



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 Fourth Sunday of Easter
(Mother's Day)
May 11, 2025
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).

Introit

"I am the good shepherd"

John 19, Psalm 23

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ is risen.

People *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

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

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.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (9:36-43)

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me* **Spoken**

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Reader A reading from the Revelation to John (7:9-17)

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John (10:22-30)

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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 III

Standing or kneeling

BCP 387

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

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

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

Breaking of Bread

Fraction Anthem

Christ Our Passover

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. 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

"The Lord is My Shepherd"

Psalm 23

Once all have received, the celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and people, standing or kneeling

Almighty and everliving 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 celebrant blesses the people.

Priest: Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to St. John's, Roanoke. Pray for the people of St. John's, Roanoke, their curate, The Rev. Tray Light and their rector, The Rev. Eric Long. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds, and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines.

*The beauty of the Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of John C. and Kathryn R. Wooldridge
and in thanksgiving for all mothers on this Mother's Day
By the Family*

*We Give Thanks for the Beauty of Narthex Flowers
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory
and in Celebration for the Life of Barbara O'Brien Holland
by her Family*

Monday Bible Study

The Monday night Bible study meets from 7:00 to 8:00 in the Parish House. On May 12, we will reflect on Jesus' teachings about the destruction of the Temple and the coming of the Son of Man (Luke 21:5-38). All are welcome and encouraged to attend as you can; no preparation ahead of time is necessary.

The **Women's Club** will meet on **Tuesday, May 13, at 5:30 in the Parish House**. This will be our final meeting before our summer break.

For the last couple of months, many of you have been kind enough to bring items requested from our church by Grace Network. This month, we're hoping to help the Warming Center as they partner with Valley Star Credit Union to provide items that our homeless population needs during the summer months. Those items include the following:

- Baby Wipes – Essential for hygiene and comfort
- Non-Perishable and Perishable Snacks – Granola bars, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, bread, nuts, fruit snacks, cookies, Slim Jims, Vienna sausages, etc. (items for quick and easy sustenance)
- Gatorade / Sports Drink – To help with hydration, especially during the warmer months

LaRue and Natalie will see that your donations are transported to Valley Star. As always, drinks and paper products will be provided. There is a signup sheet for attendance and for bringing snack items located on the church's website. Please sign up on the Church's website under volunteers or call the church office if you plan to attend. Hope to see you Tuesday!

Wednesday Eucharists

On Wednesdays, we celebrate **Holy Eucharist at Noon in the Chapel** (enter via the glass Undercroft door at the back of the church building). These brief (thirty minutes) spoken services commemorate the saint of the day from the Episcopal calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts, and are perfect for those who want to attend a service but are unable to come Sunday mornings or who want an additional gathering for corporate prayer to help them through the week. As of now, we are planning to gather every Wednesday in May.

Public Theology

Public Theology meets on **Wednesday, May 14** at Renewal Brewing in Uptown Martinsville (32 Franklin St). Our topic this month is 'How the Hell Should I Know?' as we turn a tangent-not-taken from April's discussion of Jesus' resurrection into an evening of its own considering what we mean by Hell. We begin with socializing and pizza around 6:00, with the discussion going from 7:00 to 8:00.

Awards Sunday – Graduate Information Needed

At the 10:30 service on **May 18**, we will present the 2025 Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. award and offer a prayer for our graduates. We wish to celebrate our graduates by recognizing them in that Sunday's bulletin, so if you have someone graduating from high school, college, or a graduate, professional, or adult program, please send their information to Deborah at office@christchurchmvl.org or 276-632-2896 **by Monday, May 12**.

The Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Christian Leadership Award

Christian, Scholar, Soldier

"May God grant that the spirit of this award will help us increase in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man."

Since 1957, whenever possible, Christ Church has presented this annual award to a young person(s) who best represent the spirit of Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. A plaque to honor his life

and in recognition of our eligible youth who exemplify his admirable traits, is displayed in the narthex of the church.

Beverly S. Parrish, Jr., was awarded many academic accolades for his achievements as a young man. To name a few, he was an Eagle Scout, active youth member of Christ Church, a successful student of science and engineering, and a distinguished member of several military groups while attending college. He was a 1st Lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

Beverly S. Parrish, Jr., was an active member of Christ Church who served as a crucifer for many years. He continues to be remembered for his honors and achievements, but more importantly, for his personal qualities of kindness, strong sense of duty, and dependability. He had a “can do” attitude and was ready to assist his family and friends to the best of his ability. He was a Christian in every sense of the word.

Criteria for the Award

I. Service to Church (the Christian Spirit and Christian Leadership)

1. The Christian spirit: Acceptance of responsibility for Church, Sunday School, and other duties; Sense of acceptance of duty to God; Sense of reverence; Sense of loyalty to the Church; Humility and unselfishness; Friendliness and cheerfulness; Bible learning, prayer.
2. Participation in Church Activities: Choir, Crucifer, Acolyte, Youth Group, Young Altar Guild, Chalice Bearer, or Lay Reader.
3. Serving on committees.
4. Serving as a leader in Youth Group.
5. Serving at church activities such as Loaves & Fishes, mission trips.
6. Attendance in Sunday school and at church services

II. Service to school: Conduct/behavior; Special academic achievements; Extracurricular activities; Leadership experience; Sportsmanship/athletics; Artistic expression

III. Service to Community: Participation as a volunteer; Participation in organizations (Scouting, etc.); Participation in summer/part-time employment; Participation in local arts groups; Participation in civic groups.

Loaves & Fishes – May 28, 2025

Loaves & Fishes (our monthly free dinner, open to all) is on **May 28**, with dinner being served **from 5:00 to 6:00**. Even if you are not helping with cooking, serving, cleaning, or donating fruit or dessert, church members are encouraged to come and sit down for a meal with our neighbors in the community. Sign up on the Church’s website under volunteers to volunteer, be a table host, or to bring something.

Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **May - June: Deodorant (Men’s or Women’s) For May: bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), and hygiene items**. As a Church family, we have committed to helping Grace Network by 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: Bob Bushnell

Chalists: Natallie Coleman, Jay Dickens

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir

Ushers: John Swezey, Kyle Trent

Camera Operator: Andy Williams

Counters: Natalie Coleman, Steve Keyser

Altar Guild Team #2 – Valerie Payne, Page Beeler, Frankie Smith, Janice Cain, Ruth Foley,
Rita Hodges, Michael Hodges, Linda O'Dell

Nursery Attendant: Emily Williams

2025 Christ Church Vestry

Year 3: Betty Budde, Natalie Coleman; Secretary, Pat Russell. Will Zimmer

Year 2: Bob Bushnell, Rives Coleman; Senior Warden, LaRue Powers,
Bob Weatherall, Junior Warden

Year 1: Susan Critz, Butch Hamlet; Treasurer, Michael Hodges, Steve Keyser