



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

5 EASTER

APRIL 28, 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 8th grade are encouraged to go to Children's Chapel or Tween Time 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

Processional Hymn 529

Unison or harmony



1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
 2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
 3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
 e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
 him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt.

Music: *McKee*, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

CM

THE WORD OF GOD

Versicle and Response

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Collect of Purity

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria

Hymnal S-278



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-

ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of

God the Fa-ther. Amen.

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

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: Acts 8:26-40

Insert

Psalm 22:24-30

Insert

Make known the sav-ing deeds that God has done.

Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21
Gradual Hymn 296

Insert



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows _____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; _____
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life _____
The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. _____
as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. _____



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. _____
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. _____ Al - le -
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. _____
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: _____



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Words: John Brownlow Geyer (b. 1932), alt.
Music: Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

10 10 10 with Alleluia

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 15:1-8

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

As branches of Jesus, the living Vine, we seek to abide in the Spirit of love and bring our prayers to God, saying: *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church, especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop and Daniel our Bishop, that our faith may deepen, our hope be strengthened, and our love abound in deeds of loving service and justice. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For this parish family, especially Hillary and Kristen our priests, Madeleine and James as they discern holy orders, that we may continually draw life from Christ and bear a rich harvest of love and service for God's glory. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the grace of letting go, that God will help us to let go of those things which need to be pruned so that life and love may flow through us as signs of God's tender care. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who feel cut off from God, friends, themselves or life itself, that God will show them how they are connected and from whom they can draw life. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For an end to war and violence in all places, that God will turn hearts from destructive deeds, open pathways for dialogue, and protect the innocent from harm. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who are in need of our prayers, remembering especially Richard, Myung, Dana, Sal, Jeffie, Larry, Bert, Mark, Cindy, Thomas, Catherine, Nell, Kennie, Bob, M.L., Darryl, Henrietta, and for those we now name either silently or aloud (pause); that Christ will renew the gift of life within them and strengthen them in God's love.

Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died, remembering especially those we now name either silently or aloud (pause); that they may abide in the love of God for ever. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lifting our voices with all creation, with the Apostles Philip & James, Saint Christopher and all the saints who have borne witness to the Risen Christ, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *Alleluia! To you, O Lord, we give praise and glory.*

Celebrant Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who abides in all who love you. Hear the prayers we offer this day and give us your Spirit of peace so that loving one another we may walk in the way that leads to eternal life. Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages. *Amen.*

The Peace

Welcome and Concerns

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem *The Strife is O'er* arr. Ley

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 A

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

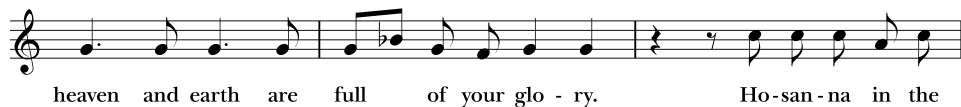
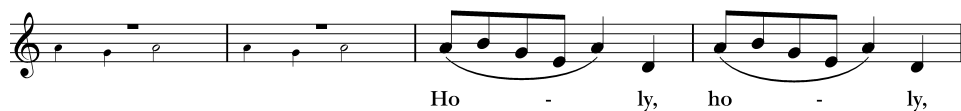
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S-128



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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for 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.

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 there - fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and
 *3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by
 *4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

Words: William Bright (1824-1901), alt. Music: *Unde et memores*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

Celebrant and People

Almighty and ever living God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn 379

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - jice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt. Held by A.R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1942 Renewal 1970, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

The Dismissal Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.
 Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude *March in D* Bach



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