



321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896

www.christchurchmvl.org

The First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

10:30 A.M. Rite II W/NO HE

Prelude *He shall Feed His Flock* "Messiah" G. F. Handel

Introit *Let the skies pour down righteousness* Isaiah 45, Psalm 19

Processional Hymn "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland" Hymn 54

1 Savior of the nations, come!
Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, both heaven and earth,
that the Lord chose such a birth.

3 Thus on earth the Word appears,
gracing his created spheres;
hence to death and hell descends,
then the heavenly throne ascends.

2 Wondrous birth! Oh, wondrous child
of the Virgin undefiled!
Mighty God and Mary's son,
eager now his race to run!

4 Come, O Father's saving Son,
who o'er sin the victory won.
Boundless shall your kingdom be;
Grant that we its glories see.

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

Trisagion (sung 3 times)

Hymnal S 102

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 25:1-9 *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my /trust in /you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies /triumph over /me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be /put to /shame; *
let the treacherous be disap/pointed in their /schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, /O /Lord, *
/and teach me your /paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth /and teach /me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted /all the day /long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your com/passion and /love, *
for they /are from ever/lasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth /and my trans/gressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your /goodness, O /Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright /is the /Lord; *
therefore he teaches /sinners in his /way.
- 8 He guides the humble in /doing /right *
and teaches /his way to the /lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and /faithful/ness *
to those who keep his covenant /and his testi/monies.



1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn

Carol of the Advent

A Besancon Tune
arr. By Helen Kemp

1 People look East, The time is near
Of the crowning of the year,
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People look East, and sing today:
Love the Guest is on the way.

2 Stars keep the watch, When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,

Bright as the sun and moon together.
People look East, and sing today:
Love the Star is on the way.

3 Angels announce to man and beast,
Him who cometh from the East,
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People look East, and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all

times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

John Swezey

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

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others especially Crystal, the Search Committee, Kelly, the Vestry, Geneva, Jessie, William, Wanda, Jeaneen Eastland, Mary Ruth, Regina, Avenell Jordan, Shane, Paul and Virginia and May.

Silence.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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

The Peace, Announcements

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory Anthem *"O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings"* Georg Friedrich Handel

The Doxology: *"Hymn 380 v. 3"* Old 100th

All: 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 Lord's Prayer (People and Celebrant)

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.

Recessional Hymn

"Merton"

Hymn 59

1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding.
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
"Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day."

4 so, when next he comes with glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,
may he with his mercy shield us,
and with words of love draw near.

3 Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven;

5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks be to God.*
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Recessional Hymn: *Praise Ye The Lord of Hosts "Christmas Oratorio"* Saint Saëns

Masks are mandatory for all indoor activities at the Church
Parish House and the Church office for the foreseeable future.

*The beauty of the Altar flowers are
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Ronnie L. Wagoner on our wedding anniversary
By Ginger Wagoner*

*The beauty of the Narthex flowers are
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Paul B. Toms and May Hooker Toms
By the Family*

ADVENT WREATH

*Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Rives S. Brown, Jr., Lucy Brown Coleman,
Betty Meade Cullinane and Richard A. Walmsley
By Mr. and Mrs. James Coleman, Jr.*

ADVENT WREATHS ON FRONT DOORS

*Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Virginia S. & William R. Windle and Margaret W. & Thomas C. Webster, MD
by Tom, Stuart, Win, Jessica and Evans Webster.*

Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to St. Thomas Abingdon. Pray for the people of St. Thomas Abingdon and their rector The Rev. Boyd Evans. The People of the Diocese of Haiti as they search for their new Bishop. The Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines.

2022 Pledge Cards

Please turn in all 2022 pledge cards no later than Sunday, December 12th.

If you haven't already turned in your pledge card,
please bring it to the Church office.

You can drop it through the mail slot on the outside office door.

Your thoughtful gift will be most appreciated.

If you need a 2022 pledge card, you can pick one up from the Church office
during normal business hours or one can be mailed to you.

Please call 276-632-2896 to get a card.

2021 Prison Angel Tree Ministry - PLEASE DONATE

Christ Church's dedication to the Prison Angel Tree Ministry is wonderful and dates back to more than a decade. Unfortunately, just like last year, with the pandemic still in full swing we cannot follow our usual format. This year we are gathering monetary donations that will go directly toward gifts for the children that we are supporting. This guarantees that this will be done safely, and that these children will be able to have presents on Christmas Day. We know this isn't as exciting and fun as doing the shopping ourselves, but we encourage you to embrace this worthy cause. **We are hoping to support 96 children (we've been asked to add 5 more children) at \$25 per child for a total of \$2,400 needed.** The more money that is donated means more children can receive a Christmas present.

Sunday, December 12 all cash offerings go to Angel Tree.

The deadline for Prison Angel Tree monetary donations to the Church office is Friday, December 10th.

