

# The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



**The Third Sunday of Easter**  
**April 14, 2024**  
**8:00 am and 10:00 am**

*Our 10am service is live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.*

**Easter greetings!** The celebration of Christ's resurrection is so important that the church devotes 50 consecutive days and then every single Sunday of the year to rejoicing in the victory of God.

Our services will now have a few seasonal differences. Alleluia is back, being sung and proclaimed in many different places. During the Easter season, we omit the general confession, not because we never sin or fall short of the glory of God, but as a sign of our joy that we have been forgiven through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Voluntary

**Entrance Hymn 182**

*Christ Is Alive, Let Christians Sing*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen!  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

*The Priest 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.**

**Song of Praise WLP 880**

*God's Paschal Lamb*

1. God's Pas-chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore with joy we  
2. Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain; death has no more do -  
3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead; though Ad-am's sin had

keep the Eas - ter feast; for - sak - ing sin we share the bread of \_\_\_  
min - ion ov - er Him; Through Him we die to sin and live\_\_ to\_\_  
doomed all flesh to die, in Christ's new life shall all be made a -

truth, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
God,  
live,

*The Celebrant then says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Reader* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

*Spoken at 8 am, Sung at 10 am*

#### Psalm 4



- 1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my **cause**; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on | me and | hear my **prayer**.
- 2 “You mortals, how long will you dis-/honor my **glory**; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run | af-/ter | false gods?”
- 3 Know that the LORD does | wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the | LORD, | he will **hear me**.
- 4 Tremble, then, and | do not **sin**; \*  
speak to your heart in | si/lence up/on your **bed**.
- 5 Offer the ap-|point/ed **sacrifices** \*  
and put your | trust | in the **LORD**.
- 6 Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see | bet/ter **times!**” \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance u-|pon | us, O **LORD**.
- 7 You have put gladness | in my **heart**, \*  
more than when grain and | wine and | oil in/**crease**.
- 8 I lie down in peace; at once I | fall a-/**sleep**; \*  
for only you, | LORD, make me | dwell in **safety**.

*Reader* A reading from the First letter of St. John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

*The People stand.*

*Sung at 10 am*

**Gospel Hymn LEVAS 213**

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

The Gospel

*Luke 24:36b-48*

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the religious leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

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 this holy season of Easter, when we celebrate Jesus risen from the dead, may we be fully aware of what the Risen Christ has given to us. Our lives have been redeemed that we may fully seek the love of God, the freedom to live as God has created us to be, the abundant life God offers us, and chiefly, the way of love of Jesus. Let us joyfully and thankfully proclaim:

**Alleluia! Christ is risen as he said.**

We earnestly pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael; our Bishop Douglas; Sandi, our Interim Rector; Silas, our seminarian; and all those who make it their mission to share the love of Jesus. We give thanks today on the sixth anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of Rev. Sandi Albom.

**Alleluia! Christ is risen as he said.**

We offer our prayers this day for all leaders who have the power to change lives and to change the world, especially for Joseph, our President; Maura, our Governor; and Michael, our Mayor, that their decisions may be guided by the way of love of Jesus.

**Alleluia! Christ is risen as he said.**

We pray that our world may know freedom from those forces that keep us from living as God has created us to be.

**Alleluia! Christ is risen as he said.**

We pray to live our lives sharing, without fear of scarcity, what we have received from God.

**Alleluia! Christ is risen as he said.**

Through his suffering, death, and resurrection, Jesus brought hope to those who suffer and are bowed down by the trials of life. On this day, celebrating Jesus' triumph over death, let us be mindful of those who struggle and are in need.

*Silence. The people may offer names silently or aloud.*

With hope in our hearts, let us pray:

**Alleluia! Christ is risen as he said.**

Let us pray for all those who have died, especially remembering David Mahler on the first anniversary of his passing, in whose memory Altar Memorials have been given; Sarah Buffy and Lisle and Doris Hebert for whom the sanctuary lamp burns, in the hope of resurrection.

*Silence. The people may offer names silently or aloud.*

Let us honor their memories and be grateful for the ways in which they so generously gave of their gifts during their lifetimes.

**Alleluia! Christ is risen as he said.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*The People stand.*

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**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 give online at [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly), or you can the QR code available in the pews.*

Offertory Anthem

*Close to Thee*

Crosby/Vail

1. Thou my everlasting portion  
More than friend or life to me  
All alone my pilgrim journey  
Saviour let me walk with Thee

2. Not for easy wordly pleasure  
Nor for fame my prayer shall be  
Gladly will I toil and suffer  
Only let me walk with Thee

*Refrain:*

Close to Thee, close to Thee  
Close to Thee, close to Thee  
All alone my pilgrim journey  
Saviour let me walk with Thee

*Refrain*

3. Lead me through the veil of shadows  
Bear me o'er life's fitful sea  
Then the gate of life eternal  
May I enter Lord with Thee

*Refrain*

*Sung at 10am*

**Presentation Hymn 305**

*Come, Risen Lord, and Deign to Be Our Guest*

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 heavenly host; Praise  
 Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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 your 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 again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

