



321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896

www.christchurchmvl.org

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023

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 G Minor"* Johann Pachelbel

Introit *When he calls to me, I will answer* Psalm 91

Processional Hymn (*standing*) *"My Shepherd will supply my need"* Hymn 664

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins; BCP 319
People His mercy endureth for ever.

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Celebrant and People, kneeling or standing

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Celebrant The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Kyrie eleison *Sung, standing*

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit

Reader A reading from the Book of 1 Samuel (16:1-13).

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

- 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 re/vives 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 Book of Ephesians (5:8-14).

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

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

Sequence Hymn (standing) *“I want to walk as a child of the light”* **Hymn 490**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John (9:1-41).
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask,

“Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

Seated

The Rev. John Adams

I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 and of all things visible and invisible;
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of his Father before all
 worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the
 Father;
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation
 came down from heaven,
 and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost
 of the Virgin Mary, and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under
 Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again
 according to the Scriptures,
 and ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of the
 Father;
 and he shall come again, with glory,
 to judge both the quick and the dead;
 whose kingdom shall have no end.
 And I believe in the Holy Ghost the
 Lord, and Giver of Life,
 who proceedeth from the Father and
 the Son;
 who with the Father and the Son
 together is worshiped and glorified;
 who spake by the Prophets.
 And I believe one holy Catholic and
 Apostolic Church;
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the
 remission of sins;
 and I look for the resurrection of the
 dead, and the life of the world to come.
 Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Standing or kneeling

Reader Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to Bishop Mark and all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of Joe, our President, and all those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor *Mary Ruth, Cindy, Lauren, Sue, Noah, Julia, Linda, Irene, Ruby, Pat, Hilda, Betty, Maria, Crystal, Dorothy, Mary Jo, Amanda, Joe, Tammy, Nathan, Randy, Jimmy, Pete* and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

The Peace *Standing*

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

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 "Remember O Thou Man" Thomas Ravenscroft

The Doxology (*standing*) Hymnal 380, v. 3

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

The Holy Communion, Eucharistic Prayer I *Standing* BCP 333

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty... evermore praising thee and saying,

Sanctus *Sung*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant *Kneeling or standing*

All glory be to thee... O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

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

Celebrant and people

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.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei Sung

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen*

Celebrant and People

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 “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” John 9, Psalm 27

Communion Hymn “Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness” Hymn 339

Once all have received, the celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and people *Kneeling or standing* BCP 339

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness

towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Celebrant offers a Solemn Prayer over the people.

Recessional Hymn

"Rock of ages, cleft for me"

Hymn 685

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Closing Voluntary *"Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness"* Johann Gottfried Walther

No flowers during Lent

Pray today for the Lay Employees and Volunteers of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. 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.

Security Update

A few weeks ago, trash, discarded clothing, and feces were found along the west side of the church building, including in the columbarium. The mess was cleaned up immediately, steps (including the installation of motion-activated lights and cameras and the removal of some bushes) have been or are being taken to discourage homeless persons from loitering and sleeping there, and until such measures are completed the outside gates of the columbarium have been locked. This Sunday (March 19), Fr. John will offer a brief prayer for the spiritual cleansing of the columbarium, for which all are welcome to join him in the columbarium after the 10:30 service.

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 am, and all are invited to join the conversation.

Sunday services at 10:30 am - Rite I, w/HE Rev. John Adams presiding.

Wednesday Eucharists

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

Lent Program

Our annual adult education program during Lent will take place in the Undercroft on Monday evenings (February 27 and March 6, 13, 20, and 27). This year, Fr. John is offering Back to Basics, a five-week survey of the history, theology, worship, and governance of the Episcopal Church, situating us within the larger Christian tradition; in addition to being of general interest as a refresher about who we are as Episcopalians, this introduction is recommended for any adults who are considering becoming members of Christ Church through Confirmation or Reception. We will begin with a light meal of soup and bread at 6:30 pm, with the study going from 7:00 to 8:00.

Rent the Parish House!

Christ Church's beautiful and historic Parish House is available to rent for your engagement parties, baby showers, portrait sessions, and other special meetings and gatherings. Parish members receive a 20% discount off the rental rate. Contact Deborah (office@christchurchmvl.org or 276-632-2896) to book your event.

