



# 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.*

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The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

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                      *Fantasia in D Minor*                      Johann Pachelbel

Processional Hymn    *"We know that Christ is raised and dies no more"*                      Hymn 296

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*                      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 God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Reader** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (8:26-40)

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.  
In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**Reader** The Word of the Lord

**People** *Thanks be to God*

**Psalm 22:24-30** *Deus, Deus meus*

24 My praise is of him in the /great as/sembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of /those  
who worship/ him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord /shall praise /him: \*  
"May /your heart live for /ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn/ to the /Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations /shall bow before /him.

27 For kingship belongs/ to the /Lord; \*  
he /rules over the /nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow/ down in/ worship; \*  
all who go down to the /dust fall before /him.



29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants/ shall serve /him; \*  
they shall be known /as the Lord's for /ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people /yet un/born \*  
the saving /deeds that he has /done.

**Reader** A reading from the First Book of John (4:7-21)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

**Sequence Hymn** "Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life" **Hymn 487**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John (15:1-8)  
**People:** *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

**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 Bishop Mark and all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*People*      *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

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

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

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

*Reader*      Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*People*      *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

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

*Reader* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others; especially *Sue, Julia, Betty, Nathan, Tom, Linda, Leandra, Betsy, Steve, Mary Ruth, Morgan and Barbara, Thomas, Tammy, Dorothy, Amelia, Timmy, Baylie, Nancy, Trippi, and Mark and Tina Gauldin, and Merrill.*

*All may offer their prayers and thanksgivings at this time, aloud or in the silence of their hearts, after which 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.**

**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** *"Who At My Door Is Standing"* **K. Lee Scott**

**The Doxology:** *Lasst uns erfreuen*

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

**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: BCP 367

*Celebrant and People* (text below) 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* BCP 368

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

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People* (text below) Hymnal S 138

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*Celebrant* BCP 369

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.

as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.

Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses

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**

*"I am the true vine"*

John 15, Psalm 80

**Communion Hymn**

*"Humbly I adore thee"*

Hymn 314

*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.*

**Recessional Hymn**

*"O love, how deep, how broad, how high"*

Hymn 448

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

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

**The Closing Voluntary**

*O Love How Deep, How Broad, How High (Deo Gracias)*

The Agincourt Hymn, arr. David N. Johnson

Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to St. John's, Lynchburg. Pray for the people of St. John's, Lynchburg, and their Rector, The Rev. Chris Roussel. 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 James Patterson Sutton, Jr.  
By his sisters Valerie, Helen, Stephanie, and Jeannie*

**Sunday Bible Study**

Our Sunday morning Bible study meets at 9:30 in the Parish House on April 28; this week we will look at the story of Saul's conflict with David (1 Samuel 18). All are welcome and encouraged to attend as your presence allows; no preparation ahead of time is necessary.

**Monday Bible Study**

Our Monday evening Bible study is taking April 29 off before resuming at 7:00 to 8:00 in the Parish House on May 6, looking at Jesus' interactions with John the Baptist (Luke 7:18-35). All are welcome and encouraged to attend as you can; no preparation ahead of time is required.

### **Wednesday Eucharists**

At Noon on Wednesdays, the Eucharist is offered in the Chapel (accessed by the glass doors at the back of the church building).

### **Men's Club Dinner – May 1**

The Men's Club will meet on Wednesday, May 1, with refreshments starting at 5:30 and dinner served at 6:30.

**Please make sure to sign up on our website at**

**<https://christchurchmvl.org/volunteering.cfm?ID=332> (Volunteer > Men's Club Dinner) so we will know how much food to order. The cost is \$20 per person.**

**Grace Network** - Our Grace Network Assignments for **April thru June: canned beans 15 oz. (any kind). For April: toilet paper, feminine products, deodorant, 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:** Kelly Cain

**Chalicers:** Natalie Coleman, John Swezey

**Acolyte:** Elizabeth Maxwell

**Organist/Choirmaster:** Lynn Gardner

**Cantor:** Raul West

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

**Ushers:** Dan Cahill, Andy Quirk

**Camera Operator:** Andy Williams

**Counters:** Will Zimmer, LaRue Powers

**Altar Guild:** Team Four - Becky Farrar, Susan Smith, Natalie Coleman,

Ashley Ullstein, Dawn Stone, Kyle Trent

**Nursery Attendant:** Emily Williams

### **2024 Christ Church Vestry**

**Year 3:** Ben Beeler; Jay Dickens, Senior Warden; Beverly Lyle, Treasurer;

Andy Williams, Junior Warden

**Year 2:** Betty Budde; Natalie Coleman, Secretary; Pat Russell; Will Zimmer

**Year 1:** Bob Bushnell, Rives Coleman, LaRue Powers, Bob Weatherall