



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896 • www.christchurchmvl.org
We are a community of faith striving to love God fully and our neighbors as ourselves.

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Please silence your electronic devices. Music and lyrics of hymns may be found in the blue Hymnal 1982. Full text of prayers may be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP).

The Opening Voluntary *Dialogue sur les Trompettes* Francois Couperin
From the Mass for the Parishes

Processional Hymn *"Stand up, stand up, for Jesus"* Hymn 561

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.*

Gloria in excelsis *Glory to God* Hymnal S 280

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God
the Father. *Amen.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Reader A reading from the Book of Zephaniah (1:7,12-18)

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,

"The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 90:1-8, 12 *Domine, refugium*

- 1 Lord, you have/ been our refuge *
 from one gene/ration to a/nother.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
 or the land and the/ earth were /born, *
 from age to /age you are /God.
- 3 You turn us back to the/ dust and/ say, *
 "Go back,/ O child of /earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when /it is /past *
 and like a /watch in the/ night.
- 5 You sweep us away /like a / dream; *
 we fade away /suddenly like the/ grass.
- 6 In the morning it is /green and/ flourishes; *
 in the evening it is dried /up and wi/thered.
- 7 For we consume away in /your dis/pleasure; *
 we are afraid because of your /wrathful indig/nation.



8 Our iniquities you have set/ before /you, *
and our secret sins in the /light of your/ countenance.

12 So teach us to /number our/ days *
that we may ap/ply our hearts to /wisdom.

Reader A reading from the First Book of Thessalonians (5:1-11)

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People *Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn "Morning Song" v. 4, 5, 6

Hymn 9

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew (25:14-30)

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more

will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon

The Rev. John Adams

The Nicene Creed *standing*

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 Form IV

Standing or kneeling

BCP 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, ***Sue, Julia, Betty, Nathan, Pete, Tom, Linda, Leandra, Austin, Ann, Mike, Michael, Cathie, Betsy, Tom, Steve, and Ann;*** give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Silence

The Celebrant offers a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin

Kneeling or standing

BCP 360

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.***

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.***

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Offertory Anthem	<i>Tender Thought</i>	James B. Erb
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The Holy Communion, Eucharistic Prayer A *Standing* BCP 361

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 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:

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>Standing or kneeling</i>
Holy and gracious Father... the mystery of faith:	

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption...Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Breaking of Bread

Fraction Anthem

Christ Our Passover

Hymnal S 154

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

All baptized Christians are invited to receive at the altar rail, kneeling or standing. Gluten-free wafers are available by request. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward and place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. After receiving the bread, you may choose to consume the bread and take a sip of wine from the chalice or hold onto the bread and intinct (dip) it into the wine, in which case please hold the wafer in front of you so the chalice will know to bring you the intinction cup. You may also decline to receive the wine (as the bread in itself is full communion), in which case if you remain at the altar rail please place your arms across your chest to signal the chalice. Those who cannot or prefer not to come forward may inform an usher, and the Celebrant will come to you.

Communion Chant

Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord

Matthew 25, Psalm 119

Communion Hymn

Humbly I adore thee

Hymn 314

Once all have received, the celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and people, standing or kneeling

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 celebrant blesses the people.

Recessional Hymn

"Come, labor on"

Hymn 541

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

The Closing Voluntary Gavotte for Trompet George Frideric Handel

*The beauty of the Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of Charles M. Hart, Jr.
By Lucy Hart Davis*

*The beauty of the Narthex Flowers are Given to the Glory of God
and in Thanksgiving for Morgan Holland on his birthday
by his Children and Grandchildren*

*The Bountiful Harvest is Given to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving
For our Many Blessings*

Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to Christ, Blacksburg. Pray for the people of Christ, Blacksburg and their rector, the Rev. Scott West. 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.

Sunday Bible Study

Our Sunday Bible Study is reading and discussing the Gospel according to John. We meet in the Parish House at 9:30 a.m., and all are invited to join the conversation.

Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. - Rite II, w/HE Rev. John Adams presiding.

Monday Night Study – The Sermon on the Mount

On Monday nights this Fall, we are studying the Sermon on the Mount, the extensive collection of Jesus' teachings found in Chapters 5 through 7 of the Gospel according to Matthew. We meet in the Parish House for about an hour beginning at 7:00 pm; at our **November 20** session, we will begin discussing Jesus' proverbial teachings (Matthew 6:19-7:12), including his sayings about anxiety. All are invited to attend; no homework is necessary, and each session will be accessible to both regular and occasional attendees.

