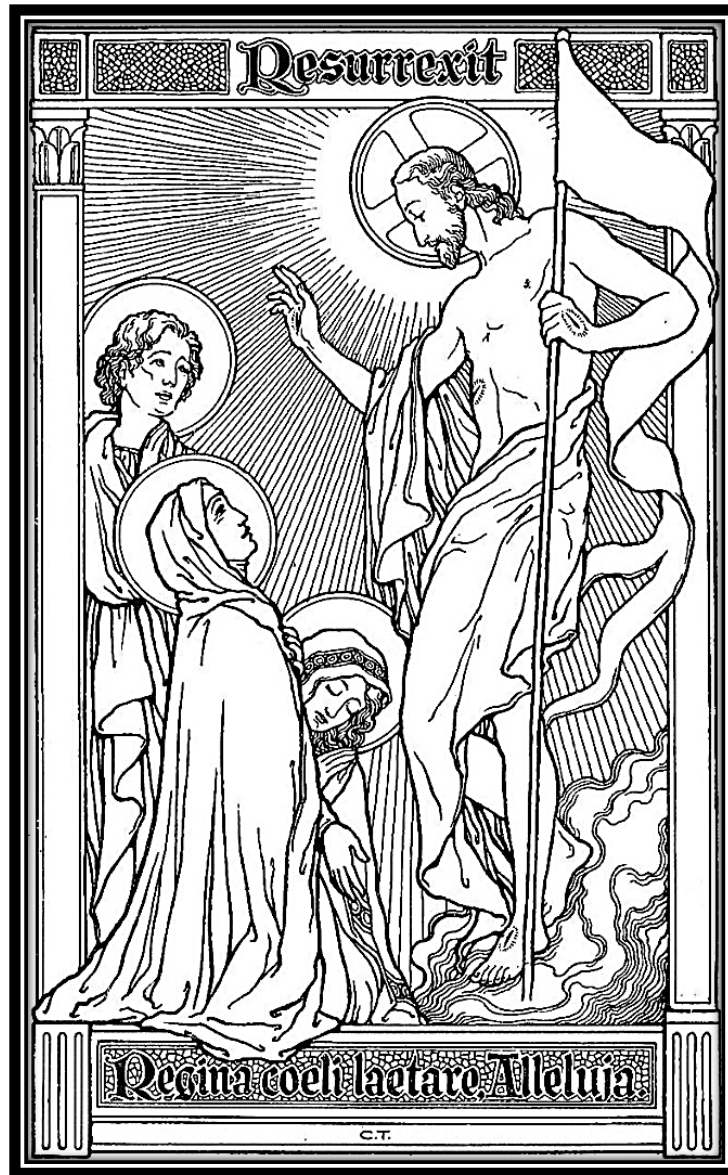


CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

BORDENTOWN, NJ



THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

4 APRIL 2026

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

We extend a welcome to all visitors who are worshipping with us to-day. Christ Church is truly a beautiful edifice, erected and appointed to the Greater Glory of Almighty God. Herein, you find all things in their proper place; everything focused toward the Altar, the center of our worship. The windows in the Nave depict some of the fathers of the early Church, both in English and Latin. The Rood shows our Saviour, robed as a Priest, with the right hand in Blessing. The Chapel forms a quiet, restful place, where, before the Blessed Sacrament, one may kneel in supplication and reverence. We are proud of our worshipful Church and invite you to share in its benefit. Come in, rest, and pray apart from the world. Surely God is in His Holy Temple.

All who confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, have been baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and are repentant of their sins and believe the Blessed Sacrament to be the true Body and Blood of Christ, are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. We hope that you will enter fully into worship by joining in the prayers, responses, and hymns. Because our worship may be unfamiliar to those not raised in the Episcopal Church, feel free to ask the assistance of those around you in following and participating in the liturgy. If you are in search of a church home, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and service. Please sign the guest register at the church entrance so we may have a record of your visit.