*Sanctus S128*

*Spoken at 8am*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

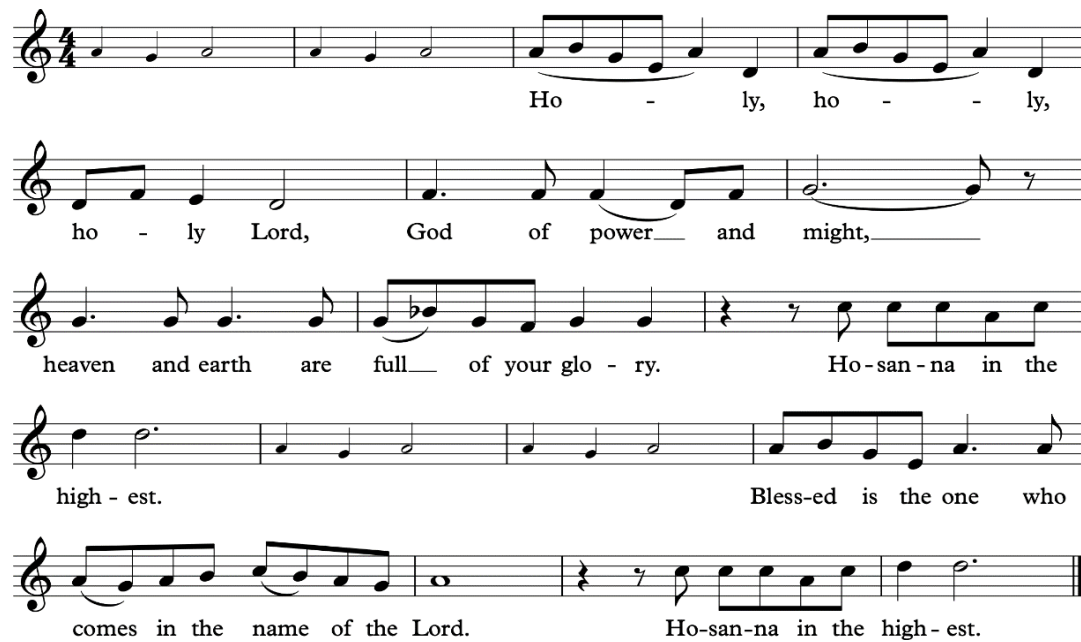
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Sung at 10am*



Ho - ly, 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. Bless-ed is the one who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high- est.

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 all 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 forever. **Amen.**



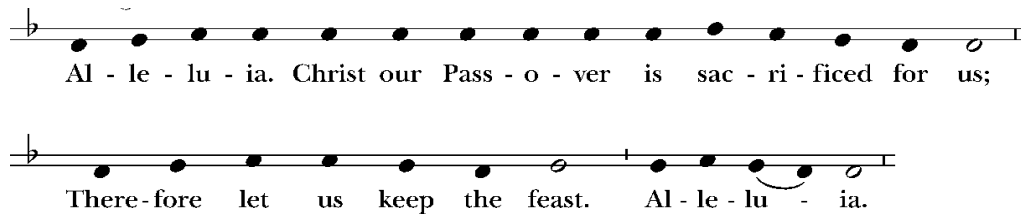
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 8am, Sung at 10am)*

*Fraction S152*



*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. **Please do not dip your bread into the cup.** If you are immunocompromised or simply don't feel ready to share a sip from the cup, simply walk past the Eucharistic Minister. **However you receive, know that Christ is with you.***

### Spiritual Communion

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

**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 Voluntary

*After Communion, the Celebrant 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.**

### Prayer during Transition

**God of love, in this interim time, we pray for our parish family, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, and patient in our discernment. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. All this we pray, empowered by the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Concluding Hymn 193

*That Easter Day the Joy Was Bright*

## The Dismissal

*Priest* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in our Risen Savior.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Voluntary

### 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 (all by Church Publishing). 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

Celebrant	Rev. Sandi Albom
Altar Guild	Lesley Frazar, Kathy DeJean
Linens	Dianne Legalos
Flower Guild	Kara Noble
Counters	Debbie Bruno, Gail Meehan
Sunday School	Kara Noble, Judy Harvester
Office Angels	Kathy DeJean, Karen Newman, Margo Halton, Debbie Randzio, Debbie Bruno

### 8am

Opener	Kara Noble
Eucharistic Minister	Kara Noble
Lectors	Kara Noble
Usher	Richard Hasko

### 10am

Closer	****
Stream Team	Margaret Hannigan
Eucharistic Minister	Phil Siska Debbie Randzio
Lectors	Steve Harvester Lyn Casey
Usher	Stephan Adams

## PARISH PRAYER LIST

*Please use this list in your daily prayers. We are happy to add your concerns.*

*Contact office administrator Tanya Woodbury at [program@atonementwestfield.org](mailto:program@atonementwestfield.org) or call 562-5461.*

**Altar Memorials** are given to the Glory of God in loving memory David Mahler on the First Anniversary of his passing by his wife Helen and his children Katherine and Michael, and in Thanksgiving for the many blessings our beloved David brought into our lives.

