

*Illustration by Robert W. Johnston*

JANUARY 29, 2023  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
10:15 AM

215 BOULEVARD  
MOUNTAIN LAKES, NEW JERSEY 07046  
THE REV. MICHAEL MULLER, RECTOR

# WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S!

*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Wendy & Wilson Mitchell, in thanksgiving for their grandchildren.*

## Ministers of the Service

### Today's Servers

Celebrant & Preacher:	Rev. Michael Muller
Deacon:	The Rev. Deacon Nancy Hansen
Verger:	Tim 'Donnell
Organist/Music Director:	Sal Lagattuta
Soloist:	Emely Sepulveda, Mezzo Soprano
Ushers:	Kevin Edwards & Fred Osborne
Lay Reader:	Deborah Osborne
Eucharistic Minister:	Tim Berrios
Camera Operator:	Marguerite Smith
Altar Guild:	The Narain/Watkins Team: Sandy Narain, Susan Edwards, Evelyn Watkins, Kris Garrison, Lisa Sonn, Liz Muller.
Coffee Hour Host:	The Edwards Family

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## HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

### The Word of God

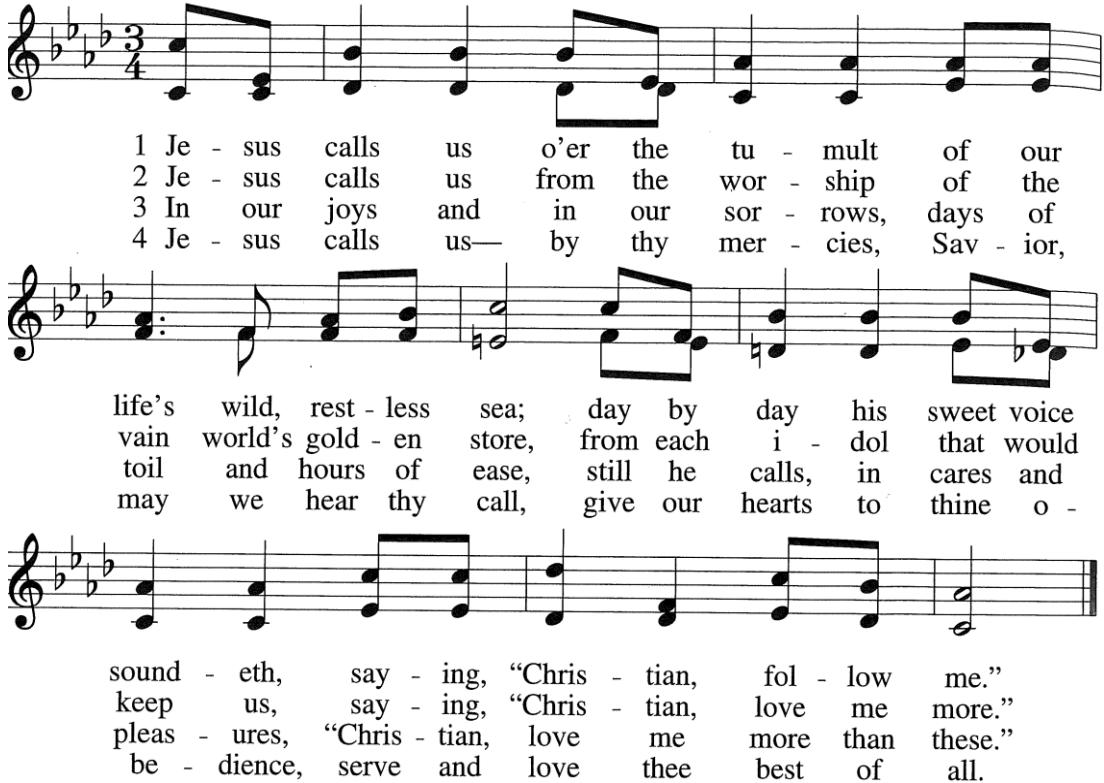
Prelude: "Faith of our Fathers"

arr. R. Lau

*Please stand*

Processional Hymn: "Jesus Calls Us"

from *Worship & Rejoice*



1 Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our  
2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the  
3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of  
4 Je - sus calls us— by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice  
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would  
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and  
may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thine o -

sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."  
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
pleas - ures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."  
be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People*      **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