Restrooms are located in the Parish House and are accessible through the double doors by the pulpit, or by exiting the main doors and entering the Parish House by way of the side office door. A **Baby Changing Station** is located in the accessible bathroom in the Parish House. A **restroom for small children** is located in the nursery at the far end of the Parish House.

Pastoral Emergencies such as sickness, hospitalization, or the death of a loved one, should be directed to Fr. Tucker – 732.859.5823. Father is happy to respond to your needs even if you are not a parishioner. Please do not hesitate to call. The **AED** is located to the left of the parish office door.

CONCERNING THE SERVICE

The Great Vigil of Easter is perhaps the most theologically important service of the Church Year. In it, the new fire of God is struck, banishing darkness, and showing forth the victory won on Good Friday; the saving acts of God in history are recounted in the *Exsultet* and in Holy Scripture; new Christians may be made through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism; the vows made by all Christians at their baptisms are renewed; and with the end of the Lenten observance, the first Mass of the joyful season of Easter is celebrated. The Vigil is not a short service. It marks time in the evening, while the people await the announcement of the Resurrection: “Alleluia, Christ is Risen!” He is risen indeed, and the Paschal Candle burns as a sign of the Presence of the resurrected Christ.

VIGIL & FIRST SUNG MASS OF EASTER

7.00 pm

*The page numbers refer to pages in the red 1979 Book of Common Prayer found in your pew.
Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal 1940.*

AT THE BLESSING OF THE NEW FIRE

PROCLAMATION

DEAR friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ 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.

COLLECT

Let us pray.

O GOD, through thy Son, the true corner-stone, hath bestowed upon thy faithful people the fire of thy brightness: sanctify this new fire, now struck by the flint-stone, to be profitable to thy service, and grant to us that by this paschal feast, we be so inflamed with heavenly desires, that we may with pure hearts attain unto the feast of thy eternal brightness. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH

(Repeated thrice)

∇. The Light of Christ.

℞. Thanks be to God.

THE PASCHAL PRÆCONIUM *The Exsultet*

(All Candles are lit during the Exsultet and remain so until the Easter Acclamation.)

THE PROPHECIES

§ *The Congregation may be seated.*

CREATION

Genesis 1, 1-2, 2

Psalm 33

Collect

REDEMPTION

Exodus 14, 1-15, 1

Canticle

Collect

RECONCILIATION

Ezekiel 36, 24-28

Psalm 42

Collect

AT THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

§ *The Congregation rises to turn with lit candles as the procession moves to the Font.*

TRACT – “Sicut cervus”
1594)

G.P. da Palestrina (c.1525-

SICUT cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum: ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus. Sitivit anima mea ad Deum fontem vivum: quando veniam, et apparebo ante faciem Dei? Fuerunt mihi lacrimæ meæ panes die ac nocte, dum dicitur mihi quotidie: Ubi est Deus tuus?

LIKE as the hart desireth the waterbrooks; so longeth my soul after thee, O God. My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God: when shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me, where is now thy God?

Celebrant Dost thou reaffirm thy renunciation of evil and renew thy commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Celebrant Dost thou believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Dost thou believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

Celebrant Dost thou believe in God the Holy Ghost?

People **I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, ✠ and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Wilt thou continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

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

Celebrant Wilt thou persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever thou dost fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

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

Celebrant Wilt thou proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ Jesus?

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

Celebrant Wilt thou seek and serve Christ in all men, loving thy neighbour as thyself?

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

Celebrant Wilt thou strive for justice and peace among all men,
and respect the dignity of every person?

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

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

AT THE MASS

THE EASTER ACCLIMATION

☩. ✠ Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

§ All candles may be extinguished.

GLORIA – “Communion Service in E-flat”
1970)

L.J. White (1910-



And on earth peace, good-will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we



wor-ship thee, we glo-ri-fy thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glo-ry.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-



migh-ty.

