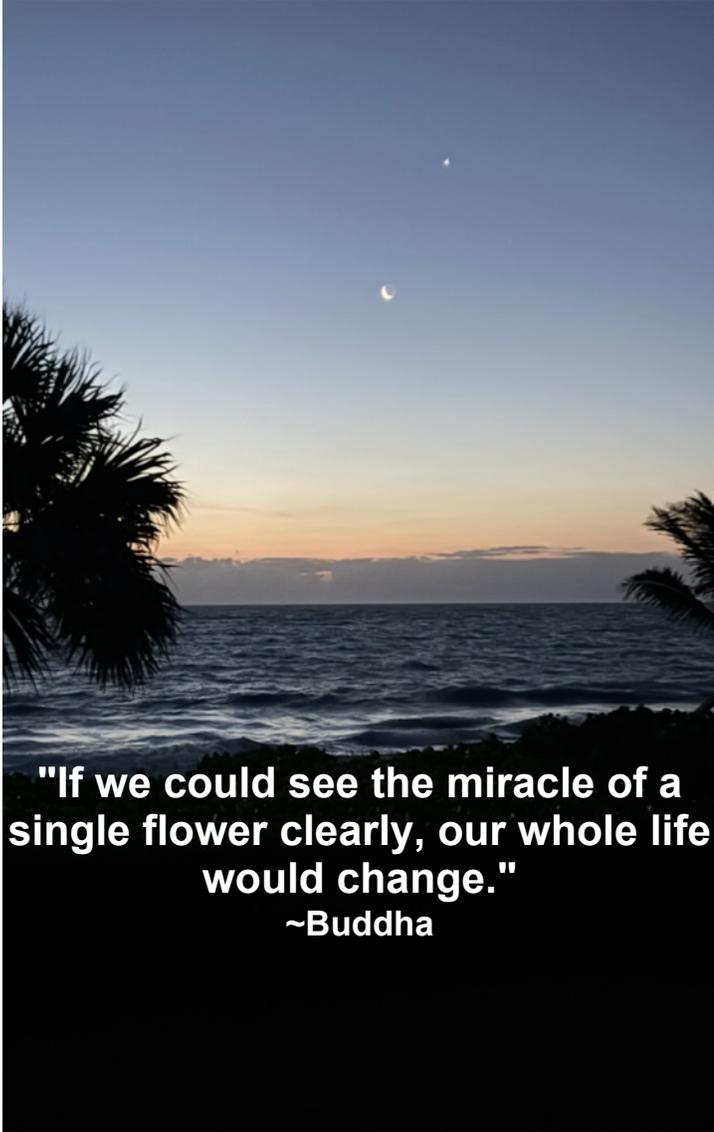


March 22, 2026 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 [www.gracechurchmiddletown.org](http://www.gracechurchmiddletown.org)  
 email [secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com)

## *Fifth Sunday in Lent March 22nd (Rite I)*



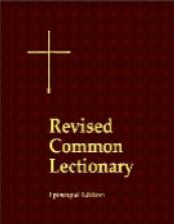
**"If we could see the miracle of a single flower clearly, our whole life would change."  
 ~Buddha**

Subdeacon/Chalice	Marlene Presley
MC/2nd Chalice	Rick Scott
Thurifer	
Crucifer	
Acolyte	David Brokaw
Acolyte	
OT Lector	Phyllis Guardino
NT Lector	Torry Guardino
Intercessor	Carla Boyer
Ushers	Mark Strunsky John Cusack

Use our audio mixer to listen to the 9:30 Sunday Mass live. [Click Here](#)

To watch Sunday Mass on Facebook live. [Click Here](#)

For the Sunday prayer bulletin. [Click Here](#)



### Website for Lectionary Readings

The webpage is in calendar form - just click on the date and you will see the readings for that day.

<https://www.lectionarypage.net/CalndrsIndexes/Calendar2026.html>

## Upcoming Events

Friday March 20th	6:30 PM Stations of the Cross
Sunday March 22nd	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)
Wednesday March 25th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Friday March 27th	6:30 PM Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Sunday March 29th	Palm Sunday 9:30 AM Eucharist (Rite II)
Thursday April 2nd	7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Mass followed by the vigil at the Altar of Repose
Friday April 3rd	Noon to 3:00 PM GMIC Good Friday Service, St. Paul's United Methodist Church 58 West Main Street 7:00 PM Good Friday Mass
Saturday April 4th	8:00 PM Great Vigil of Easter Rite II
Sunday April 5th	10:00 AM Easter Sunday Eucharist Rite II

## The Photography Corner



This week's photograph of the pulpit at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine was sent to us by Lorraine Witkowski. She took this photo during the ordination of Bishop Matthew Heyd. Thank you Lorraine!

