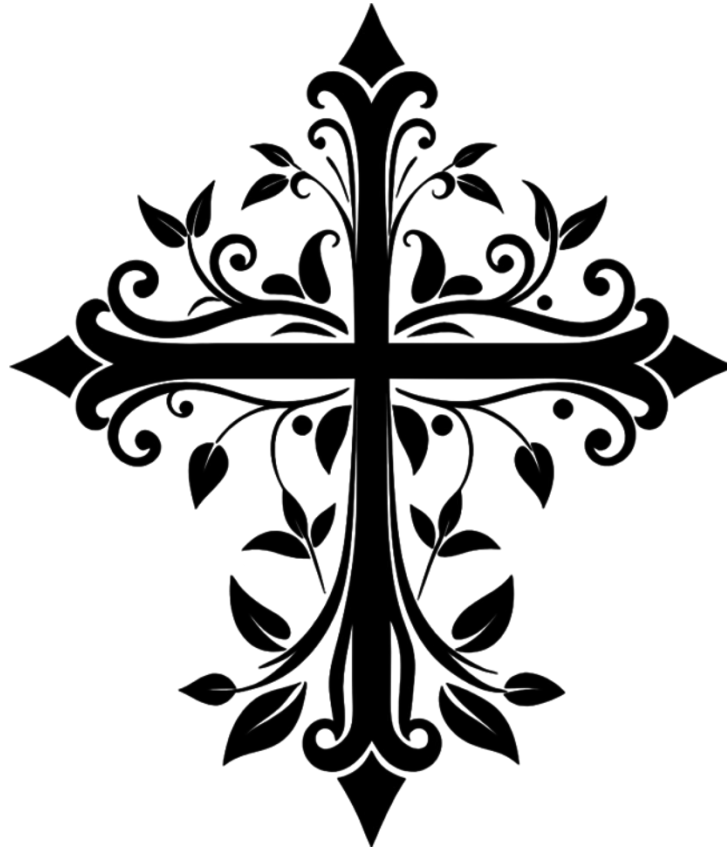


# **The Episcopal Church of the Atonement**



## **The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**May 3, 2026  
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**

*Please observe silence during the musical prelude.*

*The 10:00 a.m. service is live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.*

**Easter greetings!** The church devotes 50 days to the Easter season celebrating Christ's resurrection. During this season, the "Alleluia" is back, sung and spoken in many places. We omit the general confession as a sign of our joy that we have been forgiven through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

**Prelude**

**Entrance Hymn 525**

*The Church's One Foundation*

*Presider* Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*The Presider and People offer the Collect of Purity*

**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.**

Sung at 8:00 am & 10:00 am

**Song of Praise**

*Glory to God, arr. Noble*

Glo-ry to God in the high-est and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 2.Lord, God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y  
 God and Fath-er, 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 Fath-er 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 Fath - er, re - ceive our prayer.  
 6.For you a - lone are the ho - ly one; You a - lone are the Lord; You a - lone are the most high, Je - sus  
 Christ with the Ho - ly Spi-rit In the glo - ry of God the Fath - er. A - - men.

**Collect of the Day**

*Presider* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

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.**

## The First Reading

Acts 7:55-60

*Reader* Stephen, a deacon of the church, preaches salvation history before the high priest and the council, culminating in a vision of Jesus standing at God's right hand. Those gathered are so provoked by this testimony that they drag him from the city and stone him to death.

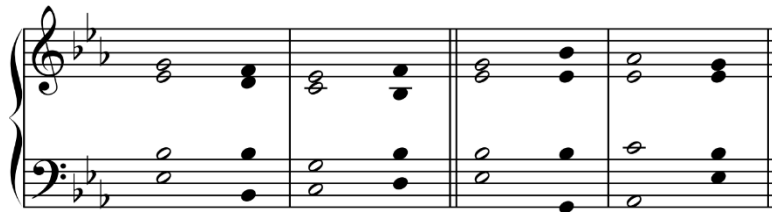
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

Spoken at 8:00 am. Chanted at 10:00 am.

**Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16**



- 1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to **shame**; \*  
deliver me in your **righteousness**.
- 2 Incline your **ear to me**; \*  
make haste to **deliver me**.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my **stronghold**; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and **guide me**.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly **set for me**, \*  
for you are my tower of **strength**.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my **spirit**, \*  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of **truth**.
- 15 My times are in your **hand**; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who **persecute me**.

*(second half)*

- 16 Make your face to shine upon your **servant**, \*  
and in your loving-kindness **save me**.

## The Second Reading

*1 Peter 2: 2-10*

*Reader* This reading presents a series of images from the Old Testament urging new disciples to purify themselves and to become living stones, joining themselves to Jesus, the rejected one, who is now the cornerstone of the spiritual temple. They are a chosen people, called by God out of the darkness into light.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner”,

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God’s people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

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

*Sung at 10:00 am*  
**Gospel Hymn 243**

*When Stephen, Full of Power and Grace*

## The Gospel

*John 14:1-14*

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

*The Rev. Sandi Albom*

### 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 fully human. 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. Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. Who 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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence is kept.*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; especially for our President; our Governor; our Mayor; and all our legislators and judges, that their decisions may be guided by the way of love of Jesus;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For all who have died, especially remembering Art Lichtenberger, Florence and Arthur Lichtenberger, Elizabeth Lichtenberger, Margaret Terrell; and Standish Weston, for whom altar memorials have been given; and Jeremy Paul Emmonds, for whom the sanctuary lamp burns;

**For those who grieve, that they may be delivered from their distress.**

*The People may add their own petitions silently or aloud.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; especially for St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Leominster; the Loving the Questions Discernment Experience; the Evangelical Education Society; the National Episcopal AIDs Association; and the Anglican Church of North India (United);

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Miguelina, our Bishop; with thanksgiving for Douglas, our recently retired Bishop; for Sandi, our Priest, and for all other bishops and ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*The People may add their own petitions silently or aloud.*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

## The Peace

*Presider:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

## Welcome and Announcements

## The Great Thanksgiving

When we gather, we are happy to receive an offering of "our life and labor," which we present to God. The ushers will pass the offering plate to receive your donations in person. You may also give online at [Tithe.ly](http://Tithe.ly) or scan the QR code located in the pew.

Sung at 10:00 am

### Offertory Anthem

*O Taste and See*  
from Psalm 34: 8-9

Music by Richard Horn

O taste and see the goodness of the Lord;  
They are happy who take refuge in Him,  
O taste and see the goodness of the Lord;  
For those who seek the Lord want for nothing.

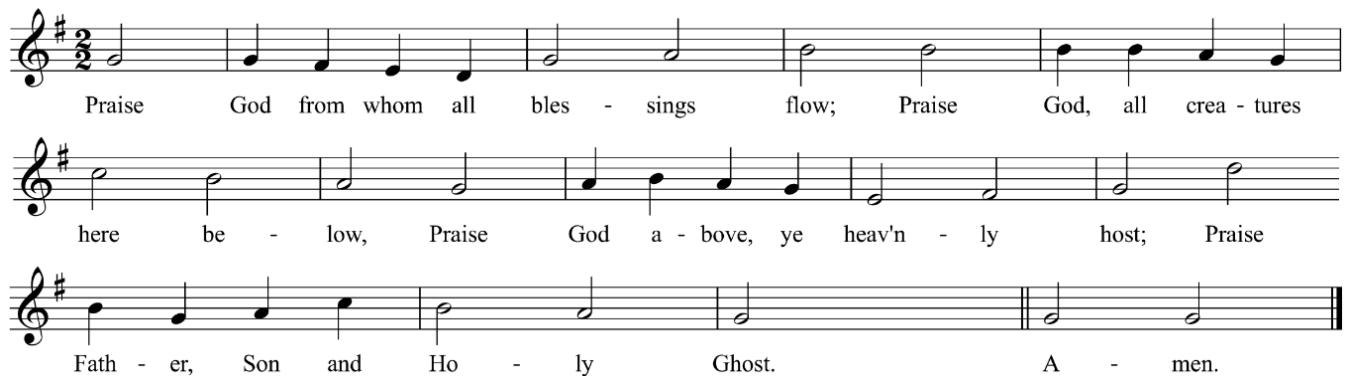
Sung at 8:00 & 10:00 am. The People stand to sing.

