

A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!
Thank you for joining us this morning.

THE CONCLUSION

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

Please do be seated.

Refreshments will be brought to you in the pews.

*Alternatively, refreshments are also being made
available in the Church Hall.*

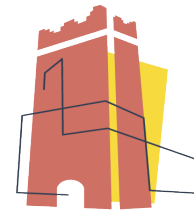
CONNECT with us at St Peter's

Please scan this QR code
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connect with us online:
you can ask a question,
send us a prayer request,
or just ask for more
information about things
at St Peter's...



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St Peter's

COLCHESTER

Morning Service

Sunday 25th October 2026
10:30am

THE COLLECT

for the Last Sunday after Trinity

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written
for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience,
and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

ST PETER'S KIDS (SPK) & YOUTH GROUPS

We are delighted to welcome children and families to St Peter's on Sunday mornings.

Registration takes place in church from 10:15am.

Children stay in church for the first part of the service. At the appropriate point, parents and carers should take their children down to the Hall and check them in with the SPK team.

- **PARENT-LED CRÈCHE** – for pre-school children, meeting in the Lounge. Parents/carers remain with their children.
- **SEEKERS** – for children in Reception to Year 2.
- **DIGGERS** – for children in Years 3 to 6.

At the end of the service, please return to the Hall to check your child out and collect them. *Once a child has been checked out, responsibility for their supervision returns to their parent or carer.*

Our **SPARK** (Years 7-9) & **IGNITE** (Year 10+) groups are currently paused while we review provision for older children and young people. All are very welcome to remain in church throughout the service.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Mark Wallace, Vicar of St Peter's

"COME, PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING"

Come, people of the risen king,
who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
to the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
we will lift our eyes to Him,
where steady arms of mercy reach
to gather children in.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun
and those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
and those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
and His mercies never cease,
but follow us through all our days
with the certain hope of peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice...

Come, young and old from every land,
men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
shore to shore we hear them call
the Truth that cries through every age;
'Our God is all in all'.

Rejoice! Rejoice...

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins,
God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BIBLE READING: Acts 14.19-28

page 923; read by Liz Barker

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AT THE HEART OF GOD'S WORD

"through many tribulations we must enter the
kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* Church, [** ie universal/worldwide*]
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

"KING OF KINGS"

In the darkness we were waiting
without hope, without light,
'til from Heaven You came running –
there was mercy in Your eyes.
To fulfill the law and prophets,
to a virgin came the word;
from a throne of endless glory,
to a cradle in the dirt.

*Praise the Father, praise the Son,
praise the Spirit, three in one!
God of glory, Majesty,
praise forever to the King of Kings!*

To reveal the kingdom coming,
and to reconcile the lost,
to redeem the whole creation,
you did not despise the cross.
For even in your suffering
you saw to the other side,
knowing this was our salvation –
Jesus, for our sake, you died.

Praise the Father...

And the morning that You rose
all of Heaven held its breath,
'til that stone was moved for good,
for the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs,
and the angels stood in awe,
for the souls of all who'd come
to the Father are restored.

And the church of Christ was born,
then the Spirit lit the flame,
now this gospel truth of old
shall not kneel, shall not faint.
By His blood, and in His name,
In His freedom I am free,
for the love of Jesus Christ
who has resurrected me.

*Praise the Father...
Praise forever to the King of Kings!*

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CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

*As we start to sing the next hymn,
parents/carers are invited to take children
in Seekers and Diggers to the Hall
and check them in with the SPK team.
The Parent-Led Crèche is also available in the Lounge.*

"REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING"

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart...

His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart...

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the Judge shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home.
*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!*

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

led by John Hartwell

to finish with the Lord's Prayer...

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

"HE WILL HOLD ME FAST"

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
when the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path,
for my love is often cold – He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast,
for my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost, His promises shall last;
bought by Him at such a cost – He will hold me fast.
He will hold me fast...

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast,
till our faith is turned to sight – when he comes at last.
He will hold me fast... [repeat chorus to finish]

Ada Ruth Habershon | Matthew Merker | © 2013 Getty Publishing

THE SERMON

preacher: Duncan Breckels, Licensed Lay Minister

"O CHURCH, ARISE"

O Church, arise, and put your armour on;
hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
we'll stand against the devil's lies;
an army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,
reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
we will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
we know the outcome is secure,
and Christ will have the prize for which He died,
an inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
as the Son of God is stricken;
then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
for the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
and Christ emerges from the grave,
this victory march continues till the day
every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride,
give grace for every hurdle,
that we may run with faith to win the prize
of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
retelling triumphs of His grace,
we hear their calls and hunger for the day
when with Christ we stand in glory.

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