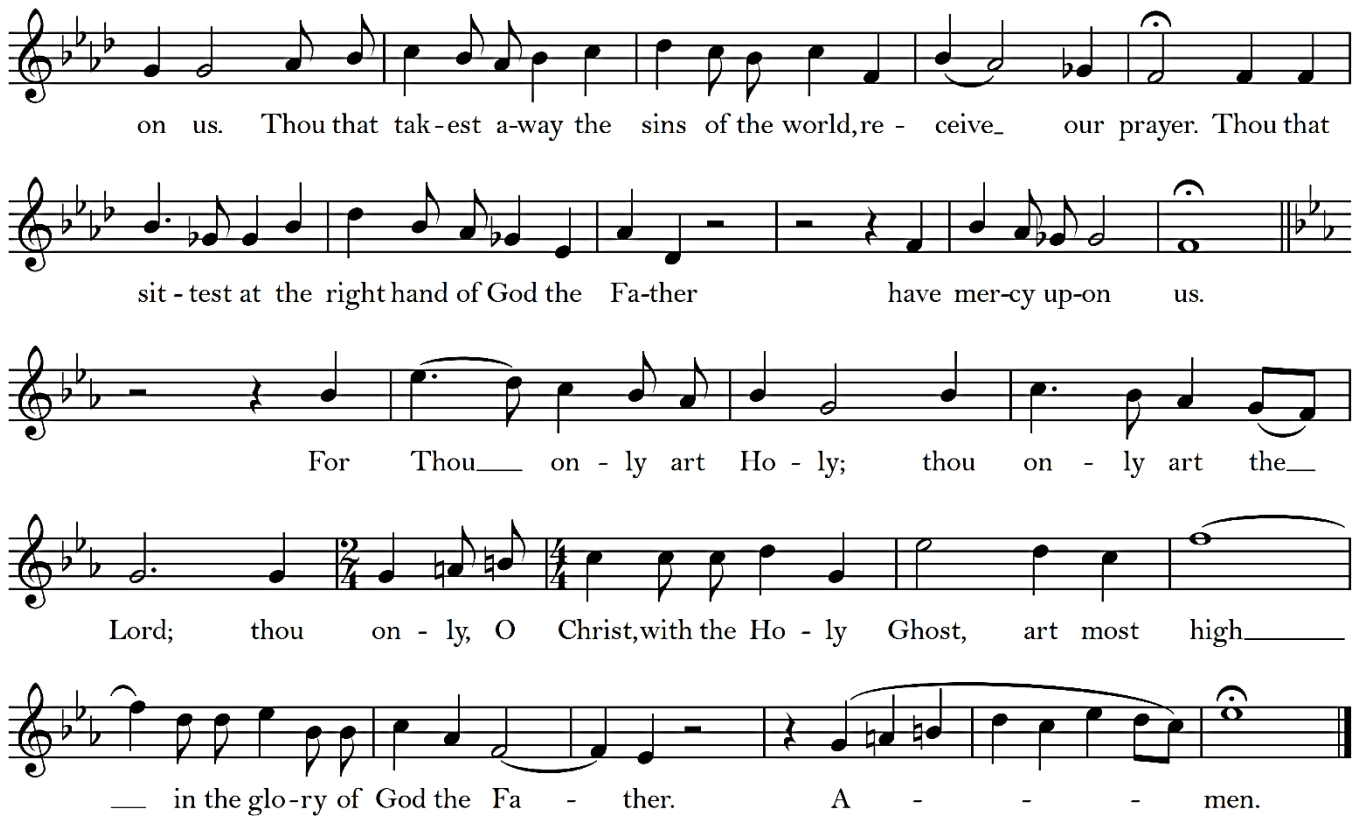
O Lord, the on-ly be-got-ten Son Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, have



mer-cy up-on us. Thou that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-



on us. Thou that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, re - ceive_ our prayer. Thou that
 sit - test at the right hand of God the Fa-ther have mer-cy up-on us.
 For Thou___ on - ly art Ho - ly; thou on - ly art the_
 Lord; thou on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high_
 _ in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

COLLECT

℣. The Lord be with you.