### Presentation Hymn 484

*Praise the Lord Through Every Nation*

### Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3

*Old Hundredth, Isaac Watts*



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures  
here below, Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

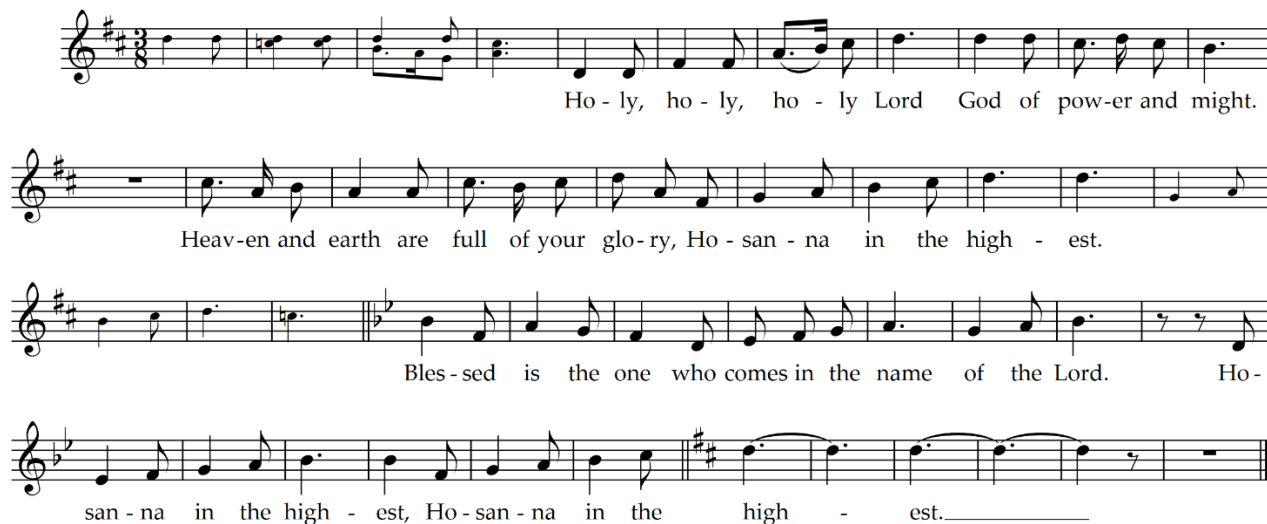
*The Presider proceeds*

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout for joy:

Sung at 8:00 am & 10:00 am.

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow-er and might.  
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bles - sed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### *The Presider continues*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you call a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

### *The Presider and the People*

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love.

Giver of life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voice of unending praise.

*The Presider and the People*

**Blessed are you now and forever. AMEN.**

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 Breaking of the Bread**

*Fraction, S152*

*Spoken at 8:00 am and 10:00 am*

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are welcome to receive the presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. In the Episcopal Church we believe that God is uniquely present with us in the Bread and the Wine—and we also believe that receiving only Bread or only Wine does not limit God. Bread is offered in the form of a small wheat wafer. Gluten-free wafers (wrapped to prevent cross contamination) are available—ask for one if you need it. All are welcome to take a small sip from the Common Cup or you may intinct (dip the bread) into the cup. Please cleanse your hands with the alcohol-based hand cleanser in the dispensers at the foot of the stairs leading to the altar rail prior to receiving. Thank you.*

**Spiritual Communion**

*Let us pray together in solidarity with those who are unable to receive communion in person this prayer of Spiritual Communion:*

**O God, we are united here in your transcendent power of love. From this center of goodness, you appear to us now in a new way, a new light, a new understanding, a new power of friendship and unity. We receive this life from you; we share this life together. You appear in our midst as Life itself, and we rise up together, beyond the resistant forces around us and within us. We receive you. This is the Body of Christ. Amen. — (Ilia Delio, OSF, adapted)**

**Communion Meditation**

*After Communion, the People stand when the Presider says*

Let us pray.

