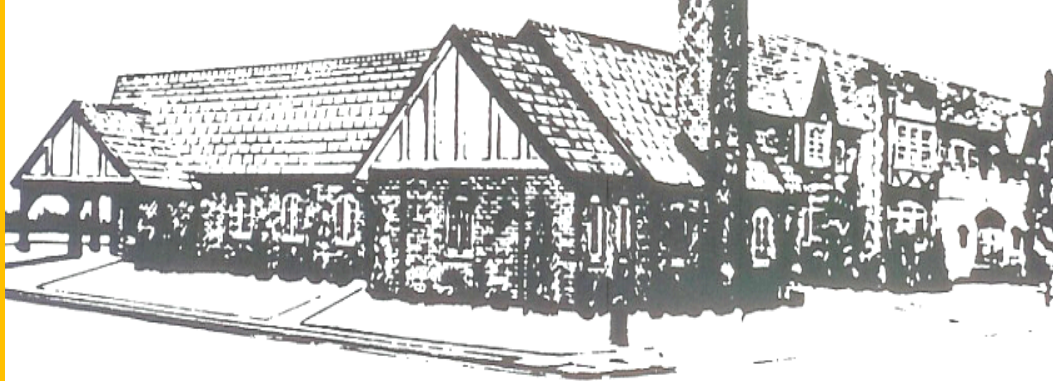


Christ Episcopal Church
157 Shore Road
Somers Point, NJ 08244

Fifth Sunday of Easter:

May 18th, 2024



Phone: 609-927-6262

Fax: 609-927-0713

Email: Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com

Web site: <https://www.christchurchspnj.org/>

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm

All Services Facebook Live-Stream

<https://www.facebook.com/christchurchsomerpoint/>

Sundays at 10:00am

Service: Holy Eucharist

Acolytes Serving: Matthew & Sierra

Reader: Pat Conte

Saturdays at 5:30pm

Reader: Carol Fry

Eucharistic Minister: Dale Lonkart

Service: Holy Eucharist

Healing Service

Wednesdays at 10am

Holy Days as announced

Eucharistic Ministers for this Sunday:

Jeff Hight & Cindy Pietrofitta

Ushers: Bill Snyder & Arthur Donchey

Counters: Bill Snyder & Cherry Biacan

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Rev. George Anne McDonnell

Pat Conte (2027) Bill Snyder (2026), Wardens

Lisa Angerer Parish Administrative Asst.

Heidi Toth, Treasurer

Carlos Torres, Sexton

Doug Murdock, Director of Music

Patt Mathis and Diane McKeefery, Christian Education Coordinators (Sunday School, Youth Forum and Adult Forum),

Vestry:

Bob Ogle (2028), Joe Zeigenfus (2028),

Steve Napoli (2026), Nancy Austin (2027),

Karen Geller (2027)

Bobbie Livesey (2026)

Head of Altar Guild: Barbara Keown

Christian Education

Sunday School

Led By: Diane McKeefrey & Laura Napoli

Youth Forum

Led By: Bill Snyder, Kirsten McMahon &

Carolyn LaMountain

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>

Entrance: *Hymnal No. 205 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!*

1. Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

2. The Lord of life is risen today! Sing songs of praise along his way; let all the earth rejoice and say Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

3. Praise we in song of victory that love, that life which cannot die, and sing with hearts uplifted high Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

4. Your Name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

5. To God the Father, God the Son, to God the Spirit, always One, we sing for life in us begun; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Words: Norman Mealy Music: Melchior Vulpius

Celebrant Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ is Risen

People **The Lord is Risen Indeed Alleluia**

The Celebrant may say

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.**

The Gloria: *Hymnal S-278*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

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

Priest: Let us pray;

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the

way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; * praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; * praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; * praise him, all you shining stars.

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; * for he commanded, and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; * he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, * you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, * tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills, * fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, * creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, * princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, * old and young together.

13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, * for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

**14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

The Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Hymnal No. 487 Come my Way, my Truth, my Life

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.

2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.

3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move; such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (13:31-35)

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

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People Form 111

The Prayers of the People

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.
Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.
We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.
We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.
Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.
Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.
Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.
We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.
Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
(The priest gives a concluding prayer)

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.
Minister 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 Bishop, when present, or Priest, 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

***Announcements, Birthday's, Anniversaries, & Blessing of food we Donate to the Food Pantry
Offertory Anthem: Sung by Choir***

The Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, 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.

But Chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of you Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he was won for us everlasting life.

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:

Sanctus: Hymnal S-125

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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;

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 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 the heavenly country where 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.

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

**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 Fraction

Hymnal S-154

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hymnal S-163

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Communion

Post Communion Hymn: 304 *I come with joy to meet my Lord*

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free, in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.

2. I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends.

4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near, is in such friendship better known: we see and praise him here.

5. Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways and as his people in the world we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren

Music: Annabel Morris Buchanan

Post Communion Prayer

Let us Pray.

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

Sending

+Sending of Eucharistic Visitors (when needed)

N., in the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that N., to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

Final Blessing

Recessional: Hymnal No. 275 Hark! the sound of holy voices

1. Hark! the sound of holy voices, chanting at the crystal sea, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Lord, to thee! Multitude which none can number like the stars in glory stands, clothed in white apparel, holding palms of victory in their hands.
2. Patriarch, and holy prophet, who prepared the way for Christ, king, apostle, saint, confessor, martyr and evangelist, saintly maiden, godly matron, widows who have watched to prayer, joined in holy concert, singing to the Lord of all, are there.
3. Marching with thy cross, their banner, they have triumphed, following thee, the Captain of salvation, thee, their Savior and their King. Gladly, Lord, with thee they suffered; gladly, Lord, with thee they died; and by death to life immortal they were born and glorified.
4. Now they reign in heavenly glory, now they walk in golden light, now they drink, as from a river, holy bliss and infinite; love and peace they taste for ever, and all truth and knowledge see in the beatific vision Of the blessed Trinity.

Words: John Fawcett

Music: SICILIAN MARINERS

Dismissal

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



Last week's Sunday attendance:

Saturday 5:30pm: 16

Sunday 10:00am: 94



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. This last Sunday's collection was \$1726.

Memorials & Thanksgivings: Altar Flowers for Sunday - \$50- see usher for sign-up sheet or contact parish secretary for available dates; Bulletin memorial- \$50- contact parish secretary for available dates; Altar candles- \$15- contact parish secretary for available dates; Mass cards- \$15- contact parish secretary.

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<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
- **Society of Mary-** First Tuesday of the month in the church living room 11:00am
- **Guild of all Souls-** Second Tuesday of the month in the church living room 11:00am
- **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, Sundays,** begins Sept. 8, 9am-9:45am (chapel on the Meyran Ave. side of church)

If you have questions or need further information about ministries or participation please our Secretary Lisa will be happy to help you please contact us at 609-927-6262 or Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com.

Church Events

Organ Fund- We want to thank all who have given to the cause already! We appreciate the support you have shown to the music ministry in the church! You can fill out organ fund pledges on the blue paper. You are now also able to gift money for the organ on the giving app. We currently have collected \$ 21,792.53 of which \$7,000 was placed as a down payment for the digital organ, our current balance is \$14,792.53.

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. The first set of bricks that were bought should be delivered in early June! If you would like more information, please see Carolyn La Mountain.