℞. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O GOD, who didst make this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in thy Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, begin renewed both in body and mind, may worship thee in sincerity and truth; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

§ The Congregation may be seated for the Lesson.

EPISTLE *Romans 6, 3-11*

The Epistle of Blessed Paul the Apostle to the Romans.

BRETHREN: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the sinful body might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For he who had died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. For we know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life

he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

℣. This is the word of the Lord.

℟. Thanks be to God.

§ *The Congregation stands for the Hymn and Gospel.*

HYMN 91 – “The Strife Is O’er”

Victory

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 28, 1-10*

℣. The Lord be with you.

℟. And with thy spirit.

℣. The continuation ☩ of the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

℟. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

AT THAT TIME: After the sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulchre. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. His appearance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. Lo, I have told you.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Hail!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

℣. The Gospel of the Lord.

℟. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

p. 328-30

THE PEACE *The Congregation may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*

p. 332

INTENTIONS OF THE MASS

OFFERTORY – “Haec dies”

William Byrd (c.1543-

1623)

GOD so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. God so loved the world...

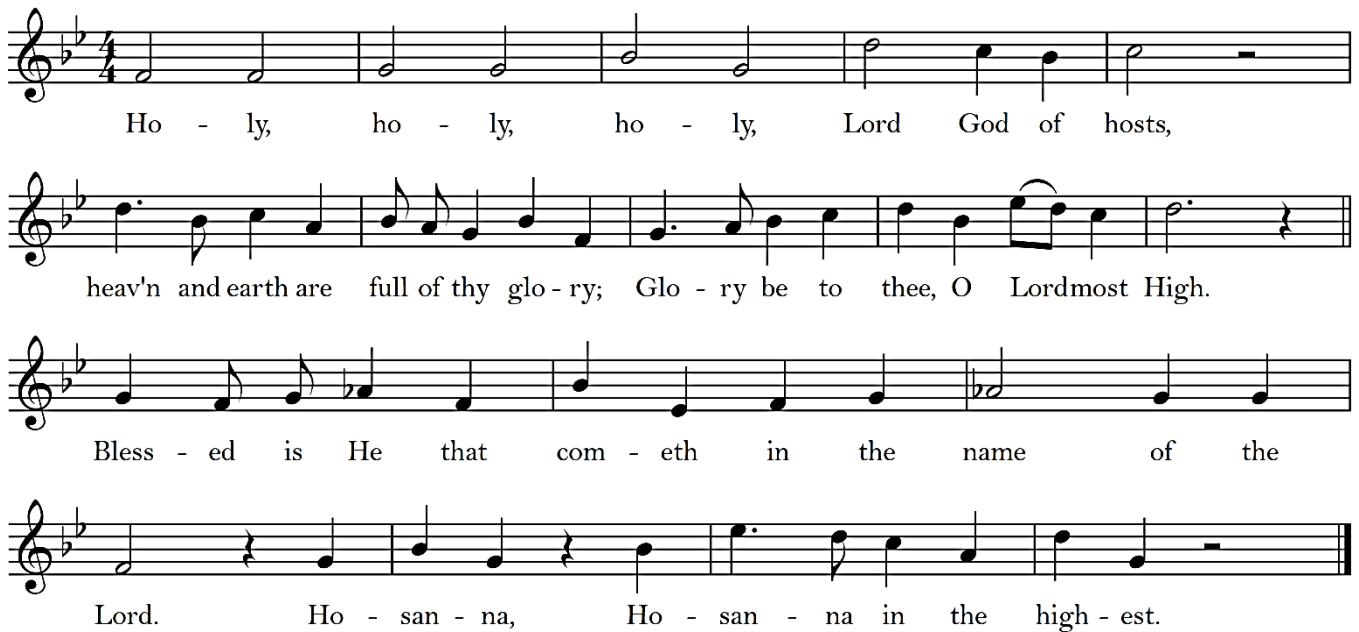
HYMN 89 – “At the Lamb’s High Feast”

