

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
August 11th, 2024
9:00 AM

Join us in person for our service.

Or join us by going to our livestream on the St. Peter's Facebook page [here](#).

The worship leaflet can be found [here](#).

There will be a coffee hour after the mass.

This Sunday's Ministers:

Eucharistic Ministers: Emily Keniston and Anne Whitman

Crucifer: Garrett Keniston

Lector: Toby Goodyear

Usher: Cindy Sherwood

Altar Guild: Janene Gorham

Coffee Hour Hosts: TBD

MUSIC NOTES for this Sunday can be found at the end of

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, August 4th, our organist Herb Taylor celebrated his 75th birthday. We were glad it occurred on a Sunday, so that all of us at St. Peter's could celebrate with him. At coffee hour after the mass, both Senior Warden Anita Chandler and I spoke of how much Herb has contributed to the worship and pastoral life of St. Peter's. He was presented with a basket of cards from parishioners, and as a gift from the parish he will be receiving a two volume set of the collected sermons of the Rev. Dr. Willam Sloane Coffin from the Riverside Church in New York City. Herb has greatly admired Dr. Coffin's preaching.

Herb heard two rounds of "Happy Birthday to You," one from all of us at coffee hour, and one from Down East – as the vestry members of St. Aidan's Church in Machias and Christ Church in Eastport joined Bishop Brown in sending a video greeting. One other serenade was sung by all of us gathered, to the tune of a favorite hymn of Herb's, "O God Our Help in Ages Past," with a new text composed by me (included below with apologies to Isaac Watts, whose original text we will get to sing this Sunday in church).

Happy Birthday, Herb. We are glad and so grateful for your continued ministry with us!

Faithfully,
Fr. Tom



**For Herb Taylor,
On the Occasion of His Seventy-fifth Birthday,
August 4, 2004
With love, from all of us at
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Portland Maine**

O God, we sing this song of thanks
for Herb and all his gifts,
whose playing at the organ bench
inspires and uplifts.

From preludes that prepare our hearts
and hymns that shape our praise,
to brilliant postludes taking our
collective breath away.

Providing music notes each week,
he teaches us and shares
how poets and composers too
enrich our praise and prayers.

O God, to Herb, now sev'nty five
on this his natal day,
we gladly offer all our love
with this our song of praise.

Tune: St. Anne



A Note From Herb

TO ST. PETER'S PARISH:

Thank you so much for last Sunday's 75th Birthday Celebration. I was deeply moved by the occasion itself, and by the messages in the basket of cards I took home and will cherish. And the two-volume collection of William Sloane Coffin's sermons at Riverside Church, NYC, will be a constant source of inspiration. St. Peter's has come to mean so much to me since I came 15 years ago, ostensibly to play for Advent and Christmas!

With love to you all....

Herb Taylor

Vestry Meets on Tuesday August 13th on Zoom

The August Vestry meeting will be this Tuesday, August 13th at 6:30 PM on Zoom. Anyone who wishes to attend can find the Zoom link [here](#).

Refinishing Our Church Floor

Junior Warden Wayne Franklin shares the following timeline for our floor refinishing project in the nave (the main seating area for the congregation). Thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete this project:

August 12-16: Volunteers will remove screws to all nave pews, remove the vestibule carpet and pull staples up from around the nave and vestibule; parishioners will be alerted that pews will not be secured to the floor.

August 19: Bruno and his company will remove all but four pews; pews will be placed in the garage and undercroft.

August 25: Fr Tom on vacation, supply priest on board, we will sit in choir pews and four remaining pews and have folding chairs for overflow, wrap the organ after the service; Bruno will move the remaining four pews to the chancel.

August 26 - August 31: Contractor will refinish the floor.

August 29: We will advise all in Key Notes to bring lawn chairs to Sunday service and we will have some chairs available.

September 1: Fr Tom and Herb on vacation, morning prayer will be outside on the lawn and the weather will dictate if we relocate inside.

