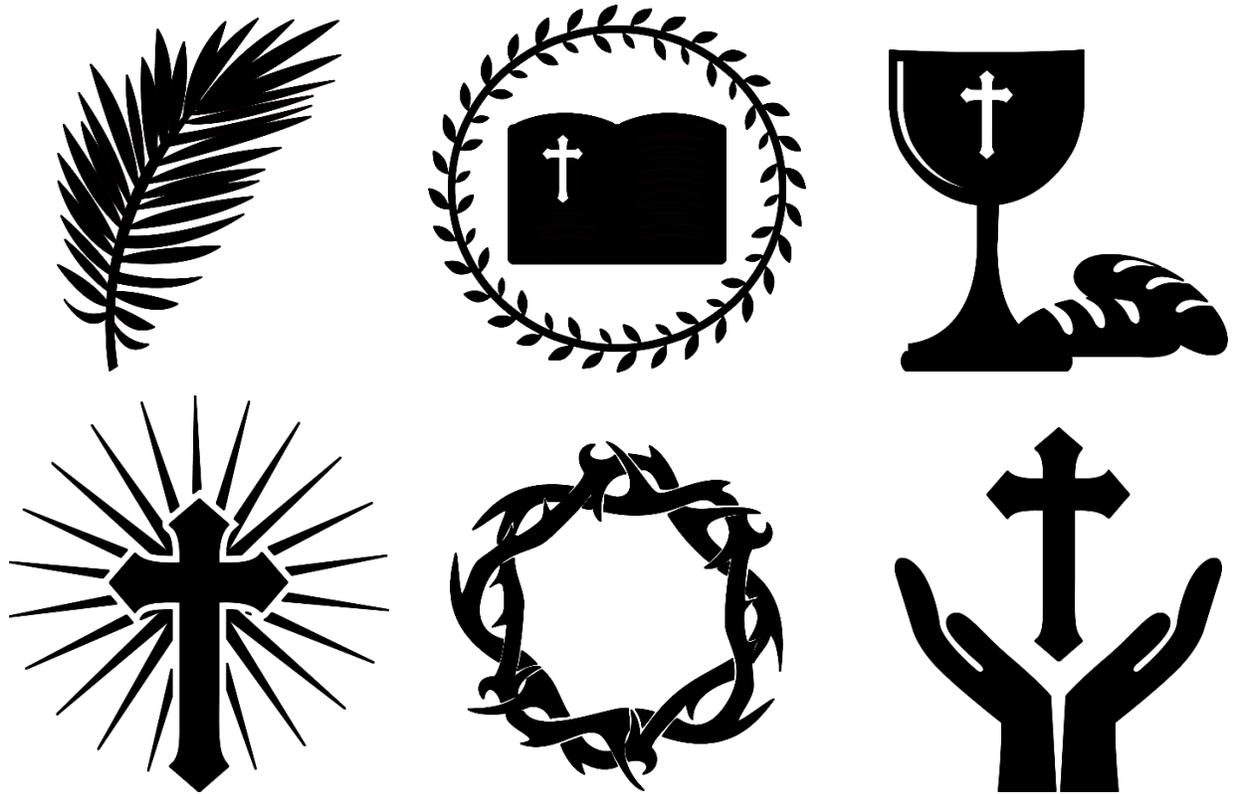


# The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



**The Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 15, 2026**

**8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**

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

*We acknowledge the Lenten season of penitence and preparation by moving our confession of sin to the beginning of the service with the Penitential Order. The forgiveness we receive in Christ is the context through which our worship proceeds.*

## **Bell Tone Call to Worship**

*Presider* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **God's mercy endures forever. Amen.**

## **The Decalogue**

Hear the commandments of God to the people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." (*Mark 12:29-31*)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

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

**Song of Praise S91**

*Lord Have Mercy*

**Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ have mercy upon us.  
Lord have mercy upon us.**

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the first line of lyrics: "Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, \_\_\_ have mer-cy up - on us." The second staff is for the second line: "Christ, have mer-cy up - on \_\_\_ us. Christ, have mer-cy up - on us. Christ, have mer-cy up - on \_\_\_ us." The third staff is for the third line: "Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, \_\_\_ have mer-cy up - on us." The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes.

**Collect of the Day**

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

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The First Reading**

*1 Samuel 16:1-13*

*Reader* In this reading, the Lord sends Samuel to anoint David to be the new king over Israel. As so often happens in the Bible, the one who seems least likely in the eyes of others is chosen by God to carry out the divine will.