Salzburg

SURSUM CORDA *Hymnal 734*

PREFACE OF EASTER

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of hosts,
 heav'n and earth are full of thy glo - ry; Glo - ry be to thee, O Lordmost High.
 Bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

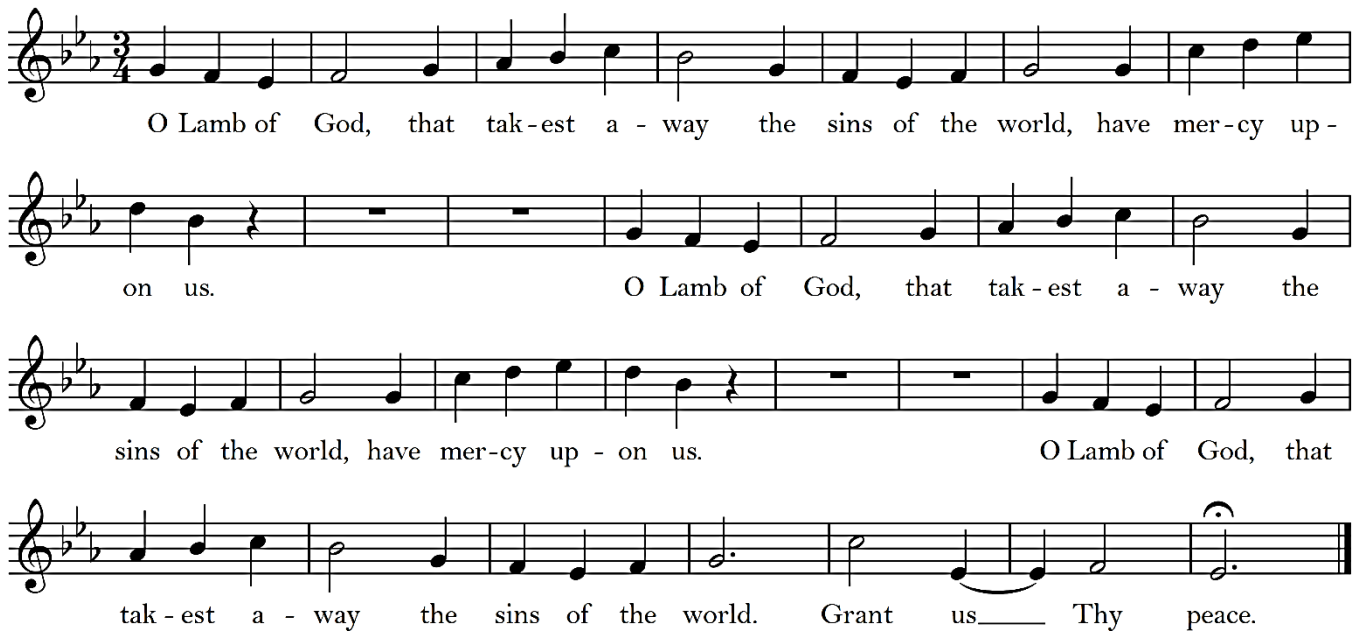
§ The Congregation kneels for the Canon of the Mass.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

p. 334-36

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Hymnal 722*

AGNUS DEI



O Lamb of God, that tak-est a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up -
 on us. O Lamb of God, that tak-est a - way the
 sins of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a - way the sins of the world. Grant us Thy peace.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

p. 337

ECCE AGNUS DEI

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

p. 338

HYMN 92 – “Alleluia! Hearts and Voices”