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## The Blessing

## Concluding Hymn 536

*Open Your Ears O Faithful People*

## The Dismissal

*Presider:* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## Postlude

### PERMISSIONS

Except as noted within the text of the service leaflet: The structure and words of our service are taken from The Book of Common Prayer, Expansive Language; Enriching Our Worship; The Book of Occasional Services; Liturgy for the Whole Church, by Susan K. Bock, and Prayers for an Inclusive Church, by Steven Shakespeare; Hear Our Prayer by Jon White and Lisa Graves (all by Church Publishing). Today's Greeting and Call to Worship are from the World Council of Churches, Eco-School at the Orthodox Academy of Crete, Greece, 11-18 November 2023. The Biblical texts of the Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA. Hymns are taken from The Hymnal 1982, Lift Every Voice and Sing II, and Wonder, Love, and Praise (all by Church Publishing) and Songs & Prayers from Taizé, (GIA Publications, Inc.). Permission to print/post hymns for congregational use is granted by Rite Song and/or One License and permission to podcast/stream the music in this service is granted by One License: #A-723294.

## THE MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<b>Presider</b>	The Rev. Sandi Albom
<b>Music Director</b>	Clifton J. Noble
<b>Vestry Person of the Day</b>	Gene Giacometti
<b>Opener</b>	Gail Meehan
<b>Linens</b>	Dianne Legalos
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Tanya Kellogg
<b>Sunday School</b>	Judy Harvester, Debbie Auclair
<b>Counters</b>	Karen Newman, Kathy DeJean
<b>Office Angels</b>	Kathy DeJean, Deb Bruno

	8:00 am	10:00 am
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Lesley Frazar	Tanya Kellogg
<b>Greeter(s)</b>	Chris Steger	Gail Meehan
<b>Eucharistic Minister(s)</b>	Holly Rodriguez	Sue Cole Kathy DeJean
<b>Lector(s)</b>	Kara Noble	Mary Hull Sandra Chamberlain
<b>Usher(s)</b>	Chris Steger	Mark Mueller
<b>Stream Team</b>	NA	Margaret Hannigan

### PARISH PRAYER LIST

*Please use this list in your daily prayers. We are happy to add your concerns.  
Contact office administrator at [program@atonementwestfield.org](mailto:program@atonementwestfield.org) or call 562-5461.*

**Altar Memorials** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Art Lichtenberger, Florence and Arthur Lichtenberger, Elizabeth Lichtenberger, Margaret Terrell; and Standish Weston.

**Sanctuary Lamp** burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jeremy Paul Emmonds.

**Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer** for The Church of North India (United).

**Diocesan Prayer** for St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Leominster; Loving the Questions Discernment Experience; the Evangelical Education Society; and National Episcopal AIDs Association

**For those suffering throughout the world** especially from the ravages of war, violence, hate, environmental changes, and disease.

**For these families and individuals** Janet, Caroline, Liz, Chris, Caryl, Frank, Jenny, Mark, Sally, Fred, Sue, Hala, Tom, Michael, Mark, Jessica, John, Mark P., Jim L., Kate, Rick, Lee, Teresa, Candi, John, Coralee & Gemariah; Nancy, Tracy Davis; Lily and her parents, Leianne, Fran, Madeline, Debra, Brad, Colin, Bill, Jimmy, Billy, Les, Sally, Denise, Heather, Pearl, Lily, Bill, Jim, Kathy, Fred, Tom, Shannon, Joan, Deborah, Matt, Darlene, Rick & family, Anne, Ann, Jean, Ruth, Thelma, Connie, Candy, Jeff, David, Christina, Sharon, Marcia, Jan, John, Addison, Hannah, Donna, Jack, Mickie, Chris, Josh, Tim, Mike, Juan, John, Sheila, Ann, Gary, David, Sabrina, Wendy, Bernie, John, James, Jeffrey, Brittany, Rick.

