

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

**April 26, 2026
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**

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 492

Sing Ye Faithful, Sing with Gladness

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
molto rit.
 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.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Reader In this reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the new community of believers in the resurrected Jesus devote themselves to teaching and fellowship, to sharing eucharistic meals, and to prayer.

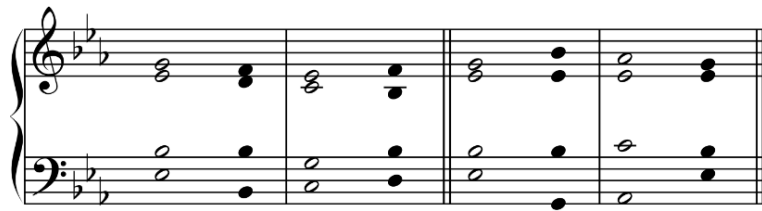
Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

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

Psalm 23



- 1 The Lord is my **shepherd**; *
I shall not be in **want**.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green **pastures** *
and leads me beside still **waters**.
- 3 He revives my **soul** *
and guides me along right pathways for his **Name's sake**.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no **evil**; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they **comfort me**.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who **trouble me**; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running **over**.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my **life**, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for **ever**.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

Reader In this reading we learn that disciples are called to bear undeserved suffering with patience, even as Christ has set an example for us, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness.

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

Sung at 10:00 am
Gospel Hymn 343

Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless

The Gospel

John 10:1-10

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

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

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

Sermon

The Rev. Peter Courtney

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; especially everyone on our prayer list, for whom altar memorials have been given.

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 of our judges and legislators, 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 Elizabeth “Betty” Adams, Sarah Duffy, and Lisle and Doris Hebert, for whom the sanctuary lamp burns, in the hope of resurrection.

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

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; especially for Trinity Church, Lenox; the Episcopal Youth Event; The Society for the Increase of the Ministry; the Social Justice Commission; and for The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion).

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

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Miguelina, our Bishop; Sandi, our Priest; Peter, this morning’s presiding priest; and for all bishops and other 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 or scan the QR code located in the pew.

Sung at 10:00 am

Offertory Anthem

Hush, Hush, Somebody's Callin' My Name

Traditional Spiritual

1. Hush, Lordy, hush, Lordy, somebody's callin' my name
Hush, Lordy, hush, Lordy, somebody's callin' my name
Hush, Lordy, hush, Lordy, somebody's callin' my name
Oh my Lord, oh my Lord, what shall I do?
2. Sounds like Jesus, somebody's callin' my name...
3. Soon one morning death'll come creepin' in my room...
4. I'm so glad I got my religion in time...
5. Hush, Lordy, hush, Lordy, somebody's callin' my name

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

Presentation Hymn 304

I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord

Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3

Old Hundredth, Isaac Watts

Praise God from whom all bles - sings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low, Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise
Fath - er, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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.**

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.

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

Spoken at 8:00 & 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 334

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing

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.

ECOTA Happenings

April 26, 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

Thank you to The Rev. Peter Courtney for being with us today!

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.

Women's Luncheon, Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Our next Women's Lunch will be on Tuesday, May 19 @ noon. Join us and spend an hour enjoying and pleasant lunch over 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.

ECOTA Coffeehouse – Wednesday, May 27, 2026 | 10:30am – 12:00 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.

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.

THE MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider	The Rev. Peter Courtney
Music Director	Clifton J. Noble
Vestry Person of the Day	Mike Ehresman
Opener	Gail Meehan
Linens	Dianne Legalos
Flower Guild	Donna Tatlock-Calkins
Sunday School	Judy Harvester, Claudia Turner
Nursery	Tammy Joseph, coordinator
Counters	Lesley Frazar, Karen Newman
Office Angels	Jan Parks, Gail Meehan
Closer	Mike Ehresman

	8:00 am	10:00 am
Altar Guild	Gail Meehan	Tanya Kellogg
Greeter(s)	Gail Meehan	Sharon Rommelman
Eucharistic Minister(s)	Kara Noble	Karen Newman
Lector(s)	Kara Noble	Tanya Kellogg Suzanna Adams
Usher(s)	Gail Meehan	Jody Brown
Stream Team	NA	Kara Noble

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 or call 562-5461.*

Altar Memorials are given to the Glory of God and the everyone on our prayer list.

Sanctuary Lamp burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth “Betty” Adams, Sarah Duffy, and Lisle and Doris Hebert.

Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer for The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion).

Diocesan Prayer for Trinity Church, Lenox; The Rt. Rev. Miguelina Howell; the Episcopal Youth Event; The Society for the Increase of the Ministry and the Social Justice Commission.

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 April 26	The Fourth Sunday of Easter & Mother's Day 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (<i>in person</i>) 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (<i>in person & live-streamed</i>) 6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15
Monday, April 27	5:00 pm <i>Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) (SMGR)</i> 8:00 pm <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
Tuesday, April 28	6:00 pm <i>Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)</i> 6:30 pm <i>Music Together (SMGR)</i> 7:00 pm <i>Bridge Fellowship</i>
Wednesday, April 29	12:15 pm <i>Healing Service & Holy Eucharist</i> 1:00 pm <i>Bible Study</i> 7:00 pm <i>Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)</i>
Thursday, April 30	5:30 pm <i>Girl Scouts (Upstairs Classroom Room)</i> 6:15 <i>Handbells Rehearsal</i> 7:00 pm <i>Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</i> 7:30 pm <i>Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
Friday, May 1	7:00 pm <i>Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)</i>
Saturday, May 2	9:30-1:00 pm <i>Spring Cleanup Day</i> 4:00 pm <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
Sunday, May 3	The Fifth Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Holy Eucharist <i>in person</i> 10:00 am Holy Eucharist <i>in person live-streamed</i> 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

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