Easter Flower Memorials

If you wish to give Easter lilies as a memorial or “in thanksgiving for” friends and family members, please complete the form below and mail it to the church office or put it in the collection plate along with your check. The cost is **\$13.00 EACH** - Checks should be made payable to Christ Episcopal Church OR CEC, with ‘Easter Flowers’ on the check memo line. **Deadline to order is Friday, March 31st.** *Thank you!*

Nursery Open; Volunteers Wanted

The Nursery (located off the Undercroft) is now open during the 10:30 service on Sunday mornings for children [up to 6 years old]. Following Safe Church guidelines, in order to keep it open, we must have two adults present who aren’t related to each other. We are presently staffing entirely with parents and volunteers; please talk to Hank or Deborah if you are interested in volunteering. Note that all volunteers must have either taken Safe Church training (provided several times each year by the Diocese) within the last three years or be willing to take the training when it is next offered. If you have a trusted sitter who might be interested in being hired as our regular nursery attendant, please give their contact information to Deborah. We are in need for the following volunteers during March and April: **March 26 - 1 adult, every Sunday in April 1 adult & 1 youth OR 2 adults.**

Loaves & Fishes - March 29

Loaves & Fishes (which often involves bread, but rarely fish) is our free community meal, served in the Undercroft from 5:00 to 5:45 pm on the last Wednesday of each month. Andy and Tara Williams have assumed responsibility for planning and organizing the meals; volunteers are always needed to help with preparing, serving, and cleaning up. We also try to have fruit and other desserts available, and donations of either may be brought to the Office or Undercroft in the days leading up to each meal. We have resumed our prior custom of serving dine-in only, with leftovers distributed as takeout only at the end of the meal.

Holy Week

Holy Week is April 2-8; as is our tradition, there will be services each evening Monday through Saturday.

Palm Sunday, April 2, 10:30am - Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

Monday, April 3, 7pm - Evensong

Tuesday, April 4, 7pm - Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, April 5, 7pm - Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7pm - Holy Eucharist with Footwashing
& Stripping of the Altar

Friday, April 7, Noon - Stations of the Cross

Friday, April 7, 7pm - Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, April 8, 8pm - The Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday, April 9, 10:30am - Holy Eucharist

Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **March: Beef Stew (15-20 oz.)** For the month of March: **dish detergent, deodorant, laundry detergent.** 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.

Donate to The Bishop's Dollar Fund

This year during the season of Lent, Bishop Bourlakas extends his annual invitation to reflect on our discipleship in Jesus' name. As you walk the way of the cross through the forty days of Lent, we encourage generous support of The Bishop's Dollar Fund to continue to address a variety of initiatives and needs throughout the diocese that would not be available through our annual program budget. You may send donations online at www.dioswva.org or mail a check to the Diocesan Office made payable to the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia with "Bishop's Dollar" in the memo line to: Attn: Bishop's Dollar Fund, PO Box 2279, Roanoke, VA 24009.

Donate to Hadden Probst's Mission Trip to Ecuador

Hello,

My name is Hadden Probst and I have been a member of Christ Church since I was two. I am a current sophomore at the University of North Carolina, and I wanted to reach out because this summer I am heading to Quito, Ecuador.

In Quito I will be hosting teams of various Episcopal churches coming down from the states. I am working with a non-profit called Education Equals Hope which gives out micro-scholarships to people in need to continue their education. I will be working with other college aged kids from the states and Quito helping translate, lead, and help with worship, community, and different programs. However, in order to do this - I will need to raise \$4,250 by April 1st. Please pray for my trip.

<https://educationequalshope-bloom.kindful.com/?campaign=1232439>

Thank you,
Hadden Probst

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

Celebrant: The Rev. John Adams

Reader: Susan Critz

Chalicers: Rives Coleman, Dawn Stone

Acolyte: Baylie Coleman, Catherine Maxwell

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Cantor: Raul West

Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir

Ushers: Bruce Mazurek, Jay Dickens, Hank Long

Counters: Jay Dickens, Pat Walmsley

Altar Guild: Team One – Beth Sibbick, Stuart Webster, Alexandria O'Hare, LaRue Powers, Jane Thomasson, Beth Cahill, Susan Critz (flower substitute)

Camera Operator: Andy Williams

Nursery Attendants: Lyndsay Titus, Page Beeler

2023 Christ Church Vestry

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

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

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