## THIS WEEK AT ATONEMENT

### Sunday May 3

The Fifth Sunday of Easter  
8:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person*)  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person & live-streamed*)  
6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

### Monday, May 4

5:00 pm *Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) (SMGR)*  
8:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

### Tuesday, May 5

6:00 pm *Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)*  
6:30 pm *Music Together (SMGR)*  
7:00 pm *Bridge Fellowship (Sanctuary)*

### Wednesday, May 6

12:15 pm *Healing Service & Holy Eucharist*  
1:00 pm *Bible Study*  
7:00 pm *Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)*

### Thursday, May 7

5:30 pm *Girl Scouts (Sunday School Room)*  
6:15 *Handbells Rehearsal*  
7:00 pm *Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)*  
7:30 pm *Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

### Friday, May 8

7:00 pm *Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)*

### Saturday, May 9

4:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

### Sunday, May 10

The Sixth Sunday of Easter  
8:00 am Holy Eucharist *in person*  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist *in person | live-streamed*  
6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

*SMGR= Saint Margaret's Guild Room (Parlor)*

### **“Drawn in by Grace; Reaching out in Love”**

*God calls people of any age, race, ethnicity, gender, or sexuality to join us in worship and work in the world. God's grace draws us in—all of us. And together all of us reach out with God's love.*



## The Episcopal Church of the Atonement

36 Court Street • Westfield, MA • 01085 • (413) 562-5461 • [www.atonementwestfield.org](http://www.atonementwestfield.org)

*Drawn in by Grace • Reaching out in Love*

The Rev. Sandi Albom, *Priest in Charge*

Jerry Noble, *Music Director*

The Rt. Rev. Miguelina Howell, *Bishop, The Episcopal Church of Western MA*

The Rt. Rev. Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop and Primate*

### **The Vestry**

Holly Rodriguez, *Sr. Warden* ~ Robert Frazar, *Jr. Warden* ~ Steve Adams, *Treasurer* ~ Deborah Bruno, *Clerk*  
Mike Ehresman, *Asst. Jr. Warden* ~ Sue Cole ~ Gene Giacometti ~ Phil Siska ~ Gail Meehan

# ECOTA Happenings

## May 3, 2026

---

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*Sundays: 8am Worship & Holy Eucharist | 10am Worship & Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)*

*Tuesdays: 7pm Bridge Fellowship | Wednesdays: 12:15pm Healing Service & Holy Eucharist*

---

### **Spring Clean-up Day – Saturday, May 2, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm**

It's time for ECOTA's annual Spring Clean-up. The tasks for the day will focus on the plants around the building, including pruning and gently shaping up the shrubs. If you can participate, it's helpful if you can bring hand pruning clippers, rakes, and gloves. No need to sign up—just come on Saturday, May 2.

### **Meeting the Ancestors: A Five-Week Bible Study on Genesis – Wednesdays, 1:00-1:45pm, May 6, 20, 27, June 3 and June 10**

Join us for a five-week conversation as we talk through **Genesis**, where we'll meet our spiritual ancestors. They are faithful and flawed, brave and bewildered, sometimes inspiring and sometimes a complete mess. Genesis has creation and chaos, siblings who fight, people who wrestle with God, family drama worthy of modern television, and again and again, a God who keeps showing up. *No Bible expertise needed. Just bring your curiosity, a sense of wonder (and humor), and maybe a story or two from your own family.*

#### **Week One — In the Beginning: Blessing, Trouble, and Being Human -**

*Readings: Genesis 1–4*

Creation, Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel... in other words... how do we live with one another?