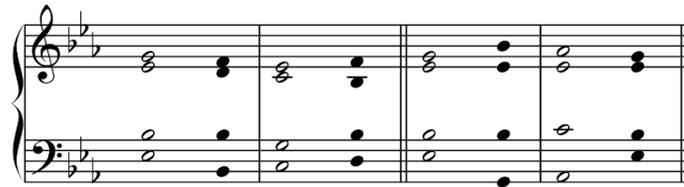
The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not

chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

*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**

*Ephesians 5:8-14*

*Reader*     In our second reading, disciples are called to be a people of the light, forsaking all the works of darkness. The passage closes with what was probably part of a hymn used at baptisms.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

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

*Sung at 10:00 a.m.*  
**Gospel Hymn 671**

*Amazing Grace*

## The Gospel

John 9:1-41

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

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

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

**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 became truly 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**

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.  
*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, for our nation, and for the world; especially Donald, our president, Maura, our governor, and Michael, our mayor.  
**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 the peace and unity of the Church of God; especially for St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Worcester; the Chancellor of our Diocese, Donald Allison; CREDO; Covenant Relationship with the RC Dioceses of Springfield & Worcester; and the Anglican Church of Kenya.  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Miguelina, our Bishop-elect; 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.  
*Silence is kept. The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.  
*Silence is kept. The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, especially in loving memory of Al and remembering The Rev. Theodore Gaetz & Joyce Gaetz, and Cele Hahn, in whose memory the Sanctuary Lamp burns, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence is kept. The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

*The priest offers a collect.*

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

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

## 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](https://Tithe.ly) or scan the QR code located in the pew.*

## Offertory Anthem

*Brother James Air*

*(Text from Psalm 23)*

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

**Presentation Hymn** *(music below)*

*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

In the bulb there is a flow-er; in the seed, an ap-ple tree; in cocoons, a hid-denprom-ise: but-ter  
There's a song in ev-'ry si-lence, seek-ingword and me-lo-dy; there's a dawn in ev-'ry dark-ness, bring-ing  
In our end is our be gin-ning; in our time, in-fin-i-ty; is ourdoubt there is be-liev-ing; in our  
flies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of win-ter there's a spring that waits to  
hope to you and me. From the past will come the fu-ture; what it holds, a mys-ter-  
life, e-ter-ni-ty; in our death, a res-ur-rec-tion; at the last, a vic-to-  
be, un-re-vealed, un-til its sea-son, some-thing God a-lone can see.  
y;  
ry,

## Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3

*Old Hundredth, Isaac Watts*

*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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Spoken at 8:00 am; sung at 10:00 am*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### Sanctus WLP 858

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.

Setting: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner; harm. Anna Morris Buchanan (1889-1983) © Church Pension Fund

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.  
Spoken at 8:00 am; Sung at 10:00 am*

**Jesus, Lamb of God: Have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: Have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world: Give us your peace.**

### **Sanctus S164**

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, Re - deem - er, re -

deem - er of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*Celebrant* 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. You may now 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.*

### **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 Presider says*

Let us pray.

**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.**

*Presider* Bow down before the Lord.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Concluding Hymn 149**

*Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church*

### **The Dismissal**

*Presider* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

### **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>Vestry Person of the Day</b>	Sue Cole
<b>Opener</b>	Kara Noble
<b>Linens</b>	Lisa Reinhausen
<b>Sunday School</b>	Judy Harvester, Mary Ann Woodbury
<b>Nursery</b>	Tammy Joseph, coordinator
<b>Counters</b>	Kathy DeJean, Alice Ehresman
<b>Office Angels</b>	Donna Tatlock, Debbie Bruno
<b>Closer</b>	Holly Rodriguez

	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Lesley Frazar	Alice Ehresman
<b>Greeter(s)</b>	Linda Zielinski	Deb Curtis
<b>Eucharistic Minister(s)</b>	Kara Noble	Karen Newman Jan Parks
<b>Lector(s)</b>	Kara Noble	Margaret Hannigan Steve Harvester
<b>Usher(s)</b>	Linda Zielinski	Deb Curtis
<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.*

**Sanctuary Lamp** burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Al, The Rev. Theodore Gaetz & Joyce Gaetz; and Cele Hahn.

**Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer** for The Anglican Church of Kenya.

**Diocesan Prayer** for St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Worcester; the Chancellor of our Diocese, Donald Allison; CREDO; Covenant Relationship with the RC Dioceses of Springfield & Worcester.

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

**For these families and individuals** 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, Katie, Sherry, Niko, Mervin, Frances, Toby, Theresa, Philadelphia, David, Jean, Jonathan, Natalie, Lisa, Elaine, Tracey

## THIS WEEK AT ATONEMENT

- Sunday March 15**                      The Fourth Sunday of Lent  
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, March 16**                      4:30 *TOPS (SMGR)*  
5:30 *Girl Scouts*  
8:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*
- Tuesday, March 17**                      2:00 pm Online Grief Support Group  
6:00 pm *Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)*  
6:30 pm *Music Together*  
7:00 pm Bridge Fellowship Holy Eucharist
- Wednesday, March 18**                      12:15 pm Healing Service  
1:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study  
7:00 pm *Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)*
- Thursday, March 19**                      5:30 pm *Girl Scouts (Sunday School Room)*  
6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm *Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)*
- Friday, March 20**                      4:30 pm Stations of the Cross (*Sanctuary*)  
7:00 pm *Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)*
- Saturday, March 21**                      9:00 am *Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)*  
4:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*
- Sunday, March 22**                      The Fifth Sunday of Lent  
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. Douglas J. Fisher, *Bishop, The Episcopal Church of Western MA*

