

Memorial Flowers— *are given by Catherine and Paul Ambos in memory of Edna McGraham Szeliga*

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in crisis, having surgery, are in the hospital and are in need of pastoral counseling from a clergy person, please do not hesitate to contact the Rev. Joanna Hollis—732.354.1450 or the Rev. Daphne Roberts -732.991.6733.

If you would like to schedule home communion, please contact Rev. Hollis and she will arrange for either herself, or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor to bring communion to you. Please do not hesitate to contact either Rev. Hollis or Rev. Roberts if you know of someone who is in need of care or counseling.

THE VESTRY

The Rev. Joanna P. Hollis, Rector
rector@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Mark McMahon, Rector's Warden
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PARISH STAFF

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Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
bookkeeper@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*


Worshipping God Serving God's People
Christ Church New Brunswick

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE *Be thou my vision* by D. Wood

Please stand and sing at the Procession

ENTRANCE HYMN "Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks!" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982 #178**

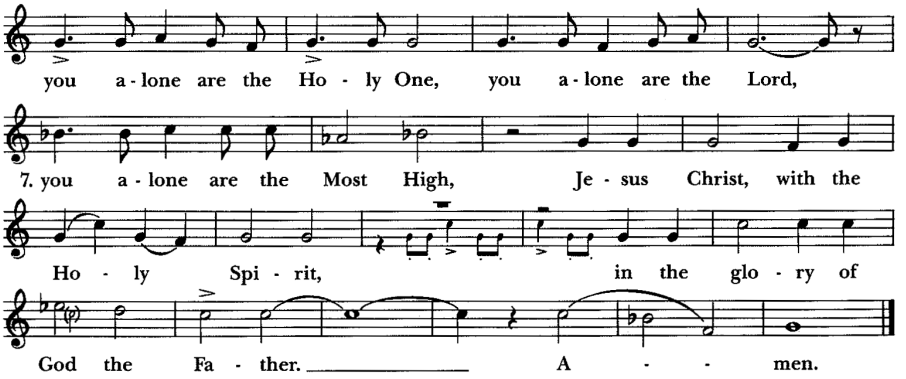
The Presider welcomes the people and says

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

GLORIA *The Blue Hymnal 1982, S,* **#278**
William Mathias





Silence is kept for a space

THE COLLECT

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.**

First Lesson: *Acts 5:27-32*

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

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 150

1 Hallelujah!
Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.
3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.
4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.
5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
6 Let everything that has breath *
praise the Lord.
Hallelujah!

THE EPISTLE *Revelation 1:4-8*

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

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN "Let all mortal flesh keep silence" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982 #324**

THE GOSPEL John 20:19-31

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not

with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my

God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON Rev. Daphne Roberts

All who are able please stand

THE NICENE CREED

ALL **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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Responding, "In the joy of the Resurrection," let us pray for our own needs and the needs of others.

The Leader requests the prayers of the People of God for the world, the mission of the Church, and for those individuals who have asked for or need our prayers. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church.
After the last petition, the Presider adds a concluding Collect

THE PEACE

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

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

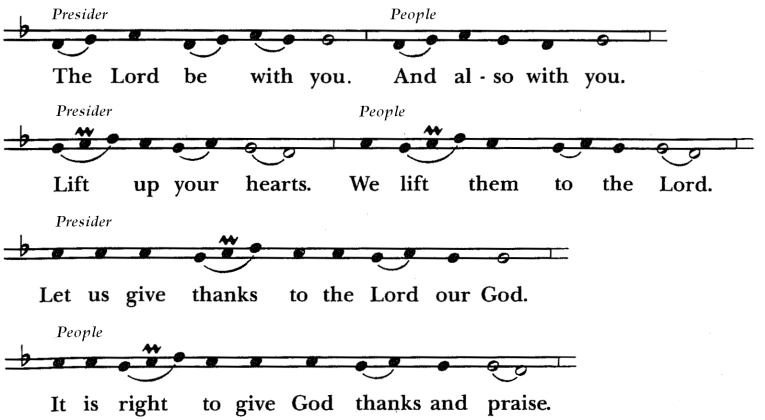
THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN "We walk by faith, and not by sight" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982 #209**

Scan this code to support Christ Church's ministries and outreach to the community.