**Sanctuary Lamp** burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sarah Buffy, Lisle and Doris Hebert, given by Peter Hebert.

**Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer** The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

**Diocesan Prayer** St. Luke's, Lanesboro; Latino/Hispanic Ministries; Ecumenical & Interreligious Dialogue; Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF); Forward Movement Publications

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

**For these families and individuals** Anne, Alice, Jean, Ruth, Virginia, Ruby, Thelma, Connie, Candy, Betty, Jeff, Kris, David, Christina, Mark, Iris, Brad, Sharon, Marcia, Jennie, Mark, Derek, Jan, Toni, Rich, Lyn, John, Addison, Hannah, Donna, Nan, Jack, Mickie, Chris, Rita, Josh, Tim, Mike, Juan, John, Shelia, Joey, Ann, Gary, David, Sabrina, Wendy, Bernie, John, James, Jeffrey, Casey, Arthur, Brittany, Rick, Jeff B, Katie, Sherry, Niko, Mervin, Frances, Toby, Theresa, Philadelphia, David, Jean, Jody, Linda, Jonathan Jill, Natalie, Lisa

## THIS WEEK AT THIS WEEK AT ATONEMENT

<b>Sunday April 14</b>	The Third Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Holy Eucharist in person 10 am Holy Eucharist in person and live-streamed 10 am Nursery Care and Sunday School available 6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15
<b>Monday, April 15</b>	8:00 pm <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
<b>Tuesday, April 16</b>	6:00 pm <i>Adult Children of Alcoholics (Great Hall)</i> 6:30 pm <i>Music Together (*SMGR)</i>
<b>Wednesday, April 17</b>	12:15 pm Healing and Holy Service 1:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study 7:00 pm <i>Overeaters Anonymous (*SMGR)</i>
<b>Thursday, April 18</b>	5:30 pm <i>Girl Scouts (Sunday School Room)</i> 6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm <i>Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
<b>Friday, April 19</b>	7:00 pm <i>Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)</i>
<b>Saturday, April 20</b>	<b>11:00 am Tree Planting Blessing (Front Lawn)</b> 9:00 am <i>Adult Children of Alcoholics (Great Hall)</i> 4:00 pm <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
<b>Sunday, April 21</b>	The Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ Earth Day 8 am Holy Eucharist in person 10 am Holy Eucharist in person and live-streamed 10 am Nursery Care and Sunday School available 6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

*\*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, *Interim Rector*

Jerry Noble, *Music Director*

The Rt. Rev. Douglas J. Fisher, *Bishop, The Episcopal Church of Western MA*

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, *Presiding Bishop and Primate*

### **The Vestry**

Holly Rodriguez, *Sr. Warden* Robert Frazar, *Jr. Warden* Gene Giacometti, *Treasurer* Deborah Bruno, *Clerk*  
Bonnie Adams Josh Vélez Debbie Randzio Gail Meehan Sue Cole Tanya Kellogg Steve Harvester

## *ECOTA Easter happenings*

**NEW OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9:30am -12:30pm.  
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday**

### ***Office Administrator on Vacation April 14 – April 23***

From April 14 – April 23, our wonderful office angels will be hard at work covering the office for our Office Administrator with answering phones and covering the office. If you have anything that needs immediate assistance, please contact Rev. Sandi or Holly Rodriguez.

### ***Westfield 5k Planning Meeting TODAY~ April 14 at 11am***

We will be hosting a table at the Westfield 5k flat this year. Please help plan for what we will offer there.

### ***Baked Goods Needed!!~ April 20***

Please sign up to provide treats for the light refreshments offered at the tree planting ceremony on April 20th.

### ***Tree Planting Ceremony ~ April 20 @ 11am***

Join us on April 20th at 11am for a ceremony on blessing our newly planted trees in the front. We are looking for contributions of baked goods for a reception to follow. Sign-up on the sheet in the Narthex.

### ***Earth Day Sunday ~ April 21***

Join us on the Fourth Sunday of Easter as we praise God for all of Creation. We invite everyone to bring a container of soil and/or seeds for your home garden to be blessed.

### ***ONE SERVICE ~ April 28 ~ Congregational Meeting regarding Elevator***

Join us April 28th for ONE SERVICE at 9am. Following our service, we will have a whole community meeting to discuss the Elevator and other options for our building. **All are welcome to join!**

### ***Westfield 5k (3 mile) Flat Run/Walk ~ Team Church of the Atonement ~May 4***

We are looking to get a team together to walk or run in the Westfield 5k (3 mile) flat. The walk/run starts at Westfield State University and finishes right on Elm Street in front of the PVTa station. Registration is \$35 per adult and \$15 per Junior Walker (for children Middle School Age or younger). When you join the ECOTA team, a portion of the registration fee is returned to ECOTA, and it will become part of the funds that support the ministries of the church. Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Westfield/RunWestfield> no later than April 19.