

*Opening wide our doors and hearts
in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior*

Holy Eucharist
The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
February 23, 2025
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.

February 23, 2025

Ms. Emily Keniston & Mr. Steve Booth, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Lector*

Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Wayne and Ms. Mary Franklin , *Coffee Hour Hosts*

Music Notes for this Sunday's service can be found at the end of Key Notes.

Dear Friends,

Once again, winter weather prevented us from gathering on Sunday. This weekend, as if to make up for missing out on the last two weeks, we have two opportunities to gather. Saturday evening we host the delicious Chili and Chowder Tasting from 4 to 7 PM in the undercroft. Do come to enjoy the meal, and to help out if you can. And then, we gather again on Sunday for mass and coffee hour.

Father Celestin Hategekimana was not able to preside and preach for us last Sunday, but he has graciously provided us with a transcript of his homily. You can read it [here](#).

Before you do, I encourage you to read the Gospel lesson for last Sunday, Luke 6:17-26, as well as the reading for this Sunday, Luke 6:17-26. Together, they form the set of teachings sometimes referred to as “The Sermon on the Plain,” as we are told that Jesus “came down to a level place” to teach. We may be more familiar with Matthew’s version of these teachings – “The Sermon on the Mount.” In Luke’s account, Jesus speaks words of blessing and of challenge, and they are timely words for us. Do take some time with these words before Sunday so that together, we may hear the Good News embedded in them.

Faithfully,

Fr. Tom

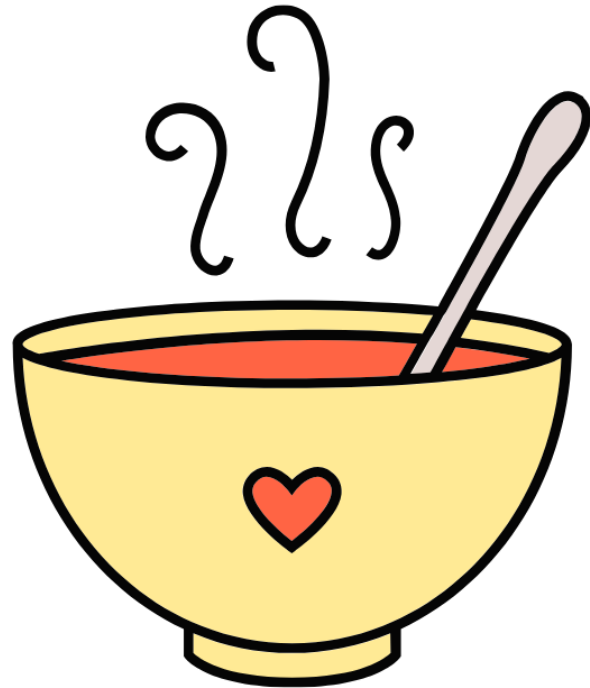
This Saturday Night!

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Chili and Chowder Tasting

Tickets \$15 each

February 22, 4-7 pm



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
678 Washington St Portland ME 04103
Enter at 10 Alton St
Elevator access in parking lot

Chili, Chowder,
Cornbread and Dessert
will be served

Tickets/Reservations for the Chili/Chowder Tasting

Purchase Tickets or Quart of Chili or Chowder: [Tickets](#)

OR

If you want to reserve a seat/s: Email [Kathleen McCormick](#)

Ticket sales on line will close at 6 pm on Friday, Feb. 21.

Aging with Grace Meets for Lunch on Tuesday, February 25th at Noon

We meet to share in the joys and challenges of growing older. If you cannot come to the undercroft, you are welcome to join u on Zoom. The Zoom link is [here](#).

Vestry Meets on Tuesday February 25th at 6:30 PM

All are welcome to attend our monthly vestry meetings. We meet on Zoom, and the link is [here](#).

On Words: A word fades away

A monthly column on the meaning of words by Jonathan McCormick

Imagine that a small dam has burst somewhere in the Midwest, flooding the fields of the neighboring farmers. FEMA arrives, assesses the damage, and calls a press conference. The person in charge describes what has happened and says that “We are doing our best to minimize the damage”.

Now imagine a board meeting at the corporate headquarters of an insurance company that has just been accused by federal officials of declining to pay for much of the damage caused by the event described above. One of the vice-presidents says that “We are doing our best to minimize the damage”.

The same words but hugely different meanings. In the 19th century, this ambiguousness need not have arisen. “Minimize” meant actually to do something about a problem. “Minify” meant to talk it down, or, as we might now say, to engage in spin control.

Minify is of course still a word. It appears in Webster’s dictionaries and is not marked as “archaic”. However, it has fallen out of common use and its meaning would be unknown to many. Its demise provides cover for dishonesty. Since minimize can mean two almost opposite meanings, one can use it misleadingly and remain immune to accusations of deceit, a boon for the peddlers of public relations.

Thank You, Snow Angel (or Angels)

While we are grateful for the snowplowing and shoveling provided by the person we hired this winter, someone amongst us went the extra mile and did more clearing of the snow and ice on our property after the recent storms. Wayne Franklin, our junior warden and indeed all of us are grateful for the one

or more of you who saw the need and responded.

Word of the Week

A weekly note about the words Episcopalians use.

The word of the week is **chancel**.

We continue our tour through the church building. We learned about the *narthex* (our entryway) and the *nave* (the main seating area in the church). As we approach the altar, we step up into the *chancel*. The lectern, pulpit, choir pews, the organ, and the altar are all located in the chancel (the area immediately around the altar is sometimes referred to as the sanctuary). As would be expected, the chancel contains seating for all those who are participating in leadership during the liturgy.