Lux Eoi

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

p. 339

BLESSING

p. 339

DISMISSAL

Deacon

Depart in peace, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.____

People

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.____

THE LAST GOSPEL

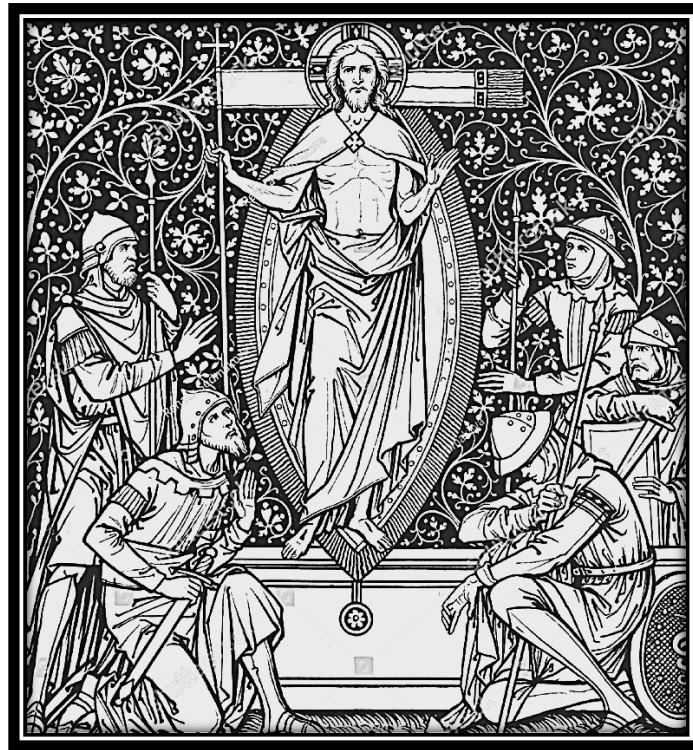
- ∇. ✠ The beginning of the Holy Gospel according to John.
- ℞. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**
- ∇. ...full of grace and truth.
- ℞. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 96 – “The Day of Resurrection”

Ellacombe

ORGAN – “Piec d’Orgue”
1750)

J.S. Bach (1685-



PRAYERS & DEDICATIONS

*The Flowers which decorate the church this Eastertide are given
in loving memory of those listed in the Easter Memorials.*



Of your charity, please remember in your prayers...

the sick: Tracy Burbine, Dot Cosom, Wendy Goldstein, Grayson Porter, Cindy Nahill, Alannah Aldea, Suzette Mansell, Amelia Sciortino, Fran Sutter, Christine Fritz, Bruce Kwietnieski-Casais, Reagon Condron, Russell Childs, Patty MacAllister, Scott O'Brien, Dan Panichi, John Miosz, Sharon Kedzierski, Daryl Albury, Siles Bonser, and Alexander Ounjian.

and those who have long term illnesses: Richard Hebron, Anna McDuff, James Ferrell, Kevin Nelson, Marlene Barnhart, Vicky Barbos, The Rev. Donald Muller, Mark Goldstein, Ryan Wiese, Theresa Abitz, Robert Abitz, Walt Fell, Lisa Jones, Kathy Buckland, Ellen Murphy, Kimberlee McCafferty, Joseph Carson III, Sava Nedic, Scott Evans, Tess Santos, Beatrix Kwiatkowski, Elaine Morrissey, Dennis Russell, Jeffrey McCafferty, Christiana Carty, Dawn Applegate, Barbara Sury, Paul Sootkoos, James Tucker, Caroline Tucker, Donna Fritz, Mark Casais, Christine Nicosia, Kevin Kintner, Anna Sury, Earl Reading, Zachary Birnbaum, Shelly Eberhart, Gary Rutherford, Ryan Murray, Justin McCafferty, Zachary McCafferty, Kelly Bergen, Hannah McNinch, Mackenzie Sutter, Daniel Applegate, Jennifer Vigh, Jonathan Okeson, Mary Dallmann, Bob Bernard, Pat Temple, Danielle Morgan, Jai Autar, Emma Burris, Gloria Jones, Kelley Gilger, Lori Forenson, Michael Chahanovich, Sister Angela, Dee Watkins, Marge Lee, Robert Fritz, Lynn Muller, Irene Fithian, Brianne Nicosia, Kathy Gabel, Kelly Zsenak, and Kenneth Stattel.

