

St. Peter's Church

IN THE GREAT VALLEY



THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

APRIL 12, 2020 — 6:00 AM

*Welcome! We are so glad that you are joining us virtually this morning. Corporate worship is important to us and we want to do whatever we can to maintain our sense of community even when we cannot be together physically. We encourage you to leave comments and even post pictures of yourself. In this way we can see one another even when we are not able to be with one another. In this leaflet the words to be said by all are **bolded**.*



NOTES ON THE GREAT VIGIL

The Great Vigil of Easter, also called the “Paschal Vigil” or the “Divine Liturgy” is the first official celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ during the fifty-day long celebration of the Easter season.

Historically, the earliest known accounts of The Great Vigil of Easter date to the early third century when pilgrims from Europe wrote accounts of their experience at Easter in Jerusalem. Our liturgy is still largely based on those accounts. In the ancient church, it was at this service that people, especially children, were baptized and adults received as into full communion with the Church.

In the Anglican Communion (of which the Episcopal Church is fully a part), and the Roman Catholic, and Orthodox churches, the Easter Vigil is the most important service of the liturgical year.

The Vigil is traditionally held in the hours of darkness between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Day. The Great Vigil of Easter is considered to be the first celebration of Easter because Hebrew and early Christian tradition consider feasts and other great days to begin at sunset, so in fact, Easter begins on Saturday night.

The service begins outside with the lighting of the Easter fire, and then the congregation proceeds inside following the Paschal Candle, led by the presider chanting the Exsultet, a chant of praise to the Lord. In darkness, we hear the story of how God’s people are delivered from darkness. Finally, with the lights burning brightly, we proclaim Easter and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Please join us – and, if you have some in your home, ring bells when Easter is proclaimed!

THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant may address the people in these or similar words

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

The Celebrant may say the following prayer

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Priest bearing the Candle, leads the procession pausing three times while the following is sung.



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.

The Paschal candle is placed in its stand. Then a priest standing near the Paschal Candle sings the Exsultet, as follows.

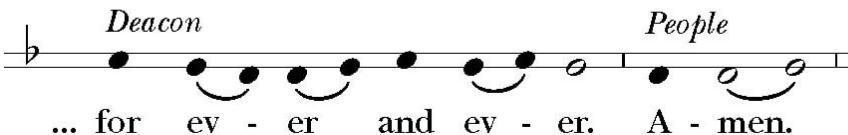
The Exsultet

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King. Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King. Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people. All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,...

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life. This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God. Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning— he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns...



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Celebrant may introduce the Scripture readings in these or similar words

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

The First Reading – The Story of Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:2

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights— the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night— and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2 And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 35:5–10

Judica, Domine

5 Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,*
your faithfulness to the clouds.

6 Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,*
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

7 How precious is your steadfast love, O God! *
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

8 They feast on the abundance of your house,*
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

9 For with you is the fountain of life; *
in your light we see light.

10 O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,*
and your salvation to the upright of heart!

Presider Let us pray.

Silence

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Second Reading – Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-15:1

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die

in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers." The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: “I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 8 *The Song of Moses*

Cantemus Domino

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor have been
drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness,
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to
your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Presider Let us pray.

Silence

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of you mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Third Reading – The Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 9 *The First Song of Isaiah*

Ecce, Deus

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Presider Let us pray.

Silence

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD— the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126

In convertendo

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

- 6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Presider Let us pray.

Silence

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

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

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

People **I do.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider 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.**

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.**

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

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

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.**

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

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

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

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

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.**

The Presider concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

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

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Presider Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

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

Presider Go in Peace to love and serve the Risen Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 207 Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

This concludes the celebration of the Great Vigil of Easter.

Thank you to our readers, Ryan Battin, Trudi Graves, Tom Helm, and Gail Malcolm

Thank you to our organist, Bruce Glenny, and choir members Ryan Battin, Adella Brady, Ian Brady, Mario Delano, Julie Ferris, Kate Mallon-Day, Denise Shannon, and Michael Trycieckyj for skillfully and creatively providing music during this time of virtual worship. Thanks also to Mark Clark for his assistance with filming portions of this service.

Special thanks to Asa Nestlebutt for acolyting and to Mark Nestlebutt for assisting with the preparations for the fire.

A joyful service of Morning Prayer for Easter will be on Facebook live and on our website on April 12 at 10:00 a.m.

Zoom coffee hour follows the service. Festive Easter attire is welcome!



