



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896
www.christchurchmvl.org

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 19, 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).

The Opening Voluntary "Toccata in F" Johann Pachelbel

Processional Hymn "Praise to the living God!" Hymn 372

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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 Genesis (32:22-31)

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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

Psalm 121 *Levavi oculos*

- 1 I lift up my eyes /to the /hills; *
from where /is my help to /come?
- 2 My help comes /from the /Lord, *
the maker /of heaven and /earth.
- 3 He will not let your /foot be /moved *
and he who watches over you /will not fall a/sleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch /over /Israel *
shall /neither slumber nor /sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches /over /you; *
the Lord is your /shade at your right /hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike /you by /day, *
nor /the moon by /night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you /from all /evil; *
it is he /who shall keep you /safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your /coming /in, *
from this time /forth for ever/more.



Reader A reading from Paul's Second Letter to Timothy (3:14-4:5)

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers

to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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

Sequence Hymn

"Come, O thou Traveler unknown"

Hymn 638

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (18:1-8)

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

BCP 388

- Reader* Let us pray for the Church and for the world. (*Pause*) 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. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy
- People* Hear our prayer.
- Reader* 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. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy
- People* Hear our prayer.
- Reader* 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. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy
- People* Hear our prayer.
- Reader* 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. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy
- People* Hear our prayer.
- Reader* Comfort and heal *Sue, Julia, Betsy, Jennifer, Mallory, Harold, Doug, Jim, Will, Kim, Leon, Randy, Ruby, and Dorothy*, all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy
- People* Hear our prayer.
- Reader* We commend to your mercy all who have died, **especially Elizabeth, ‘Betsy’ Smith**, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy
- People* Hear our prayer.

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 Sing the Mighty Power of God* arr. Michael Bedford

The Holy Communion, Eucharistic Prayer A *Standing* BCP 361

Celebrant BCP 361-362

Celebrant and People Hymnal S 125

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>Kneeling or standing</i>	<i>BCP 362-363</i>
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Celebrant and People Hymnal S 132

Celebrant Kneeling or standing BCP 363

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

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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 *Let them deny themselves, and follow me* Matthew 16, Psalm 34

Communion Hymn *Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord* Hymn 328

Once all have received, the celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and people Kneeling or standing

BCP 366

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 "Now thank we all our God"

Hymn 397

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Closing Voluntary *Now Thank We all Our God*

George Friedrich Kaufmann

We Give Thanks for the Beauty of the Altar Flowers
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Ben Gardner
By His Children and Grandchildren

We Give Thanks for the Beauty of the Narthex Flowers
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Clara Irene Ullstein
By Peter and Ashley Ullstein and Family

Pray today for the people of Good Shepherd, Galax. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Toby Howarth.

Monday Bible Study

Our Monday evening study meets in the Parish House from 7:00 to 8:00. On **October 20**, we will continue in the Book of Esther with the pivotal plans of Mordecai and Esther in chapter 4. All are welcome and encouraged to join at any time; no reading ahead of time is necessary.

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 during the week. Barring the unexpected, we will meet every Wednesday in October.

Loaves & Fishes

Loaves & Fishes (our monthly free dinner, open to all) is on **October 29**, 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 be a table host, or to bring something. Additional items needed include individually wrapped snacks, hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant), household items (dish and laundry detergent - small bottles) to be handed out to the L&F attendees.

Betsy Smith's Service and Reception

There will be a funeral service and reception for Betsy Smith (who passed away on Thursday, October 16) on **Saturday, November 1st at 10:30 am**, followed by a reception in the Parish House after the service. **Please sign up on our website under volunteers if you can bring something or help set up and clean up.**

Please have your food item(s) at the Parish House by 9:30 am on Saturday. Also, please label your containers with your name so you can retrieve them after the reception.

2026 Pledges

This week in the mail, you will hopefully receive our annual stewardship letter seeking your pledges of financial support for 2026. These pledges help us in prayerfully putting together our budget for next year, through which we give back to God even in challenging times. We will gratefully receive your pledges anytime but hope to receive as many as possible on or before November 16, when we will offer a prayer of thanks during

the service. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail or need another one, they are available in the narthex.

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are on sale from your Vestry members (Rives Coleman, Pat Russell, and Will Zimmer). The cost is \$10.00 per ticket or \$100.00 per book, with the maximum winnings of \$2,500.

THE DAN PRINCE AND GENE MEDLEY MEMORIAL OYSTER ROAST **RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY**

Mark your calendar, invite friends, and make reservations for **Friday, November 7th** for the Dan Prince and Gene Medley Memorial Oyster Roast at Christ Episcopal Church! The fun begins at 6:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 per person for this all-inclusive event. Make your reservation by signing up on the event page on our website or calling the church office at 276-632-2896. Take advantage of the convenient credit or PayPal options (small fee applies). Check or cash may also be dropped off or mailed to the CEC office (311 E. Church St., Martinsville, VA 24112).

Please sign up as soon as possible so the correct amounts of food can be purchased and prepared well in advance of the event. **The deadline for reservations and payments is Monday, October 27th. No money will be accepted at the door.**

For any questions, contact Page Beeler via email at pagebeeler@comcast.net or 276-732-4000.

BAKED GOODS NEEDED FOR SALE AT THE OYSTER ROAST

Sign up under volunteers on the Church's website to donate baked goods, casseroles, soups, sauces, breads, etc. **FOR SALE AT THE OYSTER ROAST.**

Brownies, bars, and cookies need to be individually packaged in servings of six (6). Generous portions are appreciated (2x2). If your item(s) has nuts, please specify that on the packaging.

Drop-off is set for Thursday and Friday, November 6 and 7 at the Parish House between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Lewis, Nancy Spilman, Susan Smith, OR Rita Hodges. *Thank you for participating in making the 2025 Oyster Roast a huge success.*

Food Lion Grocery Cards for Sale

Trippi Penn and the Church office have Food Lion grocery cards for sale in \$50, \$100, and \$200 increments. Thanksgiving and Christmas are coming up. These cards are wonderful presents. We also have sleeves for the cards if you want to give them as a gift.

A Collect for the Election of Our Bishop

Creator God, whose Church lives beyond the walls of buildings and the boundaries of cities, we ask that you guide our work as the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia moves together through a transition of leadership. We pray for patience in dialogue and wisdom in discernment, that the richness of our diverse voices, from farmland to small town, mountain to downtown, will be valued and heard. We pray for the person who will be elected as our next Bishop, for all those who are in discernment, and for the people of this diocese, so that the work of spreading God's love in southwestern Virginia and beyond will grow and flourish in the years to come. In the name of your incarnate son we pray. Amen.

Grace Network - Our Grace Network Assignments for October thru December: Oatmeal canister or instant packets. For October: toilet paper, feminine products, deodorant, and other hygiene items (toothbrushes need to be individually wrapped). 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: Will Zimmer

Chalists: Rives Coleman, John Swezey

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: Michael Hodges, LaRue Powers

Nursery: Caroline Davis

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

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