

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Portland, Maine
Celebration of New Ministry
June 7, 2026 at 4:00 PM

*Welcome to our celebration of our mutual ministry and Christ's resurrection.
All that you need to participate in this service can be found in this leaflet.
The hymns with music are in The Hymnal 1982.
The people's responses are in bold print.
As the altar candles are lit prior to the service and the chimes are heard,
all are invited to observe a time of quiet, to gather our hearts in a spirit of prayer.*

Welcome

The Rev. Myrna Koonce

Prelude Larghetto (10th Grand Concerto for Strings)

George Frederick Handel

All stand for the

Hymn in Procession

#657 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" *The Hymnal 1982*

**1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.**

**2. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**

**3. Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

All remain standing for the

The Institution

The Wardens, standing before the bishop with the new minister, say these words

Bishop Brown, we have come together today to welcome Myrna Koonce, who has been chosen to serve as the Priest in Charge of St. Peter's. We believe that she is well qualified, and that she has been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

Letter of Institution *The Letter of Institution is read aloud*

The Bishop then says Myrna, do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

Rev. Koonce I do.

The Bishop then addresses the congregation

Bishop Will you who witness this new beginning support and uphold Myrna in this ministry?

People We will.

Bishop Let us then offer our prayers to God for all his people, for this congregation, and for Rev. Myrna, their priest in charge.

A Litany for God's Mission for the Church *(all sit or kneel)*

Mr. Steve Koskinen

Holy God, in whom all things in heaven and earth have their being,

Have mercy on us.

Jesus the Christ, through whom the world is reconciled to the Father,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, whose glory fills the world and searches the depths of God,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God,

Have mercy on us.

From blind hearts and petty spirits that refuse to see our need for your love,

Savior, deliver us.

From pride, self-sufficiency, and the unwillingness to admit our own need of your compassion,

Savior, deliver us.

From discouragement in the face of pain and disappointment, and from lack of persistence and thoroughness,

Savior, deliver us.

From ignorance, apathy, and complacency that prevent us from spreading the Gospel,

Savior, deliver us.

O God, we pray for the gifts of ministry. Inspire our minds with a vision of your kingdom in this time and place.

Hear us, O Christ.

Open our eyes, that we may see your glory in all creation.

Hear us, O Christ.

Open our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the hunger for hope and stories of refreshment.

Hear us, O Christ.

Open our lips, that we may tell in every tongue the wonderful works of God.

Hear us, O Christ.

Open our hearts, that we may discern the work to which you call us.

Hear us, O Christ.

Send us with your Good News into our neighborhoods, communities, and all parts of the world.

Hear us, O Christ.

Strengthen us, that we may each accomplish the work you give us to do.

Hear us, O Christ.

Sustain and encourage all who minister in your name in lonely, dangerous, and unresponsive places.

Hear us, O Christ.

Open the hearts and hands of many to support your Church in this and every place.

Hear us, O Christ.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Everliving God, strengthen and sustain Myrna, that with patience and understanding she may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen**

All are seated for

The Lessons

The First Lesson *Numbers 11:16-17, 24-25a*

Ms. Anita Chandler

¹⁶ So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting and have them take their place there with you. ¹⁷ I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself. ²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm *Psalm 146*

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my /soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my /being.

²Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of /earth,
for there is no help in /them.

³When they breathe their last, they return to /earth,
and in that day their thoughts /perish.

⁴Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their /help!
whose hope is in the Lord their /God;

⁵Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is /in them;
who keeps his promise for /ever;

⁶Who gives justice to those who are /oppressed,
and food to those who /hunger.

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



⁷ The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the /blind;
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed /down;

⁸ The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the /stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the /wicked.

The last two measures of the psalm tone are repeated

⁹The Lord shall reign for /ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Halle/lujah!

The Second Lesson *Romans 12:1-18*

Mr. Tom Ainsworth

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

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

All stand to sing the

Sequence Hymn #686 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” *The Hymnal 1982*

1. Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,
mount of God’s unchanging love.

2. Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither, by thy help, I’ve come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

All remain standing for the

Gospel John 15:9-16

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

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

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

Homily

The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown

Hymn before Induction #482 "Lord of all Hopefulness"

The Hymnal 1982

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could
destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of
the day.

2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane
and the lathe,
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of
the day.

3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to
embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of
the day.

4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence
is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of
the day.

The Induction

Presentation of the Bible

Presented by Ms. Jan Tracy

Presenter Myrna, accept this Bible, and be among us as one who proclaims the Word.

People **Amen.**

Presentation of the Water of Baptism

Presented by Bishop Thomas Brown

Bishop Myrna, take this water and help me baptize in obedience to our Lord.
People **Amen.**

Presentation of the Book of Common Prayer

Presented by Mr. Chris Hickey

Presenter Myrna, receive this book, and be among us as a woman of prayer.
People **Amen.**

Presentation of the Oil

Presented by Ms. Janene Gorham

Presenter Myrna, use this oil, and be among us as a healer and reconciler of all people.
People **Amen.**

Presentation of the Keys

Presented by Mr. Wayne Franklin

Presenter Myrna, receive these keys, and let the doors of this place be open to all people.
People **Amen.**

Presentation of the Constitution and Canons

Presented by a clergy of the diocese

Presenter Myrna, obey these Canons, and be among us to share in the councils of this diocese.
People **Amen.**

Presentation of the Bread and Wine

Presented by Ms. Anne Whitman and Ms. Judy Howes

Presenter Myrna, take this bread and wine, and be among us to break the Bread and bless the Cup.
People **Amen.**

Presentation of the Kneeler

Presented by Ms. Kathleen McCormick

Presenter Myrna, use this kneeler, and lead us to worship the glory of Almighty God.
People **Amen.**

Presentation by the Minister

Minister People of St. Peter's, accept this plant as a symbol of our mutual growth through God's grace.
People **Amen.**

The Bishop then says. Myrna, let all these be signs of the ministry which is mine and yours in this place.
People **Amen.**

The new Minister may then kneel in the midst of the church, and may say

O Lord my God, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; yet you have called your servant to stand in your house, and to serve at your altar. To you and to your service I devote myself, body, soul, and spirit. Fill my memory with the record of your mighty works; enlighten my understanding with the light of your Holy Spirit; and may all the desires of my heart and will center in what you would have me do. Make me an instrument of your salvation for the people entrusted to my care, and grant that I may faithfully administer your holy Sacraments, and by my life and teaching set forth your true and living Word. Be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion; in praises, heighten my love and gratitude; in preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression; and grant that, by the clearness and brightness of your holy Word, all the world may be drawn into your blessed kingdom. All this I ask for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Bishop then presents the new minister to the congregation, saying
Greet your new Priest.

When appropriate, the family of the new minister may also be presented at this time.

The Peace

The new Minister then says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The new Minister then greets other members of the clergy, family members, and the congregation.

The People greet one another.

Announcements

The Offertory Sentence

During the Offertory Hymn, the people's offerings are received. General offerings for the church's ministries may be placed in the larger offering plate, and offerings for the Project Feed Food Pantry may be placed in the smaller plate. General offerings can also be made using the Venmo QR code.



All stand for

The Offertory Hymn #439 "What Wondrous Love is This"

The Hymnal 1982

1. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to lay aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.

2. To God and to the Lamb,
I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme I will sing.

3. And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on.

The Presentation Hymn

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider 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

After a period of silence, all join in singing the

Fraction Anthem #S 155

The Hymnal 1982

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us
Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Administration of Communion

All are invited to come forward as directed by the user and stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive communion. Please let an usher know if you would like to receive communion in your pew. Gluten-free consecrated bread is available; simply ask the priest when you are being served if you would like one.