EASTER MEMORIALS

Offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of

Patricia K. Rowland given by Elizabeth R. Dwyer

Carl E. Weir, Sr. given by Carl Weir & Katherine Ball-Weir

Mathew Carey Hudson given by his family

June Huff given by Jim and June Fulton

And in thanksgiving for

Anne and Tim, Jim and Kris, Reese, Michael and Ella and everyone at St. Peter's
given by Gail and Thomas McLaughlin

THE VESTRY

Rector's Warden: Eileen Klein

Vestry Warden: Wilson Smith

Class of 2020

Greg Bright

Donna Fabius

Charlene Hanbury

Wilson Smith

Class of 2021

Don Cheetham

Doug Jones

Eileen Klein

Alix Markee

Youth Representative: Callie Stoltz

Secretary: Susy Baum

Treasurer: Peter Kreek

Class of 2022

David Graves

Linda Holden

Cathy Terlescki

Laurel Veitch

ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN THE GREAT VALLEY STAFF

The Rev. Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt, Rector

Dr. Bruce W. Glenny, Organist/Choirmaster

Gail Malcolm, Event Coordinator

Leigh Pavoni, Preschool Director

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The Rev. Christopher W. Exley, Assistant Rector

Susan House, Parish Administrator

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ST. PETER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE LEAFLETS are available on our website stpetersgv.org or follow the link in keynotes.

WHILE WE ARE APART please check our website stpetersgv.org for updates and resources during the pandemic.

ST. PETER'S PASSPORTS During Lent, the children of the parish have been given access to a passport to help them follow their Lenten journey to Easter Sunday. *Be sure to post a picture of you and your passport on Sunday after our 10 a.m. virtual service via Facebook live.* If you have any questions, please contact Chris at chris@stpetersgv.org.

NOONDAY PRAYER To help keep us grounded in this time, Chris and I have added daily Noonday prayer to our offerings. This will be available on Facebook live at 12:00 p.m. Monday–Thursday. Please join us virtually as you are able. Also, if you wish to spend time in either the historic church or bank barn for private prayer, please contact Abigail at abigail@stpetersgv.org or her cell at 410-829-4180 to make arrangements.

ST. PETER'S BEDTIME STORIES Abigail and Chris have pulled some of their favorite books from the archives and found new books which they haven't seen before and have created some short videos (about 5 minutes long) of them reading to you and your children. We hope that you will join them on the St. Peter's Facebook page each night at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in reading your favorite book and making a video of this to share on our Facebook page, please contact Chris at chris@stpetersgv.org.

MORNING PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY will continue to take place on Wednesday mornings via Zoom. If you would like to participate, please contact Chris at chris@stpetersgv.org for the necessary details.

VIRTUAL BYOB HOUR Join Abigail and Mark for an hour convivial conversation via Zoom. Even though we cannot get together physically, that does not mean we cannot be together socially. Please join is on Wednesday, April 15 at 6:00 p.m. RSVP to Abigail@stpetersgv.org for the Zoom information you will need.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be held via Zoom on May 3 following the 10:00 a.m. service. More details to come. Please check the Beacon for information about the vestry nominees or email Abigail at abigail@stpetersgv.org.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE FOR CHURCH HOUSING In an effort to love our neighbors during this difficult time, we are collecting non-perishable foods in cans and boxes. Please note— only "in-date" cans placed in bins. Please place your donations in the bins marked "CHURCH HOUSING FOOD DRIVE" on the Parish House porch. Drive up and deposit canned and boxed food in the bins. Continue away for safety. We are also requesting volunteers to deliver the food to the Church Housing main office. The office is located at 606 Main Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460. The volunteer delivery person will pick up the food bin(s) and drive to the drop off site. He/she will place the bin(s) at the office door and drive away for safety. Please contact Helen Ockenden if you can be a volunteer delivery person. Her information is in the directory or you may call the parish office. Thank you!

DRIVEWAY AND MEGAPHONE MINISTRY We cannot visit with you in your home, but Abigail, Chris and others are happy to stop by your house for a visit in the driveway. You can stay at a safe distance, but enjoy a bit of face to face company. Abigail even borrowed a megaphone from a friend who coaches rowing so that you can hear her from inside your home. We promise no unannounced visits—so, please contact Abigail at abigail@stpetersgv.org if you or someone you know would welcome one.

VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB Due to the Stay At Home orders of CoVid-19 we are forming a virtual book club and welcome you to join us! Suggested titles are: *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor and *Being Dead is No Excuse: The Official Southern Ladies Guide to Hosting the Perfect Funeral* by Gayden Metcalfe and Charlotte Hays. Please contact Abigail at abigail@stpetersgv.org if you are interested in participating and which book you choose. After she hears from all, details will follow accordingly.

SUNDAY SCHOOL While we are apart, each week we are sending the parents of the Sunday school children emails with attached pictures, puzzles, coloring pages and games related to the scripture lessons for the coming Sunday. Families not already receiving these Sunday school emails are welcome to join us by emailing SundaySchool@stpetersgv.org.