Thanksgiving Holiday

There will be no Wednesday Eucharist on November 22. The Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday (November 23 and 24).

Loaves & Fishes – Wednesday, November 29, 2023

All members of the community are invited to this free meal in our Undercroft from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Spread the Word!

We need volunteers to help prepare, serve, and clean up. Volunteers are also needed to send desserts and fruit. Please sign up on the Church's website under *Volunteers > Loaves & Fishes* to help or to bring something. Donations of either may be brought to the Office or Undercroft in the days leading up to each meal. We are serving dine-in only, with leftovers distributed as takeout only at the end of the meal.

Men's Club

The Men's Club is taking November off; we will meet again on **December 6**.

Angel Tree

Christ Church is partnering with Boys & Girls Club to provide Christmas gifts for local children in need. If you wish to contribute, please take one (or more) angels from the tree in the narthex and record that you have done so using the form on the podium next to the tree. Gifts are due to Christ Church **no later than Monday, December 11**. If you would like more information or need someone to buy and/or wrap the gifts for you, please ask a member of the Angel Tree Committee (Bob Bushnell, David Cole, Natalie Coleman, and Beverly Lyle).

Christmas

On Sunday, December 24, we will be celebrating the Fourth Sunday of Advent at our usual 10:30 am service, with our festive Christmas Eucharist (including singing Silent Night by candlelight) at 5:30 pm. If you have children who would be interested in participating in a Christmas Pageant at that service or are an adult willing to help organize the Pageant, please let Fr. John know (johndavidadams85@gmail.com or 571-232-1294) by December 7. Note that, in addition to the Christmas Eve service, we would expect to do a rehearsal (either before the service that same day or some other time in the week before, depending on folks' availability).

2023 Pledge Payments or Donations

Please have all pledge payments or donations into the Church office **no later than Thursday, December 28th**. All stock transfers for 2023 need to be made by Tuesday, December 26th. Please email me with the information for all stock transfers at office@christchurchmvl.org.

2024 Pledges

To this point, we have received 34 pledges totaling \$133,420 for 2024, compared to 58 totaling \$211,713 for 2023. If you've not yet done so, we ask that you take some time to pray about your giving to Christ Church next year and submit your pledge as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex and from the Church office.

Warming Center Volunteers

The Warming Center in Martinsville, housed at the Salvation Army, provides a warm place to sleep for those who would otherwise be stuck outside on cold winter nights. Christ Church's Mission Committee supports the Warming Center financially, and we have the opportunity to volunteer our time and presence by serving the evening meal or otherwise helping. The link to the sign-up is available on our website or in the weekly email, or you can talk to Beverly Lyle.

Bishop's Visit

Bishop Mark Bourlakas will be visiting Christ Church on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. If you are interested in being Confirmed or Received (which is to say, affirming the Baptismal Covenant and formally becoming a member of the Episcopal Church generally and Christ Church specifically), please let Fr. John know **by December 18**.

Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **November through December: flour or pancake mix. For the month of November: bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), and hygiene items.** Grace has been experiencing a large increase in clients needing food, household, and hygiene items. 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.

You can bring your items to the Church office OR put them in the little red wagon in the Narthex.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

Celebrant: The Rev. John Adams

Reader: Hank Long

Chalicer: Bob Bushnell

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Chorister/Cantor: Raul West

Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir

Acolyte: Elizabeth Maxwell

Ushers: Ben Lewis, John Swezey, Jay Dickens

Camera Operator: Andy Williams

Counters: Pat Walmsley, Hank Long

Altar Guild: Team #4 – Becky Farrar, Susan Smith, Natalie Coleman,

Ashley Ullstein, Dawn Stone, Kyle Trent

Nursery Attendant: Emily Williams

2023 Christ Church Vestry

Year 3: Hank Long, Senior Warden; Ruby Stultz; Rebin Titus; Pat Walmsley

Year 2: Ben Beeler; Jay Dickens, Beverly Lyle, Treasurer; Andy Williams, Junior Warden

Year 1: Pat Russell, Betty Budde; Natalie Coleman, Secretary; Will Zimmer