



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

5 LENT

MARCH 17, 2024

To Lift People Up As Christ Calls

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Thank you for joining us today. Many of us gathered here today were not raised in The Episcopal Church, but have come to find in this parish a source of spiritual growth. If you are new to St. Christopher's or visiting with us today, please fill out one of the visitor's cards found in the pews and put it in the offering plate or give it to one of the ushers.

Nursery care is provided for children up to 3 years of age, and there are activity bags in the vestibule for children of all ages. Children in preschool through 5th grade are encouraged to go to Children's Chapel for age-appropriate worship with their friends. The kids return at the passing of the peace.

We invite you to join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall following the service. Please feel free to introduce yourself to any of us if we don't get to you first.

Opening Prayer

Silent Processional

Processional Hymn 441

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
 *5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

1 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of
 2 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 3 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 4 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that
 5 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of

1 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 2 cross for - sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 3 ra - diance stream - ing adds new lus - ter to the day.
 4 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
 5 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: *Rathbun*, Ithamar Conkey (1815-1867).

THE WORD OF GOD

A Penitential Order

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People His mercy endures for ever.

The Decalogue: Contemporary (*kneeling*)

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Have mercy on us and forgive us;
That we may delight in your will,
And walk in your ways,
To the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Kyrie

Raining

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

People Amen.

The Lessons

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Insert

Psalm 119:9-16

Insert

Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:5-10

Insert

Gradual Hymn 439

Unison



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
 is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Harmony (the melody is in the tenor)



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



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sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835. Music: *Wondrous Love*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b. 1926).

Then, all standing, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Holy Gospel: John 12:20-33

Insert

After the Gospel, the Celebrant says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Moment of Silent Reflection

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God made Christ a high priest for our salvation. As we prepare for the Paschal feast let us lift up our prayers and supplications to God through his Son, saying, Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

For the Church, and especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop and Daniel our Bishop, that all the people of God may know the Lord through the covenant of love written in their hearts. Hear us, O God, *for your mercy is great.*

For this parish family, especially Hillary and Kristen our priests, and Madeleine and James as they discern holy orders; that in this holy season we may walk with Christ, entrust our lives to God, and come to know the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Hear us, O God, *for your mercy is great.*

For Joseph our President, Joshua our Governor, and for the leaders of the nations and all in authority, that God will give them the grace and will to work for peace, so that the broken body of the world may rejoice. Hear us O God, *for your mercy is great.*

For the grace to be women and men for others, that God will guide us in offering our lives in loving service to help others along life's journey. Hear us O God, *for your mercy is great.*

For all those who lay down their lives for others, that God will guide and strengthen parents, caregivers for the sick, police and those who assist the least and the lost, that they may be instruments of God's love and compassion. Hear us, O God, *for your mercy is great.*

For all those in need of our prayers, remembering especially Richard, Myung, Dana, Sal, Jeffie, Larry, Bert, Kathy, Mark, Cindy, Thomas, Catherine, Nell, Kennie, Bob, M.L., Lily, Darryl, Henrietta, and for those we now name either silently or aloud (pause); that

God will give them strength and fill their hearts with hope and peace. Hear us O God, *for your mercy is great*

For those who have died, remembering especially those we now name either silently or aloud (pause); that, as they have been sown with Christ in death, so may they also be part of Christ’s abundant harvest in eternal life. Hear us, O God, *for your mercy is great.*

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Saint Christopher, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *To you, O Lord our God.*

Celebrant Blessed are you, God of eternal life, who lifted up your Son from death. Hear the prayers we offer this day, create in us clean hearts and renew a right spirit within us that we may be glorified with Christ for ever. To you be praise, honor and glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Peace

Welcome and Concerns

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem *Like as the Hart* Howells

Presentation of Alms and Oblations Doxology

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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer D

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks;
 for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light
 inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all
 things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to
 rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you
 night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence,
 they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and
 giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you,
 and glorify your Name, as we sing:

Sanctus

Hymnal S-128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The people kneel

The Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying

them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

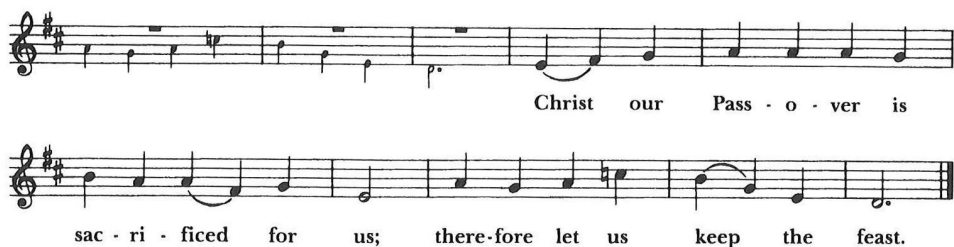
Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. AMEN.

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.



Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion of the People

All who seek a closer relationship with God are invited to receive communion.

Congregants are invited to leave their pews starting at the front of the church and working back. If intinction is your preference, please sanitize your hands first.

Communion Hymn 170

1 To mock your reign, O dear - est Lord, they made a crown of thorns;
2 In mock ac - claim, O gra - cious Lord, they snatched a pur - ple cloak,
3 A scep - tered reed, O pa - tient Lord, they thrust in - to your hand,

set you with taunts a - long that road from which no one re - turns.
your pas-sion turned, for all they cared, in - to a sol - dier's joke.
and act - ed out their grim cha - rade to its ap - point - ed end.

They did not know, as we do now, that glo - rious is your crown;
 They did not know, as we do now, that though we mer - it blame
 They did not know, as we do now, though em - pires rise and fall,

that thorns would flower up - on your brow, your sor - rows heal our own.
 you will your robe of mer - cy throw a - round our na - ked shame.
 your King - dom shall not cease to grow till love em - bra - ces all.

**The bracketed notes are to be treated as triplet groups.*

Words: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt. Copyright © 1973 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *The Third Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585); ed. John Wilson (1905-1992). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant and 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.

The Blessing


Recessional Hymn 143



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full
* 5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Erhalt uns, Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Leiden*, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

Dismissal Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

Silent Recessional
Postlude *Fugue on the Kyrie* Couperin



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