I would like to thank all who have shared photographs with us. I do need some more photographs if you could send a few. ~Joe

# TRICKY TRAY 2026

Wish me luck! A little bit of luck and some tickets for our Tricky Tray's Special Prizes are what you need to win one of the wonderful Special prizes offered at this year's event. The prizes that we are offering are:

\$200 in Cash

Gift Cards to Local Restaurants valued at \$200.

A 55-inch large screen smart TV.

Yankee ticket package for two with a \$30 food/beverage credit.

Lots of Lottery Tickets

I'm happy to tell you that we already have commitments to cover the expenses of the first four prizes thanks to some generous donors. We do need your help in ensuring that we have a lot of Lottery Tickets. (We are hoping for \$400-500 dollars worth.) We are asking everyone to donate one \$5.00 lottery ticket (or donate \$5.00 in cash and one of the Committee members will purchase the ticket for you). We are already off to a great start after Sue Scott's announcements in church, but we need more help to have all of our Special Prizes in place in time for the Tricky Tray on SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH. DOORS OPEN AT 1 PM AND CALLING BEGINS AT 3 PM.

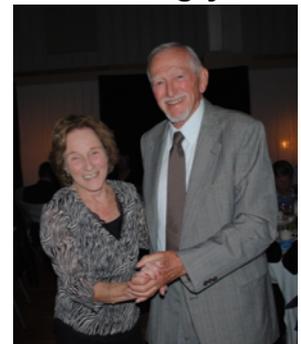
If you have a ticket (or cash) to donate or have any questions, please see one of us. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

The Fundraising Committee: Mark, Anne, David, Barbara, Charlotte, Malinda, Jim, Sue & Claire



## Ken Carpenter

It is with deep sorrow that I must inform you, if you have not heard already, of the passing of Ken Carpenter. I first met Ken when Eileen and I began volunteering at the Guild of St. Margaret Soup Kitchen. Ken was the leader of our volunteer group and as I got to know Ken, I discovered what many of you already knew, Ken's life was a life of service. He served our Country in the US Marine Corps from 1955 to 1959, attaining the rank of Sergeant. Ken continued his service by giving of his time and talents to the greater Middletown community in many ways. He helped found the Emergency Housing Group, which eventually became Honor EHG, and was one of the founders of the early Interfaith Group in Middletown. He was one of the founders of the original Soup Kitchen, back when food vouchers to Coney Island hotdogs were given to the hungry. One of the longest serving volunteers for the Guild of St. Margaret, Ken worked preparing and serving meals to the hungry and as a member of the Guild of St. Margaret Advisory Board. Yet, his dedication and service did not stop there. He was dedicated to the life of Grace Church, giving his time and talents as Warden, Vestry member, altar server, administrative assistant to Fr. Osgood and the Buildings & Grounds Committee. Thank you Ken for all you've done and especially for your friendship. Requiescat in pace. ~Joe



## Mystic Poets Society

This week's submission was sent to us by Eileen Bloomer. Thank you Eileen!  
If you have a poem or reflection that you would consider sharing with your fellow parishioners, please send it to me. Thank you. Joe.

Peace I leave with you.

My peace I give to you.

Words spoken at the end of a story,

at the beginning of a story.

Yesterday I saw two black crows

perched in bare black trees-

I was counting on three.

The number three. Expectations.

I turned away, waiting for the sun

to shine, to melt the new and old snow.

Then, at just the right time

I carried my shovel down stone steps

to the sidewalk to clear a space.

I did not hear or see him coming,

but he brushed by behind me, silent

faceless figure, red jacket, black backpack.

I mumbled some words, then watched him

walk on his way down the sidewalk.

I returned to the snow, the ice,

old and new, chopping an endless path

with tired arms and legs.

Then, he was there- returned.

And again, I did not see him coming.

I can do that for you, he said,

a soft voice, a kind face.

I smiled, shook my head no.

I was almost finished.

He walked on again,

leaving only kindness behind.

I cleared a path under the sun.

I looked up again; he was gone.

And I heard a new story

and an old story in my heart,

and I smiled, grace-full under the sun.

Today, I read words of peace.

~Eileen

## 2026 Lenten Worship Services

Friday March 20th

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Friday March 27th

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

**HOLY WEEK:**

Sunday March 29th

9:30 AM Palm Sunday Eucharist Rite II

Thursday April 2nd

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Mass followed by the vigil at the Altar of Repose

Friday April 3rd

7:00 PM Good Friday Mass

Saturday April 4th

8:00 PM Great Vigil of Easter Rite II

Sunday April 5th

10:00 AM Easter Sunday Eucharist Rite II

## Easter Flowers



Each Easter the flowers on the altar and around the church are donated in memory of family and friends who are no longer with us. If you would like to have someone remembered in the Easter Flower Bulletin, please complete one of the Flower envelopes that are in the pews and in other locations around the church. You should include your name, the name(s) of those who you are remembering, and your donation for the flowers. If you are not in church to complete an Flower envelope, please send your information via email to [secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com) or call the church office, 845-343-6101, and leave a message. In order to complete the Bulletin, we need your information by Monday, March 30th. If you have any questions, please call Claire Newquist at 845-344-7885 or the Parish Office at 845-343-6101.