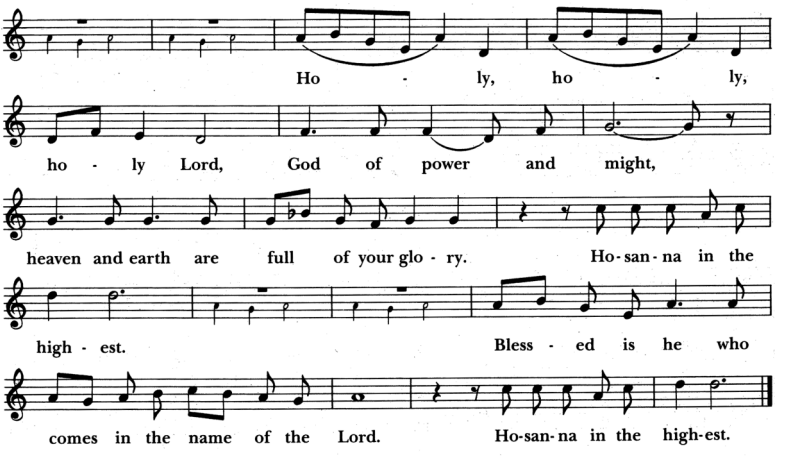
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Adapt. from Janet Morley,
All Desires Known



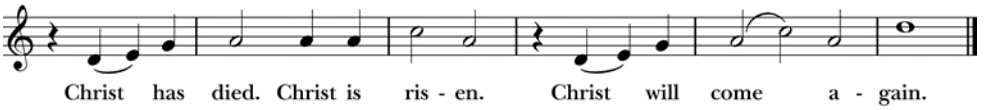
Presider Loving and life-giving God, we praise you and give you thanks for having created us—people in your image. In Jesus Christ you broke forth from the grave; before the stone was moved, and the tomb of our world was opened wide. You were raised in power and revealed yourself to us as a beloved stranger, offering for the rituals of the dead the terror of new life and the comfort of hope. Therefore, with the woman who gave you birth, with the friends who loved you, mourned for you, and met you, risen from the dead; and with all the holy ones throughout the ages, we praise you, singing:

People *The Blue Hymnal 1982, S*, **#128**
William Mathias



Presider Blessed is our brother Jesus, who walks with us the road of our grief, and is known again in the breaking of bread; who on the night he was handed over, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said: "This is my body, which is for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this whenever you drink it, to remember me." And so in faith we pray:

People *The Blue Hymnal 1982, S*, **#135**



Presider Remembering Jesus and the power of your love revealed through him, we ask you, Father and Mother and Friend of All, to bless this bread and this wine, making it for us the body and blood of Jesus the Christ. As we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection. In the body broken and the blood poured out, we restore to memory and hope the broken and unremembered victims of tyranny and sin; and we long for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come.

Presider Come now disturbing spirit of our God,

People **Breathe on this bread and wine and make them the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Breathe on us and make us one with Christ. Open our graves, unbind our eyes, and claim us here. Touch and heal all that has been buried in us that we need not cling to our past, but may go forth with power to release resurrection in the world. Amen.**

Presider As our brother Christ taught us, we now pray,

ALL

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov
From the Liturgy of St. Chrysostom, Op. 22





INVITATION

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

The congregation may kneel or sit following the Invitation. All are most welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion this morning, you are cordially invited to come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak to the member of the clergy who is serving the bread.

