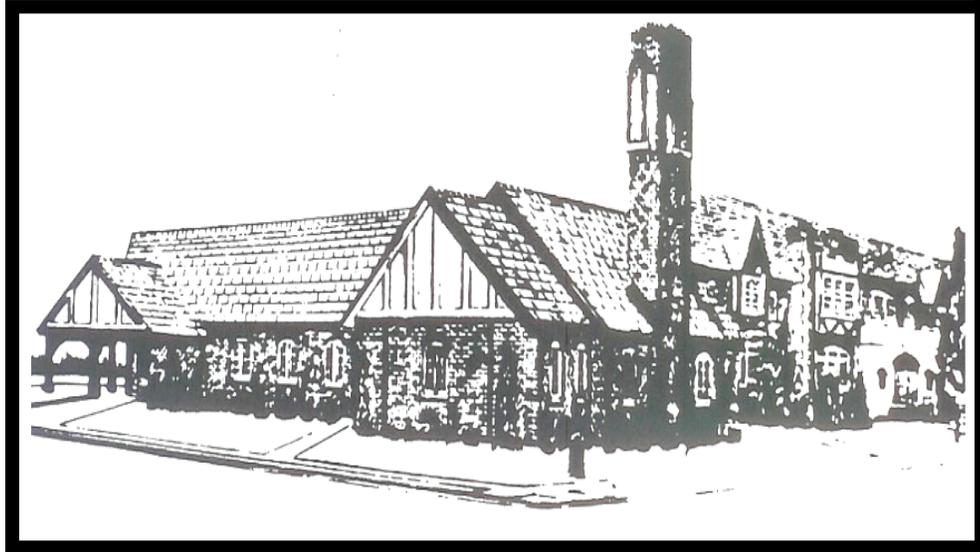


March 1, 2026  
**Second Sunday in Lent**



Christ Episcopal Church, 157 Shore Road, Somers Point, NJ 08244

Phone: 609-927-6262

Email:  
[Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com](mailto:Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com)

Web site:  
[christchurchspnj.org](http://christchurchspnj.org)

Office Hours:  
Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm

All Services Facebook  
Live-Stream  
<https://www.facebook.com/christchurchsomerspoint/>

**Healing Service:**  
Wednesdays at 10am in  
the chapel  
Holy Days as announced

**Saturdays at 5:30pm**  
Service: Holy Eucharist  
Reader: Mike Bronsky  
Eucharistic Minister:  
Donna Melle

**Sundays at 10:00am**

Service: Holy Eucharist  
Reader: Nancy Austin  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Kirsten McMahon and  
Caren Abonyo  
Acolytes: Matthew, James  
and Abby  
Ushers: Arthur Donchey  
Counters: Joe Zeigenfus  
and Dennis Huey

All Music in this bulletin:  
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Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church of Somer's Point. We are glad to welcome you to our church. Everything you will need for worship can be found in the Red Book of Common Prayer and the Blue Hymnal. If you are new to the Episcopal Church and having a hard time following along, ask someone near you for help. They will be glad to show you where we are in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) or the 1982 Blue Hymnal. Again, welcome.

**Entrance: Blue Hymnal No. 147 Now let us all with one accord**

Book of Common Prayer page 355

**Trisagion: S 102**

The Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**A Reading from the book of Genesis**

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 121**

*Levavi oculos*

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?  
2 My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \***  
**shall neither slumber nor sleep;**
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \***  
**nor the moon by night.**
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \***  
**from this time forth for evermore.**

## **A Reading from the Book of Romans**

### **Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Blue Hymnal No. 691 My faith looks up to thee**

# The Gospel

## The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

### John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.      People: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

### The Sermon

Nicene Creed Book of Common Prayer pg. 358

Prayers of the People Form VI Book of Common Prayer pg. 392

Confession Book of Common Prayer pg. 393

The Peace

Announcements

Offertory: Choir

Eucharistic Prayer C Book of Common Prayer pg 369

Sanctus 1982 Hymnal S-127

Lord's Prayer Book of Common Prayer pg. 364

The Fraction Anthem 1982 Hymnal S 156

Agnus Dei S 161

The Gifts of God for the People of God

**Communion Hymn Blue Hymnal No. 313 Let the Blood in mercy poured**

Post Communion Prayer Book of Common Prayer pg 365

The Blessing

**Recessional Hymn Blue Hymnal No. 635 If thou but trust in God to guide thee**

Dismissal Book of Common Prayer pg 366



## Flowers in the sanctuary are given for the glory of God

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### Last week's Sunday attendance:

*Saturday 5:30 pm: 10 Sunday 10:00 am: 57*

*form our hearts and make them thine.*



**Stewardship Note: Regarding our Annual Budget it costs the church \$3,500.00 per week to operate and sustain our ministries, outreach and music ministry. Sunday's collection is \$2388.75.**

Memorials & Thanksgivings: Altar Flowers for Sunday - \$50-Bulletin memorial- \$50; Altar candles- \$15- Mass cards- \$15- contact parish secretary for available dates

**Help the church save in printing costs and use our app! Christ Church, Somers Point app <https://egiving.ministryone.com/landing/294y>**

- **Choir- meets Sundays at 9am in the choir room (parish house)**
- **Altar Guild- weekly preparations for Services**
- **Brotherhood of Saint Andrew-meets third Thurs. of the Month (except August) 6pm in the parish living room (parish house)**
- **Adelaide's Place- is a ministry of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary**
- **Knit Wits- Working on projects from home**
- **BSA Troop 55- Wednesdays at 6pm in the Scout Room or Parish Hall**
- **Cub Scouts, Pack 87- Mondays, 7-8pm, Church undercroft**
- **Both BSA Troop 55 and Cub Scout Pack 87 are Sponsored by our parish**
- **Ecumenical Food Pantry- our parish staffs the pantry Thursdays (except 1<sup>st</sup> full week of month closed) from 9am to 11:30am at 11 E/ Dawes Ave., Somers Point.**
- **Sunday School Sundays, begins Sept. 8, 9am -9:45am (see registration form in narthex or church website) in the church class rooms, undercroft**
- **Youth Forum, 9am-9:45am (in the undercroft)**

**If you have questions or need further information about ministries or participation please contact our Secretary, who will be happy to help you at 609-927-6262 or [Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com](mailto:Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com).**

## Church Information

**Capital Campaign-** To help us pay off this loan, we are doing two things:

- 1) We are holding a 3-year capital campaign to raise the money for this loan. If you need pledging information please check with a vestry member or call the church office.
- 2) We will be holding 3-4 fundraisers a year to help us with the cost of the loan. This includes our organ concert and other future fundraisers.

**Memorial Garden Bricks-** Bricks are a great way of preserving the memory of a loved one. They are also a great way to honor an achievement that a loved one has accomplished. Bricks are \$100 dollars to order and need to be sent in batches of 10 bricks at a time. These bricks were installed early last year. Forms to order bricks are on a table in the narthex. If you would like more information, please see Pat Conte.

**Flower Donations-** Donating funds for the altar flowers is a way to share your dedication of thanksgiving or to remember a loved one. These dedications are printed in the church bulletin. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. There are still many Sundays available to provide donations.

**Prayer List-** Please email the office at [ChristChurchsp1971@gmail.com](mailto:ChristChurchsp1971@gmail.com) with your prayer requests. Each individual will stay on the prayer list for approximately 30 days, unless you specifically request longer.

The prayer list will continue to be important to our community.

**The Rev. George Anne McDonnell, Rector**

Pat Conte (2027)

Karen Geller (2027) and Nancy Austin (2027) Co-Wardens

Carol Drumm, Parish Administrative Asst.

Arlene Santhouse, Treasurer

Michelle Cianci, Asst. Treasurer

Carlos Torres, Sexton

Doug Murdock, Director of Music

Vestry:

Joe Zeigenfus (2028), Marie Bates (2028), Dennis Huey (2029),

Cecelia Khoury (2029) and Michelle Cianci (2029)

Head of Altar Guild: Barbara Keown

Christian Education

Sunday School

Led By: Kirsten McMahan & Laura Napoli

Youth Forum

Led By: The Rev. George Anne McDonnell

Sundays

9:00am to 9:45am

Additional Events and ministry activities will be posted on our Website and Facebook Page

Our Church app: Ministry ONE

<https://egiving.ministryone.com/landing/294y>