*Celebrant:*      Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Gloria

## Hymnal S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

A reading from the Prophet Micah. Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the Lord has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;

and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,

and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: 15

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the Lord.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn: "Blest are They"**

1. Blest are they, the poor in spir- it, theirs is the king-dom of God.  
 2. Blest are they, the low - ly ones, they shall in - her - it the earth.  
 3. Blest are they, who show mer-cy, mer - cy shall be theirs.  
 4. Blest are they, who seek peace, they are the chil-dren of God.  
 5. Blest are you who suf - fer hate, all be - cause of me. Re-

Blest are they, full of sor - row, they shall be con - soled.  
 Blest are they, who hun-ger and thirst, they shal have their fill.  
 Blest are they, the pure of heart, they shall see God.  
 Blest are they, who suf - fer in faith, God's glo - ry shall be theirs.  
 joice, be glad, yours is the king- dom; shin - ing for all to see..

**REFRAIN**

Re - joice and be glad! Bless-ed are you ho - ly are you! Re-

joice and be glad! Yours is the king- dom of God!

## Gospel Announcement

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

*People:* **“Glory to you, Lord Christ.”**

**Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

*Response after the Gospel*    **“Praise to you, Lord Christ.”**

Sermon

The Rev. Michael Muller

The Apostles' Creed

Book of Common Prayer page 96

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

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

*Leader:* God, bless your Church. May our souls hunger and thirst for righteousness. Give us the grace to do those things you require of us; to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you Lord in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* God, God, bless the people of this and every nation. You make foolish the wisdom of the world; we pray our leaders find their wisdom in you. Teach us to be merciful and open us to receive mercy from others. Lord in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* God, bless your creation,. Your mighty, creative voice echoes through the mountains. We offer back to you all the many gifts that spring forth from this earth. Lord in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Lord in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* God, bless the poor in spirit with the inheritance of your kingdom. Be the source of life for all those suffering and sick. Reading their names together, we pray for **Rose Higgins, Toby Frey, Jill Sculley, Clifford Benfield, Donald Ricciardi, Daniel Sangregorio, Dana Dean, Evelyn Watkins, Laurie McCarthy, Nancy Mclarin, Lee Westbrook, Charlotte Manning, Victor Smith, Richard Bayley, Ruth Dredden, Nancy Pignatello, Rich Eresman, Jack Christel, Nancy Nickens, Ray Rogers, Dorothy, Niles, Vern, Kevin, Cicely, Dylan and Elyse.**

*Leader:* Lord in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* God, bless our local community. May we be a people who do no evil to our friends, who heap no contempt upon our neighbors. We pray for the St. Peter's Church Family and in particular today Wendy Loos and Don MacGowan & Diane Grabowski: for those celebrating birthdays this week: Norm Myatt, Justin Peters, Wilson Mitchell & Harrison Sonn; for our Mozambican friends Eugénio, Alberto & António and the Ibrahimi and Mohabat families. Lord in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* God, bless the dying and the dead. May their reward be great in heaven. Give to those who now mourn the blessing of your comfort. Lord in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**

### Confession of Sin (*The People kneel or stand as able*)

*Celebrant:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (*Silence may be kept*)

*Celebrant and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Celebrant stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### The Peace

*All stand.*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*All are invited to greet each other.*

# The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence:

Choral Anthem: “Domini Fili Unigenite” from ‘Gloria’ A. Vivaldi

*Translation: Lord Jesus Christ, Only Son of the Father*

Presentation Hymn: “Praise God, from whom all blessings flow” Hymn #380  
*Representatives of the congregation bring the people’s offerings to the celebrant. (vs. 3)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving, *Eucharistic Prayer B* Book of Common Prayer p.367

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, faces them and says*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

*The people*

*stand or kneel as able. Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Saint Peter and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*Celebrant and people*

**Our 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 Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says*

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.