November/December Events

- Adult Sunday School in the Parish House at 9:30 am. The Book of Acts will be discussed.
- Sunday services at 10:30 am.
 - 12/5 Rite II Rev. Ron Johnson presiding with HE
 - 12/12 Rite II, No HE Bob Bushnell, Officiant
 - 12/19 Rite II, No HE Phil Gardner, Officiant
 - 12/24 Rite II (Priest to be announced) with HE
 - 12/26 Rite II, No HE John Swezey, Officiant

- Wine will be a part of communion
- The opening of the nursery is on hold at this time.
- The Daily Office is being offered by an ecumenical group of dedicated individuals at 9 a.m. for morning prayer, noon for noontime prayer and at 5 p.m. for evening prayer. Join the group on Facebook Live, their page is Daily Office Prayer and the link is <https://www.facebook.com/dailyOfficePrayer/>.
- Every Monday, November 29 thru December 27th *An Advent and Christmas Journey* "Prepare to receive a word for your salvation that will encourage you to live more joyously, more courageously, and with more hope as you love and serve your neighbors as best you can."
A series presented by Br. Peter Budde BSG, MDIV, MA, 7:00 to 8:30 PM at the Parish House.
- Every Wednesday, Contemplative Noonday Prayer Service in the Chapel Using "Order of Service for Noonday" from the book of common prayer along with readings from the early church and silent meditation.
- Loaves & Fishes will be served the last Wednesday of each month from 5:15 - 5:45 pm using the drive-thru pickup system from the Parish House parking lot.

Grace Network - Our Grace Network Assignments for November - December: Juice (40-64 oz.) For the month of November: bath soap, toilet paper, and toothpaste. They are also in need of grocery bags for their food pantry. As a Church family, we have committed to helping Grace Network with stocking their food pantry for those in need. Please remember to pick up our assigned item the next time you visit the grocery store.

Grace Network Volunteer Opportunity

Grace Network is looking for a volunteer individual to travel to one of our partnering grocery stores weekly, on Tuesdays to pick up donations.

It takes approximately 2 hours once a week and you would need to provide a vehicle (pick-up trucks or SUVs are best).

The position requires:

- Being able to lift 50 lbs, repeatedly.
 - A vehicle that can carry 48qt. igloo coolers (up to 4).
- Retrieving coolers, thermal blanket and ID lanyard from the Grace Network location.
 - Go to the designated store, load food in coolers and/or cover boxes with thermal blanket
 - Maintaining a friendly relationship with our grocery partners.
 - Return to Grace and unload, weigh and put in refrigerators, freezers etc.
 - Clean out coolers and put up; put up thermal blanket

Thank you for your volunteerism for this very important job.

Contact Tracy Hinchcliff at 403-4222 if you are interested in serving or have additional questions.

St. Nicholas Day Appeal

A Message from Bishop Mark A. Bourlakas: As we enter into Advent, one of the holiest seasons of the Christian year, our diocese's annual St. Nicholas Day Appeal is one significant way that we can adjust our focus to the mission that the Son of God ushers into our world. Donations made will be given to RIP Medical Debt for their Appalachian campaign. This 501(c)(3) organization buys large bundles of medical debt that are relieved with no tax consequences to donors or recipients. Every dollar raised will relieve \$100 in medical debt for families in Appalachia where nearly 1 in 5 people are in poverty and out-of-pocket healthcare costs are 40% higher than the national average. Please consider faithfully how you might support this effort, either by donating online at www.dioswva.org or by mailing a check payable to the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern VA with "St. Nicholas Day Appeal" marked in the memo to PO Box 2279, Roanoke, VA 24009. It is a charitable love for the neighbor that is honored in St. Nicholas, and this annual appeal allows us to share with others in this season of giving.

Sacred Ground: An Exploration of Race and Faith, is a 10-session transformational conversation about race, sponsored by the Roanoke Convocation of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. The Sacred Ground series is part of the Becoming Beloved Community initiative of The Episcopal Church: a long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society.

- Who: Episcopalians in the Roanoke Convocation who are interested in exploring issues of race through the lens of faith.
- What: Each session in the 10-part dialogue series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings. Anticipate preparatory work for each session.
- When: Beginning in January 2022. Registration December 1st thru 31st.
- Where: Multiple dialogue circles will be available. Stay tuned for more details.

Questions? Contact Jenny Fife, Coordinator at 540-797-8174 or email SacredGroundRoanoke@gmail.com For More Information about Sacred Ground: visit <https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground>

Dishes left in the Parish House

We have several dishes and platters that were left in the Parish House. Please come by the Church office during business hours to claim your dishes.

Thank you to those who serve:

Officiant: John Swezey
Lector/prayers: Pete Scouras
Organist: Becky Smith
Chorister/Cantor: Raul West
Camera Director: Ed Gallop
Ushers: Kyle Trent, Bob Weatherall
Altar Guild: Team Five - Lloyd Barber, Debbie Lewis,
Cece Johnson, Beth Cahill, Jill Dickens, Amy Hooper,
Amy Joyce

Vestry for 2021

Lloyd Barber, Treasurer

Year 3: Dan Cahill, Junior Warden; Natalie Coleman;
Debbie Lewis; Ron Probst

Year 2: Carolyn Byrd, Secretary; Chris Canipe;
Beverley Coleman; Ellen Maxwell

Year 1: Hank Long, Senior Warden;
Ruby Stultz; Rebin Titus; Pat Walmsley

Vestry Elect: Ben Beeler, Jay Dickens, Beverly Lyle, Andy Williams