and for those in military service: Cara Bradley, USN; Ben Skarzynski, USMC; Chris Neal, USN; Jacob Foerter, USAFR; Rachel George, USA; Nickolas George, USMC; Kevin Preston, USAR.

those celebrating a birthday this week: Jace Brokaw, Zoe Vanselous, Aiden Gerrish, Dylan Lease, Evan Million, Suzanne Mansour, Rebecca Liberman, and Ed Rosina.

those celebrating an anniversary this week: Col. Phillip & Barbara Cooke.

Anyone may contact the office with names of those who are ill and/or hospitalized for inclusion in our prayers. Names will remain on the list for a maximum of four weeks unless we are notified that they should remain for a longer period.

If you would like to remember a loved one in the Altar Flower or Sacramental Candle dedications, please contact the Church Office. The donation for flowers is \$50; the donation for the Sacramental Candle is \$10.

Upcoming Events:

Apr 4 – 9am: Altar Service

Apr 4 – 7pm: The Great Vigil of Easter

Apr 4 – 8am: Low Mass of Easter

Apr 4 – 8.55am: Church School Easter Event

Apr 4 – 10am: Sung Mass of Easter

Vestry

Ms. Kate Williamson, *Warden* (856.577.1334) ~ Miss Mary Ellen Carty, *Warden* (609.298.4337)

Mrs. Amber Brovak (609.933.9607)

Mr. Michael Kwiatkowski (609.558.1565)

Mr. Stevenson Langmuir (248.515.5943)

Ms. Anne Lyon (609.291.8077)

Mrs. Debbie Mallard (609.802.8929)

Mr. Dean Perry (609.758.3115)

Mr. Glenn Perry (609.758.3115)

Ms. Colleen Suozzo (609.947.1304)

Mrs. Barkley Cordell-Sury (205.329.3345)

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Canon J. Matthew Tucker, *Rector*

The Rev. David Snyder, *Pastoral Associate*

Mr. Greg Geehern, *Seminarian*

Mr. Stephen C. Bears, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Mr. Timothy Smith, *Parish Administrator*

Mrs. SueAnne Jones, *Treasurer*

Mr. Charles Reeder, *Sexton*

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH...

Sunday, 5 April – *Easter Sunday*

- ✘ Low Mass of Easter – 8.00 am
- ✘ Church School Easter Event – 8.55 am
- ✘ Sung Mass of Easter – 10.00 am
- ✘ Coffee Hour – 11.15 am
- ✘ A.A. Meeting – 7.00 pm

Monday, 6 April – *Easter Monday*

{No Mass to-day}

Tuesday, 7 April – *Easter Tuesday*

{No Mass to-day}

Wednesday, 8 April – *Easter Wednesday*

- ✘ A.A. Meeting – 6.00 pm

Thursday, 9 April – *Easter Thursday*

{No Mass to-day}

Friday, 10 April – *Easter Friday*

{No Mass to-day}

Saturday, 11 April – *Easter Saturday*

- ✘ Evening Prayer – 5.30 pm

Sunday, 12 April – *Low Sunday*

- ✘ Morning Prayer – 8.00 am
 - ✘ Morning Prayer – 10.00 am
 - ✘ Coffee Hour – 11.00 am
 - ✘ A.A. Meeting – 7.00 pm
-

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

A Parish of the Episcopal Church

130 Prince Street, Bordentown, NJ 08505

Office Phone: 609.298.2348 / Email: office@cibtown.com

Pastoral Emergencies: 732.859.5823