St. Peter's Calendar

Looking Ahead

Next Week at St. Peter's

Aging With Grace Lunch, Tue. Feb. 25th at noon, Undercroft
Vestry, Tue. Feb 25th at 6:30 pm on Zoom

In the Coming Weeks

Parish Breakfast, After the service Sunday, March 2
Ash Wednesday, Services at 12 and 7

Compline Link for February 26th

Compline will meet on Zoom on Wednesday, February 26th at its usual time at 7:00 PM. The Zoom link is [here](#). This link is good through April 2.

Sunday Minister Rota for February

February 23, 2025

Ms. Emily Keniston & Mr. Steve Booth, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*
Ms. Judy Howes, *Lector*
Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*
Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*
Mr. Wayne and Ms. Mary Franklin, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

Weekly Prayer List

Prayers For Parishioners, Families, and Friends

Ann Marie Cady
Allison Schroth
Francisco Andreu
Diane Dalton
Dino Rice
Robert Stillings
Fred Fowler
Mary Ann Hoy
Barbara Vessey
Cindy Sherwood
Galen Weibley
Fred Madore
Alan Biagiotti
Jane Noone
Marc Lombe and family

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*
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*
Glenn, *spouse of Caroline Loupe*
Janet Blessing, *neighbor of Jane Noone*
Kelly Marie Bell, *friend of Allison Schroth*
Earle, *friend of Cindy Sherwood*
Grace, *family member of Jessie Vega*
Kay Gross, *friend of Jane Noone*
Lisa Gorham, *daughter of John & Janene Gorham*
Gerald and Anita Talbot, *friends of Anita Chandler*
Janine W., *friend of Anita Chandler*

Peter Munro, *brother of Emily Hickey*
Sandy, *friend of Judy Howes*
Todd Cheney, *father of Matt Cheney*
Jay Sprout, *friend of Tom Mousin*
Brenda Macomber, *friend of Jane Noone*
Sandy Woolley, *friend of Judy Howes*
Chris Conant, *friend of Jane Noone*

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*

NOTES ON THIS WEEK'S MUSIC

February, as Black History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in US history. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history. The Black heritage is nowhere more evident than in the musical arena...spirituals, jazz....and their associated performers sometimes forgotten, and then rediscovered, like Florence Price.

The 17th century composer Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713) exerted a profound influence on the development of violin style. A skilled violinist himself, he spent much of his active career in Rome, where he won the favor of leading figures in both the court and the church. The lullaby-like Pastorale heard as the prelude is taken from the "Concerto in G," composed in 1690.

"O Worship the King" is certainly one of the best-known hymns in English-speaking churches. The author of the text, Robert Grant (1779-1838) was born in Scotland, became a member of Parliament, Judge Advocate General, and was knighted when he became Governor of Bombay. The hymn is a free paraphrase of Psalm 104, which celebrates in rich language the works of God in creation.

The composer of the tune DICKINSON COLLEGE, Lee Hastings Bristol (1923-79) enjoyed a multi-faceted career. The grandson of the founder of the

pharmaceutical company Bristol-Meyers, he worked in the family business, retiring as Director of Public Relations. At the same time, he served as a college president, an organist, and a leading lay person in the Episcopal Church. The recipient of countless academic, philanthropic and ecclesiastical honors, Bristol composed the tune DICKINSON COLLEGE on the occasion of receiving a Doctor of Humanities degree from the college. Alec Wyton, organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, and the major musical force behind the 1982 Hymnal, saw the tune as an ideal vehicle for the Prayer of St. Francis, and asked poet James Quinn to make the adaptation.

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea" was written by Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871), the daughter of an Anglican clergyman. She was taken aback when asked by a visiting Swiss evangelist if she were a Christian. She answered honestly, and said she did not know how to come to Christ. "Come to him just as you are," was the answer. Some years later, she wrote this highly personal witness to salvation. Evangelist Billy Graham used this hymn in almost all of his crusades, saying that it presented "the strongest possible Biblical basis for the call of Christ." The historian of hymnody Kenneth Osbeck wrote that Just as I Am had probably "touched more hearts and influenced more people for Christ than any other song ever written."

Anglican priest and professor Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891) composed "Rejoice, ye pure in heart" as a processional hymn for a choir festival in one of England's majestic places of worship, Peterborough Cathedral. Plumptre was a distinguished scholar of his day. After serving as a clergyman, he became chaplain and professor of New Testament Studies at King's College, London, and later, dean of Queen's College, Oxford. His most prominent position as a clergyman was that of dean of Wells Cathedral. Of the original 11 stanzas, only five or six appear in most hymnals. 19th century Anglican cathedral processions often lasted a half hour or more, and even 11 stanzas would probably have proven inadequate...in which case, the hymn would be repeated as necessary. While "Rejoice, ye pure in heart" is generally popular across denominational lines, Carlton Young, editor of The UM Hymnal, found it less than worthy, and noted that only the robust tune "saves a maudlin hymn from its deserved place in hymnic obscurity." Dr. Young's opinion of the quality of this text notwithstanding, we at St. Peter's can be grateful to be spared from 30-minute processions in worship!

Like Bach, when it came to recycling his own music, Handel was no slouch. Capitalizing on the work's popularity, Handel frequently advertised that he would play portions of his Water Music on the organ between sections of his oratorios. While we can't know for sure, it seems likely that the sprightly Fanfare heard this morning would have been included in the composer's performances. ~HT

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