



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896  
[www.christchurchmvl.org](http://www.christchurchmvl.org)

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The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 31, 2025  
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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*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 "Aria" John Dixon

Processional Hymn "Immortal, invisible, God only wise" Hymn 423

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.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Reader A reading from the Book of Sirach (10:12-18)

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker. For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely. The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place. The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place. The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth. He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth. Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

Reader Here ends the reading.

Psalm 112 *Beatus vir*

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Happy are they who/ fear the /Lord \*  
and have great de/light in his com/mandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty/ in the/ land; \*  
the generation of the /upright will be /blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be /in their /house, \*  
and their righteous/ness will last for /ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness /for the /upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful /and full of com/passion.
- 5 It is good for them to be gene/rous in/ lending \*  
and to manage /their affairs with/ justice.
- 6 For they will /never be /shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in /everlasting re/membrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any /evil /rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they /put their trust in the /Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and /will not /shrink, \*  
until they see their de/sire upon their/ enemies.
- 9 They have given freely /to the /poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold /up their head with /honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and /pine a/way; \*  
the desires/ of the wicked will/ perish



Reader A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (13:1-8, 15-16)

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

Sequence Hymn "Come, thou fount of every blessing" Hymn 686

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (14:1, 7-14)

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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 VI

*Standing or kneeling*

BCP 392

*Reader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. (*Pause*) For all people in their daily life  
 and work;

*People* *For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

*Reader* For this community, the nation, and the world;  
*People* For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

*Reader* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*People* For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

*Reader* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*People* For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

*Reader* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*People* For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

*Reader* For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*People* For all who serve God in his Church.

*Reader* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially  
*Sue, Julia, Betsy, Jennifer, Virginia, Al, Mallory, Harold, Doug, and Jim,*  
 (*Pause for intercessions*) Hear us, Lord;  
*People* For your mercy is great.

*Reader* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. (*Pause for thanksgivings*)  
 We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*People* And praise your Name for ever and ever.

*Reader* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal  
 kingdom. (*Pause for intercessions*) Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon  
 them;  
*People* Who put their trust in you.

*Reader* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Reader and People, kneeling or standing*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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.*

*The Peace Standing*

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

*People* And also with you.

*The Peace may be exchanged through handshakes, hugs, fist bumps, waves, nods, or other such expressions; please be attentive to how much or little physical contact your neighbors would prefer. Once the Peace has been sufficiently exchanged, the people may sit for announcements. During the announcements, the Celebrant will invite those who are celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary this week (or whose recent birthday or anniversary has not yet been prayed for in church) to come forward so we may pray for them.*

Offertory Anthem

*Jesus Calls Us*

Wm Jude/Southern Harmony

The Doxology:

v. 3, Hymn 380

All: Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Holy Communion, Eucharistic Prayer B

*Standing*

BCP 367

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up our 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.

*Celebrant* It is right... to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

Hymnal S 125

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

*Celebrant*

*Standing or kneeling*

We give thanks to you... do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*  
We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

Hymnal S 138

*Celebrant*

And we offer our sacrifice... all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*Celebrant* 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.

**Fraction Anthem** (*sung in unison*)

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**

*The earth is satisfied by the fruit of thy works*

**Psalm 104**

**Communion Music**

*Aria*

J. S. Bach

*Once all have received, the celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and people*

*Kneeling or standing*

**BCP 366**

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.*

Recessional Hymn

*"Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"*

Hymn 376

*Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.*

*People: Thanks be to God.*

The Closing Voluntary

*Variation on Hymn to Joy*

Gordon Young

**We Give Thanks for the Altar Flowers  
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of  
Frank I. and Frances H. Richardson  
By the Family**

Pray today for the people of St. Peter's, Callaway and their rector, the Rev. John Heck. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds, and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines.

### **Raffle Tickets ARE HERE!**

Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are on sale from your Vestry members (Rives Coleman, Susan Critz, Butch Hamlet, Michael Hodges, LaRue Powers, Pat Russell, Bob Weatherall, Will Zimmer, and Page Beeler) and the church office (which we have them NOW). The cost is \$10.00 per ticket or \$100.00 per book, with the maximum winnings of \$2,500.

### ***Save the Date***

**The Dan Prince and Gene Medley Memorial Oyster Roast is scheduled for Friday, November 7. Details will follow.**

### **Wednesday Eucharist**

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. Barring the unexpected, we will meet every Wednesday in September.

### **Back-to-School Dinner and Trivia Night**

Join us for an evening of fellowship and fun in the Undercroft on **September 3**. Following a dinner of burgers and brats beginning at 6:00 pm, Fr. John will offer a game of Trivia with Back-to-School themed questions concluding by 8:00 pm. **If you are planning to attend, please sign up on the Church's website so we have a better idea of how much food to prepare.**

### **Kings Grant Eucharist**

Fr. John celebrates Eucharist in the chapel at Kings Grant at 1:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. The next services will be **September 4** and **October 2**.

### **Choir**

St. Christopher's Choir of Christ Church resumes this week, with Thursday evening rehearsals (in the choir room, accessed via the glass doors into the Undercroft) beginning **September 4 at 7:00 pm**. On Sunday mornings, our choir graciously offers their voices to make a joyful noise unto the Lord not only with anthems during the Offertory but leading us in the hymns, Psalm, and service music throughout the service. All are invited and encouraged to join; no prior experience with choirs is required, only that you delight in

worshiping the Lord in song. Talk to our organist/choirmaster Lynn Gardner if you might be interested.

### **Bible Studies**

Our regular Bible studies resume after Labor Day. Beginning **September 7**, our Sunday morning study (9:30 – 10:10ish) will begin reading Paul's two letters to the Corinthians.

### **Monday Bible Studies**

Beginning **September 8**, our Monday evening study (7:00 – 8:00) will consider the books of Ruth and Esther. All are welcome at any time and no reading in advance is required; both studies meet in the Parish House (if the stairs present a challenge, let Fr. John know, and he will have the lift ready).

### **Altar Guild Open Date**

We have **November 30 (the First Sunday of Advent)** open date for altar flowers if anyone wants to do a memorial in loving memory of... or in thanksgiving for... someone. It is available on a first come, first served basis. Please note that funerals, weddings, and baptisms take precedence over scheduled memorials. Let the Church office know if you're interested in this date. **Let us know if you want to change the previous Narthex to this Altar flower date.**

**Grace Network** - Our Grace Network Assignments for **August – September Potato Products (mashed, scalloped)**. For August: bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), 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:** Ann Gardner

**Chalists:** Dawn Stone, Tom Webster

**Organist/Choirmaster:** Lynn Gardner

**Chorister/Cantor:** Raul West

**Christ Church Choir:** St. Christopher's Choir

**Ushers:** Hank Long, Dan Cahill

**Camera Operator:** Andy Williams

**Counters:** Bob Weatherall, Rives Coleman

**Nursery:** Caroline Davis

**Altar Guild Team #5** – Lloyd Barber, Debbie Lewis, Jill Dickens, Amy Joyce,  
Pat Russell, Vicki Crosby

### **2025 Christ Church Vestry**

**Year 3:** 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