Those who cannot be with us to partake in communion in person are invited to pray the

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

Communion Hymns

#490 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

The Hymnal 1982

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain.

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2. I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

Refrain

3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

#304 "I Come with Joy"

The Hymnal 1982

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
his life laid down for me.

2. I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
That love that made us makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.

4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known:
we see, and praise him here.

5. Together met, together bound,
we'll go our different ways,
and as his people in the world,
we'll live and speak his praise.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Presider

Let us pray.

People

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.

All stand for the

Blessing

1. Christ for the world we sing!
the world to Christ we bring
with loving zeal;
the poor, and them that mourn,
the faint and overborne,
sin-sick and sorrow-worn,
whom Christ doth heal.

2. Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring
with fervent prayer;
the wayward and the lost,
by restless passions tossed,
redeemed at countless cost
from dark despair.

3. Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring
with one accord;
with us the work to share,
with us reproach to dare,
with us the cross to bear,
for Christ our Lord.

4. Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring
with joyful song;
the new-born souls, whose days,
reclaimed from error's ways,
inspired with hope and praise,
to Christ belong.

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Fanfare-Rondeau

Jean-Joseph Mouret

Ministers Serving Today

The People of God, called to be St. Peter's Episcopal Church, *Celebrants*

The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown, *Bishop, Presider and Preacher*

The Rev. Myrna Koonce, *Priest in Charge*

The Rev. Emily Keniston, *Deacon*

Mr. Herbert Taylor, *Organist*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Vergers*

Mr. Galen Weibley, *Crucifer*

Mr. Matt Cheney & Ms. Gwyneth Stansfield, *Acolytes*

Ms. Emily Hickey and Ms. Lenita Richard, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Litanist*

The Rev. Suzanne Roberts, Mr. Tom Ainsworth and Ms. Anita Chandler, *Readers*

Mr. Tom Ainsworth, *Usher*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Videographer*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Wayne Franklin & Mr. Rich Price, *Counters*

The Congregation, *Festive Reception*

Announcements

Welcome to all of you joining us. If you are new to St. Peter's and want to learn more about us, please fill out one of the pew cards and place in the offering plate or give to an usher.

Please join us for a festive reception in the undercroft.

Offering our gifts to God is part of our worship whenever we gather. Offerings are received during the Offertory. You may also mail your gift to: St. Peter's Church, 10 Alton Street Portland, ME 04103, or you can give online directly to St. Peter's by going to our website. Offerings can also be made through Venmo. See the back page of this leaflet for information about Venmo. The second offering plate is for donations to Project Feed, our local emergency food pantry.

NOTES ON THIS AFTERNOON'S MUSIC

Born in the German town of Halle in 1685, George Frederick Handel studied briefly at the University of Halle before moving to Hamburg in 1703, where he served as violinist, harpsichordist and composer in the renowned opera orchestra. Appointed Kapellmeister to the Elector of Hanover, the future George I of England, he subsequently visited and settled in London, where he won "rock-star comparable esteem" and exercised an influence that tended to overshadow the achievements of his contemporaries and immediate successors. He died in London in 1759 and was buried in Westminster Abbey in the presence of some 3,000 mourners. The "10th Grand Concerto for Strings"--from which this service's prelude comes--was composed in 1739...and the "Larghetto," in particular, is one of Handel's most popular works.

Jean-Joseph Mouret (1682-1738) was a French court musician whose dramatic and colorful works made him one of the most important composers of French Baroque music. His Fanfare-Rondeau, from his first Suite de Symphonies, was adopted in 1971 as the theme for the PBS television series "Masterpiece Theater".
~HT

St. Peter's Episcopal Church A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine

The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown, *Bishop*

The Rev. Myrna Koonce, *Priest in Charge*

The Rev. Emily Keniston, *Transitional Deacon*

Mr. Herbert Taylor, *Organist*

Mr. Bruno Mbongo *Sexton*

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