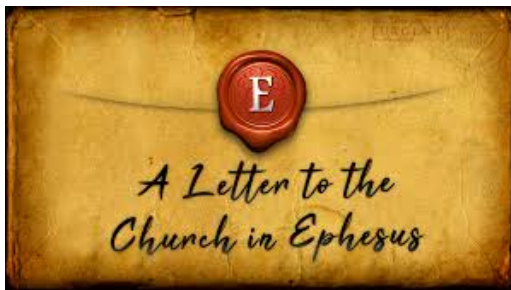
September 2-5: Bruno will return all pews to the nave and volunteers will screw down the pews.

September 8: We worship in the beauty of holiness in our refurbished nave.

An Invitation

Janene Gorham, our Parish Earth Keeper, invites us to consider attending the “Wabanaki Summer Market” at the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village on August 24 10am to 3:30 pm.

It’s a wonderful event, with 40 award winning artists presenting their crafts for sale as well as Wabanaki culture demonstrations of tribal dancing, stripping ash wood and basket making. Janene has been attending for the last five years, and is available at coffee hour this Sunday to share more information.



Bible Study on the The Letter to the Ephesians Continues on Friday Afternoon at 4:30 PM

The Zoom link for the Ephesians bible study is [here](#).

If you want to spend time learning more about Ephesians see these links:

- Ephesians overview:
<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/ephesians/>
 - Ephesus historical context: <https://www.bibleodyssey.org/articles/ephesus/>
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Join the Summer Finale at Camp Bishopswood on September 14th

There is still time to sign up for the Summer Finale.

Summer Finale is a weekend long celebration completing the season at our diocesan camp, Camp Bishopswood in Hope, Maine. Our own Emily Keniston is coordinating the event. Please speak to her if you have an interest in going. Fr. Tom will be among those attending, and we can plan to carpool for the day. You can also find more information [here](#):

View our Summer Finale FAQ guide [here](#).

Register for Summer Finale [here](#), including one-day and overnight options.

Register for the Formation Mini-Retreat on Sept. 13 [here](#).

Sunday Minister Rota for August

August 11

Eucharistic Ministers: Emily Keniston and Anne Whitman

Crucifer: Garrett Keniston

Lector: Toby Goodyear

Usher: Cindy Sherwood

Altar Guild: Janene Gorham

Coffee Hour Hosts:

August 18

Eucharistic Ministers: Myrna Koonce and Lenita Richard

Crucifer: Fred Fowler

Lector: Jonathan McCormick

Usher: Tom Ainsworth

Altar Guild: Anne Whitman

Coffee Hour Host: Anita Chandler

August 25

Eucharistic Ministers: David Savage and Galen Weibley

Crucifer: Steve Koskinen

Lector: Tom Ainsworth

Usher: Bob Simmons

Altar Guild: Juday Howes

Coffee Hour Host: TBD

Compline Link

Join us for the Compline Prayer Service on Zoom on Wednesday, August 14th.

Here is the service for Compline.

The Zoom link, which will be good through August 21 is **here**.

Weekly Prayer List

Prayers For Parishioners, Families, and Friends

Ann Marie Cady

Allison Schroth

Francisco Andreu

Steve Secord

Diane Dalton

Dino Rice

Robert Stillings

Fred Fowler

Mary Ann Hoy

Peter Haskell, *friend of Allison Schroth*

Martha Gagliardi, *friend of Fr. Tom*

Tommy Valente, *friend of Don and Ann Marie Cady*

Jane Reiha, *friend of Judy Howes*

Brenda Pappalardo, *friend of Judy Howes*

Stephen and Rebecca Seraniche, *friends of Dino Rice*

Marge Devine, *family member of Allison Schroth*

Jimmy Devine, *family member of Allison Schroth*

Fuji Sprott, *friend of Dino Rice*

David Turner, *cousin of Craig Mousin*

Tammy, *friend of Craig Mousin*

Beth, *friend of Lee Walters*

Pam, *friend of Anita Chandler*

The Kutasi Family, *friends of Allison Schroth*

Luca Esposito, *friend of Allison Schroth*

Glenn, spouse of *Caroline Loupe*
Patrick, family member of *Tom Ainsworth*
The Hendricks Family
Janet Blessing, neighbor of *Jane Noone*
Kelly Marie Bell, friend of *Allison Schroth*
Earle, friend of *Cindy Sherwood*
Grace, family member of *Jessie Vega*
Janice, friend of *Janene Gorham*
Kay Gross, friend of *Jane Noone*

Please remember in your prayers the family of **William Harmer**, who died on August 5th. Bill was a longtime member of St. Peter's. Plans for a funeral service in September will be forthcoming. May Bill rest in peace and rise in glory.