The Bread and Cup are given to the Communicants with these words

Minister The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Recipient **Amen.**
Minister The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Recipient **Amen.**

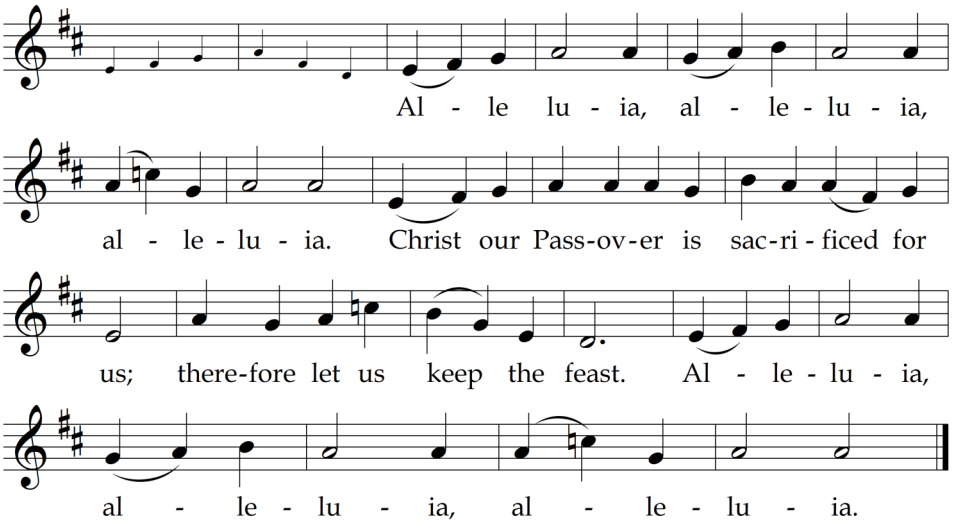
Spiritual Communion Prayer For Those Joining Us Online:

Gracious God, our sustainer and source of all good things in the universe. As we gather in community this day, we are mindful of those who through circumstance or conscience are unable to partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation at this time. You are the source of the food and water which nourishes and sustains us. As we are the product of all we have partaken, we know that we are infused with your life-giving food and drink and that are never separated from you. Though we are many, we are joined in Christ. We are one Body, one Cup in the name of the One God. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread. Then All sing

ALL *Gerald Near*



COMMUNION HYMN "Good Christians all, Rejoice and sing"

The Blue *Hymnal* 1982 #205

All who are able please stand

AFTER COMMUNION *From* Enriching Our Worship

Presider *Let us pray.*

People **Loving 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.**

FINAL HYMN "Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982 #432**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL *From* Feasting on the Word

Presider Now may the truth of the empty tomb—the astonishing reality of Jesus' resurrection—keep you fearless and sure that you will see the Resurrected One again and again in this life. May the power of God's endless love surround you and guide you this day and always.

People **Amen.**

Deacon Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POSTLUDE *Voluntary 2* by J. Stanley

Parish Notes

Parish Schedule for April 27– May 3, 2025

Parish Office Hours This Week:
Tuesday and Wednesday – 9:30am to 3:00pm
Friday – 9:30am to 1:00pm

Sunday	**8:00 a.m.**	**Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
	9:30 a.m.	Choir Warm Up, Choir Room
	9:30 a.m.	Church School, Ross Room
	10:30 a.m.	**Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Tuesdayers Book Group, Zoom
Wednesday	**12:00p.m.**	**Noonday Prayer, Zoom**
	7:30 p.m.	WomenSpirit, Zoom
Thursday	4:00 p.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Fourth Century Church, Sanctuary

*Join Us AFTER THE 10:30 AM Service for Coffee Hour in the Nicholas Room



Join members of Christ Church TODAY after the 10:30am service for a "Packing Party"!

Supplies will be packed for the Choice Food and Resource Center during Coffee Hour. Goodies will be supplied by the Ambos Family. We hope to see you there!

Can't make it to the packing party, but want to help?
Donations can be made via Zelle or check please note "diaper donation" or "Choice Food and Resource Center in the subject line

Fourth Century Church
Saturday, May 3, @ 10 a.m.

Including a tour of the church properties, including the 7 Paterson, and Parish House, the Choir Loft, and the new Boilers!

RaiseRight™
Formerly ShopWithScrip

It's time for the May Christ Church RaiseRight! Order

Paul Ambos will be placing a new card order on the morning of **Monday, May 5**. Please place your orders accordingly.

