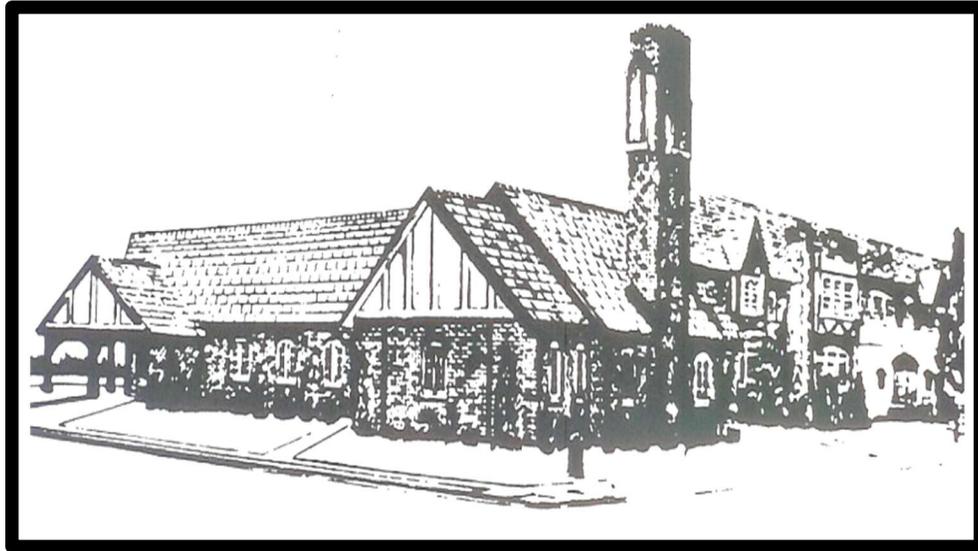


March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Lent



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

Phone: 609-927-6262

Email:
Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com

Web site:
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: Donna Melle
Eucharistic Minister:
Donna Melle

Sundays at 10:00am

Service: Holy Eucharist
Reader: Kirsten McMahon
Eucharistic Ministers:
Cindy and Jeff Hight
Acolytes: Aidan and
Sophia
Ushers: Arthur Donchey
Counters: Patti Stocker
and Dave McMahon

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. 511 Holy Spirit, Ever living

Book of Common Prayer page 355

Trisagion: S 102

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the book of Ezekial

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.

Psalm 130

De profundis

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 **If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, ***
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 **I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; ***
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 **O Israel, wait for the LORD, ***
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

A Reading from the Book of Romans

Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does

not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Blue Hymnal No 508 Breathe on me, Breath of God

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you

may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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. 309 O food to pilgrims given

Post Communion Prayer Book of Common Prayer pg 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn Blue Hymnal No. 300 Glory, love and praise and honor

Dismissal Book of Common Prayer pg 366



Flowers in the sanctuary are given for the glory of God

Last week's Sunday attendance:

Saturday 5:30 pm: 11 Sunday 10:00 am: 69

form our hearts and make them thine.



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 1st 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.

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 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) Jr. Warden
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>