*All are invited to participate in Communion.*

*Please tell the Eucharistic Minister if you wish a gluten-free Communion wafer.*

**Communion Meditation: "Lord, I Want to be a Christian" arr. S. Lagattuta**

## Post Communion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer p. 366

*Celebrant and people*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Blessing

*(Please stand.)*

Recessional Hymn: "O Come to Me the Master Said" from *Worship & Rejoice*



**Dismissal:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

**Postlude:** "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" arr. L. Page

## Parish Notes

### **North Porch Collection at Diocesan Convention.**

The 149th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Newark is next week, Friday, Feb. 3 & Saturday, Feb. 4.

North Porch Women and Infants' Centers, provider of urgently needed baby supplies to women with infants 3 and under, will be collecting donations of diapers, baby wipes, formula, and baby food at convention. Donations may be dropped off in our collection bin at the Convention. Thank you for your continued support of our ministry!

**Please bring donations of diapers, baby wipes, formula and baby food to church this Sunday or drop them off next week in the parish office and our delegates to Convention will bring them down to East Rutherford.**

### **Fun, Food & Fellowship in February!**

- **Monday, February 6.** In a returning tradition, St. Peter's parishioners are invited to take-out or eat at **Gourmet Cafe**, 136 Baldwin Road, Parsippany (973-316-0088). Lunch is served from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM, Dinner from 5:00 to 8:30 PM. BYOB. Call for reservations. Gourmet Cafe will donate 10% of its income from our parishioners that day to St. Peter's.
- **Sunday, February 12.** St. Peter's Youth Group will be selling chili after both Sunday services for the **"Souper Bowl" Day of Caring**. Both Meat and Vegetable Chili will be available for \$15 per quart. All proceeds will be given to the Interfaith Food Pantry in Morris Plains.
- **Tuesday, February 21 - 6:00 to 8:00 PM - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** in the Parish Hall. Our Youth Group and Men's Breakfast Group combine to give us a surge of calories before our Lenten observance begins on Ash Wednesday. Come enjoy a scrumptious pancake, bacon & sausage dinner. Costs are \$10 per person and \$20 per family. All proceeds will go to support the local youth mission trip this July.
- **Saturday, February 25 - 5 to 7 PM - St. Peter's Fish Fry** - Take-out or dine in at the Parish Hall provided by Tastefully British.

# St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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Web site: [www.stpetersmountainlakes.org](http://www.stpetersmountainlakes.org)

Find us on Facebook!

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Fridays 9 am – 12:00 pm

## St. Peter's Mission Statement

St. Peter's exists to celebrate our Christian faith through worship, fellowship and the demonstration of Christian love in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

To accomplish this purpose we must

- Invite and welcome all persons into the warmth and fellowship of the St. Peter's family.
- Strengthen and support all members of our church family in their daily lives and minister to their needs.
- Create a rich environment where our common Christian values are shared and taught through worship, through study of the Bible and through example.
- Reach out to the world around us and demonstrate Christian love, sharing our gifts and talents with our neighbors and those in need of them.

## **The Staff at St. Peter's**

The Reverend Michael Muller, Rector

Sal Lagattuta, Music Director

Susan Marshall, Parish Coordinator

## **The Wardens and Vestry**

Betsy Myatt, Senior Warden; Deborah Osborne, Junior Warden

**2024**

E.V. Janopaul

Randy Immitt

Renee Caruthers

Kevin Edwards

**2025**

Jeff Roth

Janet Wilson

Traci Rutt

**2026**

Lisa Sonn

Mary Del Ojo