APRIL 27, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER

taking faith home

Jesus' victory over sin and death.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	**John 20:19-31**	**Seeing Christ's wounds**
Monday	**Acts 5:27-32**	**The conviction of the Apostles**
Tuesday	**Revelation 1:4-8**	**Christ sends a message to John**
Wednesday	**Luke 24:36-49**	**Jesus appears to his disciples**
Thursday	**2 Peter 1:3-15**	**The Christian's call**
Friday	**John 1:14-18**	**The Word of life**
Saturday	**Psalm 150**	**Praise the Lord**
Sunday	**John 21:1-19**	**Jesus appears to the disciples**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne. **Revelation 1:4 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Risen Christ, give us faith and courage to live each day trusting in the power of your grace and peace for the sake of the world that needs hope in you. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Risen Lord Jesus, we praise you for your mighty deeds, and for this food that fills our needs. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May Jesus' resurrection give you grace and peace.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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APRIL 27, 2025

taking faith home

HYMN OF THE WEEK

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some of the things that get in the way of enjoying daily life?
- When is a time you felt or sought God's presence following a disappointing experience?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Revelation 1:4-8.

The book of Revelation is easily misunderstood. It is not meant to be scary book, but a comforting book filled with hope in God who overcomes death and the misuse of power. Jesus' resurrection challenges everything we understand and experience in this life. Human efforts, even those well intentioned, eventually lead to unfairness, inequality, and, finally, death. Human life is limited by sin and death. The basic message of Jesus, the Alpha and the Omega, and the be-all and end-all of reality is that God takes on sin, death, and evil. God gives us a promise to live with us all our days. In Jesus, God wins, and in Jesus, we, too, win a victory over sin and death. That promise gives us power and courage to live on with hope and a desire to experience lives of love with others. We are not overcome by grief and disappointment because we overcome grief and disappointment through grace and peace in Christ.

Discuss: What disappointment in life have you experienced that needs the power of the living God in Christ?

Pray: **Almighty and living God, you who are the beginning and end of all of life, we thank you for Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, who gives us new life now and forevermore. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who is dealing with grief or disappointments?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

After the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples. Thomas was not there. The disciples told Thomas later that they had seen Jesus. He questioned that Jesus really appeared to them and needed proof for himself. A week later Jesus invited Thomas to touch his wounds. Trace your hand on a piece of paper and draw a nail mark in the hand. Our role as disciples is to help others see Jesus. Pause for a moment to touch the nail mark you drew.

Say: **Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

MILESTONES MINISTRY

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	April 27	May 4
Presider	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Joanna Hollis
Preacher	Rev. Daphne Roberts	Rev. Joanna Hollis
Deacon	Rev. Daphne Roberts	
Organist	Suzanne McDonald	Suzanne McDonald
	8 AM	**8 AM**
Lector & Intercessor	Meegan Adames	Jonathan Clark
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Debra Lowe	Elizabeth Clark
Vestry Announcements	Jim Nichols	Jonathan Clark
Ushers		
Altar Guild	Mervis Johnson, Margaret Brown-Stansbury	Sheila Cooper, Jennifer Ryan
	10:30 A.M.	**10:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor	Doreen Sirjue	Jonathan Gloster
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Jonathan Gloster	Artie Phills
Acolyte / Server		
Vestry Announcements		
Usher		
Production Minister	Steve Caruso	Steve Caruso
Altar Guild	Mervis Johnson, Margaret Brown-Stansbury	Sheila Cooper, Jennifer Ryan
Coffee Hour	Catherine & Paul	

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

WORSHIPPING GOD, SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

✠

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Historic Christ Church is a mutually supportive Christian community worshiping in the living Anglican tradition of beauty in liturgy and music. Christ Church bears witness to the love of Christ in prayer, service and fellowship.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE.

5 Paterson Street ▪ New Brunswick NJ 08901
732.545.6262 ▪ christchurchnewbrunswick.org



The Reverend Joanna P. Hollis, *Rector*
The Reverend Daphne Roberts, *Deacon*
Suzanne McDonald, *Music Director and Organist*
Brittney Girault, *Parish Administrator*
Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*

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