The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell, *Bishop Elect*

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

## March 15, 2026

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### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

*Tuesdays: Bridge Fellowship, 7:00 pm | Wednesdays: Healing Service & Holy Eucharist, 12:15pm*

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#### **Lent Grief Support Group – Tuesday, March 17, 24, & 31 @ 2:00pm**

Grief expresses itself in many ways, and during the season of Lent, uncomfortable feelings may arise. As a Certified Grief Educator, Lyn Casey will be facilitating an online support group to provide a safe place to share and witness each other's experiences. These sessions will offer a judgment-free space for sharing, as well as an opportunity to learn new ways to navigate loss. The group will meet on Zoom on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm for the six weeks of Lent running through March 31. For more information or to sign up, contact Lyn at [GriefGratitudeAndGrins@gmail.com](mailto:GriefGratitudeAndGrins@gmail.com).

#### **Lenten Talk about Immigration – Thursdays, March 19 @ 5:00pm**

Lent invites us into prayer, reflection, and courageous conversation about the realities shaping our neighbors' lives. This year let's gather for a four-week Lenten series to learn and talk about immigration history in the United States, how current policies impact families and communities, and what our faithful responses might look like as followers of Christ. Join us for a Simple Supper, prayer, and guided conversation.

#### **Stations of the Cross – Fridays March, 20 & 27 @4:30pm**

During Lent, you are invited to walk the path of Christ's final journey through the ancient devotion known as The Way of the Cross, or Stations of the Cross. Josh Velez will lead this prayerful service each Friday at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary throughout Lent. This year offers a special opportunity to experience the devotion through our newly installed Salvadoran Stations, whose vivid imagery helps us enter more deeply into the suffering, courage, and love revealed in Jesus' journey to the cross.

#### **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group ~ Saturday, March 21 @ 10:00 am**

Love is woven in every stitch when our Knitting Group gathers to knit and crochet prayer shawls and other items to warm the hearts, hands, and heads of people in need in the area. Don't know how to knit? That's OK! We have all the necessary supplies, and our supportive members are happy to teach you. Contact Donna Tatlock Calkins for more information.

#### **Liberator Stations of the Cross – Tuesday, March 24 @ 5:00 pm**

Please join us on Tuesday, March 24, 5:30 pm, when community members of all beliefs will gather at Church of The Atonement to journey the Liberator Stations of the Cross, written by parishioner, Steve Harvester. These fifteen readings draw on our ancient Stations tradition to reflect on Jesus as the one who walks in solidarity with the oppressed, echoing the witness of Christian leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., our Episcopal bishops, and all who are reclaiming this liberating vision of the Gospel as God's message of peace with justice (shalom). Please let Steve or Rev. Sandi know if you would like to be one of the fifteen readers.

## **Celebrating Bishop Fisher – April 12**

**Sunday, April 12 @ 2:00 pm ~ St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Worcester**

Join with other members of the diocese to give thanks for Bishop Fisher's 13+ years as our chief pastor and spiritual leader. There are two more opportunities ahead to gather, pray and share refreshment with the Bishop and his wife, the Rev. Betsy Fisher: March 14, & April 12.

## **Games & Pizza – Sunday, March 22 ~ after 10:00am service**

Let's play games again! Join us on March 22 after the 10:00 am service. Bring a game to share, something to drink, and a sweet treat, and we'll provide the pizza. Sign-up on the bulletin board in the Narthex (lobby)

## **Egg Hunt Candy Donors Needed**

We are seeking donations of wrapped candy to stuff into the eggs for our hunt this year; candy donations can be placed in the basket in the Narthex until March 30. **PLEASE: No Candy Including Nuts Or Peanut Butter.** Join us if you can help stuff the eggs on Tuesday, March 31 from 2:30pm-3:30pm.

## **Easter Egg Hunt and Photos with the Bunny ~ Saturday, April 4, 11:00am**

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on the church's front lawn on Saturday, April 4. Registration will be between 10:30-10:45 am; **the egg hunt begins at 11:00 am, rain or shine.** And the Bunny will be on hand for photos with the kids!

## **2026 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

<b>March 29: Palm Sunday</b>	8:00am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00am	Holy Eucharist
<b>April 1: Wednesday</b>	7:00pm	Taize Tenebrae
<b>April 2: Maundy Thursday</b>	7:00pm	Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing & Stripping of the Altar
<b>April 3 Good Friday</b>	11:00am	Stations of the Cross
	12:00pm	Worship Service
	7:00pm	Worship Service
<b>April 4 Saturday Easter Egg Hunt</b>	11:00am	
<b>April 4 Saturday Great Vigil</b>	7:00pm	Worship with Renewal of Baptismal Vows & Easter Acclamation
<b>April 5: Easter Sunday</b>	8:00am	Holy Eucharist
	10:00am	Holy Eucharist