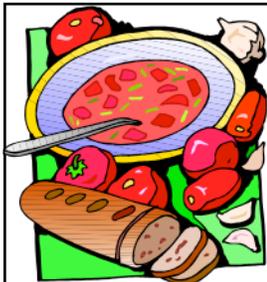


EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEW YORK  
*LISTENING HEARTS*

**Vocations Day:**  
**Listening Hearts Retreat**

**Christ Episcopal Church,  
Poughkeepsie  
Saturday, April 25, 2026**

**Christ Episcopal Church**  
20 Carroll Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601



ShopRite Grocery Gift Cards are available for sale EVERY Sunday after each service. Grace Church receives 5% on the sale of the cards from ShopRite, while you purchase the cards at face value! ShopRite gift cards can make shopping for the family easy. Our ongoing fundraiser of ShopRite gift cards helps you prepare your holiday meals while helping Grace Church. Please keep us in mind when preparing your shopping lists!

We are happy and pleased to announce that we can accept credit card purchases for the ShopRite gift cards. So, if you use a rewards credit card you can now accumulate points while supporting Grace Church! To purchase gift cards, please see either Eileen or Claire.



GOOD  
FRIDAY  
SERVICE

*"The Seven Last  
Words of Christ"*

FRIDAY, APRIL 3  
12 NOON UNTIL 3 PM

SAINT PAUL'S  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
58 WEST MAIN ST.  
MIDDLETOWN, NY

ALL ARE  
WELCOME!

*Spend an hour with us, or all 3.  
Hear scripture, meditations,  
sermons and music. Pray with us  
as we share in His Crucifixion.*



Middletown Thrall Library invites you to...

# Drop in Crafts

Are you currently working on **crochet** or **knitting** project, spinning yarn on a drop spindle, or doing *crafting of any sorts*?

Don't have a current project on the hook or needle? *No worries!* You can join us! This is an opportunity to *chat as we craft!*

Craft instruction will *not* be offered as part of the event; however, if you need help with your project, you can make an appointment to come in for assistance!

## 2026 Drop in dates...

Tuesday, February 24, 12:30pm - 2:30 pm

Tuesday, March 24, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Tuesday, April 21, 12:00 pm - 2:00pm

Tuesday, May 19, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

This is open to Adults  
(18+ years old) only

Questions?

Please call 1-845-341-5454, ext. 114.





**Grace Calendar**

### Vestry News

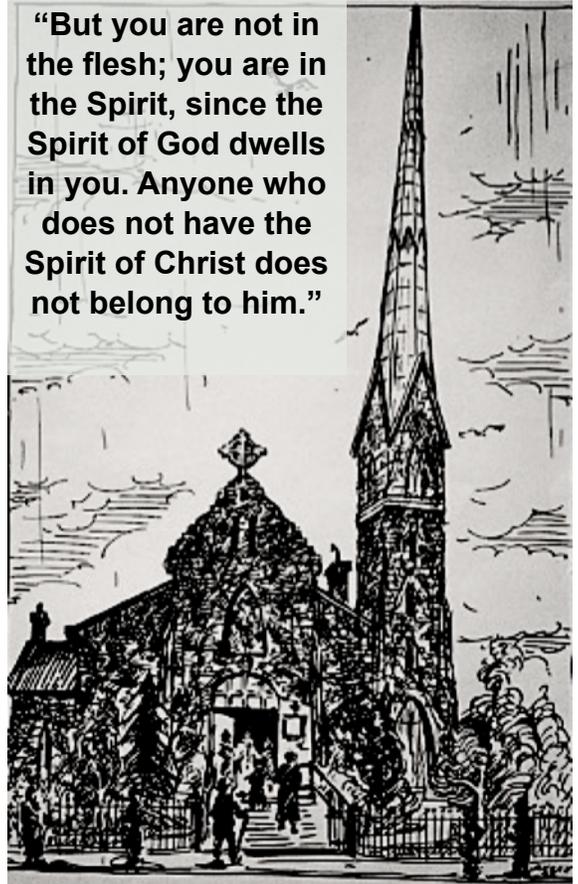
The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday April 19th starting at 11:15 AM.

All are invited to attend!

[Click here to read the minutes of the December 21, 2025 Vestry meeting.](#)

[Click here to read the minutes of the January 25, 2026 Vestry meeting.](#)

“But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.”



GRACE CHURCH 1948

## Your Grace Church Vestry.

### Wardens:

John Cusack

Claire Newquist

*Clerk of the Vestry:*

*Treasurer:*

Phyllis Guardino

### Vestry:

Lorraine Witkowski

Anne Caldwell

Barbara Chumard

Michelle Tubbs

Analise Reed

Joseph Barrett

Mark Strunsky

Eileen Bloomer

Torry Guardino

David White (Student member of Vestry)