#### **Week Two — Floods, Towers, and Abraham and Sarah Leave Home**

*Readings: Genesis 6–9*

Noah, Babel, and Abraham and Sarah heading off into the unknown. What does trust look like when you don't have a map?

#### **Week Three — Sarah, Hagar, Jacob, Esau...and Family Systems in the Bible**

*Readings: Genesis 16, 21, 25–28*

Sibling rivalry, blessing and deception, complicated family loyalties.

#### **Week Four — Jacob, Leah, Rachel, and Wrestling with God**

*Readings: Genesis 29–33*

Love and longing. Sisters and struggle. Jacob the trickster getting tricked. Wrestling all night by the river and coming away changed. The Bible does not shy away from family drama.

#### **Week Five — Joseph and More Family Drama**

*Readings: Genesis 37, 39–45, 50*

Dreams, betrayal, forgiveness, and God working even through broken things.

### **ECOTA Book Group: A New Book for May and June ~ *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi**

One spring morning, a stranger named Theo arrives in the small southern city of Golden. He doesn't explain much about where he came from or why he's there—but when he visits the local coffeehouse and sees pencil portraits of the people of Golden hang on the walls, he begins purchasing them, one at a time, and giving each portrait to the person depicted. In exchange, he asks only for the person's story. Portrait by portrait, person by person, secrets are revealed, regrets are shared, and ordinary lives are profoundly altered. A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, this is an unforgettable novel about the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder. We'll read independently and meet in mid-June to discuss.

**ECOTA Coffeehouse – Wednesday, May 13, 2026 | 10:30am – 12:00 pm**

Good coffee (or tea). Good friends. Good music. Come join us for all three at our next ECOTA Coffeehouse on Wednesday, April 22 starting at 10:30am. Do you have a favorite song you'd like to hear played? Let Kara or Jerry know ([program@atonementwestfield.org](mailto:program@atonementwestfield.org)). We could use volunteers to set up, make coffee, and clean up—and we welcome donations of baked goods. If you can help, sign up in the Narthex.

**Women's Luncheon, Tuesday, May 19, 2026**

Our next Women's Lunch will be on Tuesday, May 19 @ noon. Join us for an hour enjoying and pleasant lunch and a nice chat with friends. Theme TBA. Bring your own brown bag lunch; we'll provide beverages and treats. Sign up in the Narthex if you can join us.

**Laundry Love – Wednesday, May 27, 2026 | 4:30 pm**

Laundry Love offers free laundry services to low-income or no-income individuals and families; it also provides a good meal for participants while their clothes are in the machines. If you can help or make a donation, sign up on the sheet in the Narthex if you can help.

**Westfield Farmers Market Opens on Thursday, June 4, 2026**

Since 2015, the Westfield Farmers Market has been at the Episcopal Church of Atonement, bringing the people in our community fresh, locally grown food including produce, dairy products, jams & jellies, raw honey, maple products, breads, baked goods, coffee, fresh lemonade, and hand-made pizza. The Market also features craftspeople and artists selling hand-made products, as well as live music throughout each Market day. We're looking forward to another great season! Shop, volunteer, or spend some time at the ECOTA Welcome Table to introduce people to the church and help them get to know more about our community.

**SAVE THE DATE for ECOTA's Strawberry Festival ~ Friday, June 19, 2026 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm**

It's time for the mouth-watering wonderfulness that is ECOTA's Annual Strawberry Festival! Planning has just begun, and tickets will be available soon. Proceeds will benefit the Westfield Food Pantry. More details coming soon!

**Ecumenical Pride Worship Service ~ Sunday, June 7, 2026 @ 6:00 pm**

As part of this year's Pride Month observance, ECOTA members have been invited to join our friends and neighbors from other local churches and the community for an Ecumenical Pride Service at the First United Methodist Church, 16 Court Street, Westfield, beginning at 6:00 pm.