If you wish to add or return persons to the prayer list, please contact our Prayer Ministry Coordinators:

Allison Schroth, at: 207-807-1315
ASchroth@maine.rr.com

or

Emma Bond at: 207-619-3662
emma.e.bond@gmail.com

A Prayer for Those We Love

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From *The Book of Common Prayer*

MUSIC NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

Johann Sebastian Bach's first wife, Maria Barbara, died on July 7, 1720, leaving him 7 children. The following year, while serving as Court Capellmeister at Anhalt-Cöthen, Bach remarried to Anna Magdalena Wilcken, a soprano singer at

the court who by all reports was as beautiful as she was talented. In addition to raising Bach's children, she was to bear 13 more between the years of 1723 to 1742. Bach's marriage to Anna Magdalena was a happy one, and they shared a common love of music. Bach dedicated some of his most inspired works to her, and she in turn contributed enthusiastically to her husband's work, transcribing his music and organizing regular musical evenings with visiting musicians at their Leipzig home. The famous Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach, given to her in 1725, undoubtedly fulfilled an educational purpose in the musical instruction of the Bach children. Furthermore, it can be regarded as a family musical album reflecting the tastes of the Bach family. Today's prelude and offertory--the one highly melodious and the other more spirited--both come from this collection.

We would not have many of our favorite hymns without the work of skillful translators. When it comes to preparing a poetic translation that will be sung (rather than a literal prose translation), the result is actually a new poetic creation rooted in the meaning of another language. This is the case with Edward Caswall's translation from the original German of the well-known hymn, "When morning gilds the skies."

One must start with the powerful interrelationship between the text and the music in this hymn. Usually thought of as a morning hymn of praise, the rising melodic motif complements the rising sun that "gilds the skies" of the early morning. Within two phrases we soar an octave above our starting pitch--indeed our voices ascend with the rising sun about which we are singing.

The melody ends on an unusually high note for hymns, proclaiming the text, "May Jesus Christ be praised!" These five words form a brief refrain that encapsulates the intent of the entire hymn. Furthermore, the singer must summon extra effort to sing these words, unabashedly broadcasting Christ as the center of our praise. Even the tune name,

LAUDES DOMINI (Praise to the Lord), captures this idea. Speaking of the tune, it would be unfair not to mention its composer: Sir Joseph Barnby. Barnby was a major influence on later 19th century English music and conducted London premieres of countless works by prominent European composers.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) captured the infinite timelessness of God in contrast to the ephemeral nature of humanity in his metrical paraphrase of Psalm 90, "O God, our help in ages past." Since Fr. Tom let the cat of the bag in identifying this as my favorite hymn, some commentary may be justified. The Wesley brothers made extensive use of Isaac Watts hymns. John Wesley altered Watts' hymns for many reasons when they were published in his collections. The first stanza of this venerable hymn contains one of John Wesley's most significant alterations: "O God, our help..." rather than "Our God, our help..." in the original. From John Wesley's perspective, the use of "our" as an adjective to God implied a narrower Calvinistic God who was the province only of the "elect." For the Wesleys, the grace of God was open to all, not just the elect. The antithesis between God and humanity is the primary message of Psalm 90 and Watts' paraphrase. Hymnologist J.R. Watson observes, "This is one of Watts's greatest hymns on the human condition, setting the shortness of life and the littleness of human beings against the timeless greatness of God.... who has been our help [in the past] and hope [in the future]."

During her long and distinguished career as a recitalist and professor at the University of Michigan, Marilyn Mason championed the works of contemporary American composers, and indeed, commissioned many new pieces which she premiered on her own programs. In 1962, she asked Detroit composer Gordon Young to write something to open her dedicatory recital on a new organ; the short, jazzy Fanfare was the result. ~HT

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