



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.

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024

5:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

*Please silence your electronic devices.
Music and lyrics of hymns may be found in the blue Hymnal 1982.*

The Opening Voluntary	<i>From Heaven Above</i>	Johann Pachelbel
Processional Hymn	<i>"O come, all ye faithful"</i>	Hymn 83

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 *Sung, standing* **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.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (9:2-7)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

Psalm 96 *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the LORD / a new / song; *
sing to the LORD, / all the whole / earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and / bless his / Name; *
proclaim the good news of his sal- / vation from day to / day.
- 3 Declare his glory a- / mong the / nations *
and his / wonders among all / peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly / to be / praised; *
he is more to be / feared than all / gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they / are but / idols; *
but it is the / LORD who made the / heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence / of his / presence! *
Oh, the power and the / splendor of his / sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families / of the / peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD / honor and / power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor / due his / Name; *
bring offerings and / come into his / courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the / beauty of / holiness; *
let the whole earth / tremble before / him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The / LORD is / King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the / peoples with equi- / ty."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and / all that is / in it; *
let the field be joyful and / all that is there- / in.



12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD / when he / comes, *
when he / comes to judge the / earth.

13 He will judge the world with / righteous- / ness *
and the / peoples with his / truth.

Reader A reading from the Book of Titus (2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn

"Angels we have heard on high"

Hymn 96

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (2:1-20)

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

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 Sean, our Presiding Bishop, 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, our President, Donald, our President-elect 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, Linda, Betsy, Mary Ruth, Nancy, Mark, Morgan, Jennifer, Lucia, Peg, Dennis, Carleigh.*

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.

Offertory Anthem *"Away in the Manager"*

The Doxology: *"Hymn 380 v. 3"* **Old 100th**

**All: 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 D *Standing* **BCP 372**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your 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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say,

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 acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and people spoken

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Celebrant

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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

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.

As you return to your pew after receiving communion, please take and light a candle from the front of the church for the singing of Silent Night.

Communion Chant

"A child is born for us"

Isaiah 9, Psalm 98

Communion Music

"Wexford Carol"

Traditional Irish Carol arr. John Rutter

Once all have received, the celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and people Kneeling or standing BCP 365

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.

Candlelight Hymn: “Silent night” Hymn 111

The celebrant blesses the people. After the blessing, please blow out your candle as the lights come back on.

Recessional Hymn “Joy to the World!” Hymn 100

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

The Closing Voluntary In Dulci Jubilo J. S. Bach

***As you leave the church, please deposit your extinguished candles
in the containers in the narthex.***

*The Nativity Scene is given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
R. B. McCutcheon and R. B. “Cutch” McCutcheon, Jr.
By the Family*

Many thanks to all who helped with bagging the poinsettias, decorating the church,
and bringing greenery to add beauty to our Church this holiday season!

The Church is decorated according to the following gifts:

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SPECIAL 2024 CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

*The wreaths for the front doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Dr. Bate Carpenter Toms, Jr. and Margaret Shackelford Toms, and Dr. & Mrs. Paul Bernhardt Toms
by their Families.*

*The garland for the entry rails and lamp posts are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Bradley T. Johnson IV and Zenita Coates Johnson by the Family.*

*The garland for the front door arch is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles L.
Booth, Jr., Mary Brown Booth, and John D. Watt, Jr. by Mary Booth Davis.*

*The narthex arrangement is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Virginia S. & William
R. Windle and Margaret W. & Thomas C. Webster, MD, and in honor of Win, Jessica, Evans, and
Clay Webster by Tom and Stuart Webster.*

The narthex window arrangements are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Cole.

*The altar wreaths and garlands are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of E. Fleming &
Esther N. Swezey, E. Fleming Swezey, Jr., Sally Swezey Cook, Richard Parker Cook, Donald R.
Cook, James Oakley and Mary Catherine “Kit” Gautsch by John W. Swezey, the Tracy Swezey
Ottinger Family and John W. Swezey, Jr. Family.*

The altar rail wreaths for gates and garland/bows are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lauren S. Prince from her Altar Guild team 4; Ashley, Becky, Dawn, Kyle, Natalie, and Susan.

The nave window arrangements are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Willard P. and Julia H. Potter and Norvell E. and Dorothy B. Farrar from Larry and Becky Farrar.

The sconce arrangements in the nave are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles Wyse Trent, III by Patty Ann Trent.

The wreath over the pulpit is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Morgan & Margaret, Charlotte, Richard, and Margaret Sydnor Simmons by Kyle Trent.

The pulpit garland is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my parents, Phyllis S. & Roger I. Wall, MD, and sister Phyllis Wall Purdy and in honor of our children, Philip & Elizabeth, and Grandchildren Grace, Walker & Holt by Linda and Ran Isley.

The window arrangement behind the pulpit is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Clarence R. (Buddy) and Nancy Bondurant by Patricia Bondurant Russell.

The choir rail garland/bows are given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving for his children and grandchildren by Morgan Holland.

The Columbarium gate wreath is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jimmy L. Rosser, Kathryn R. and J. Carlton Wooldridge, Sr., and Ronnie Wagoner by the Family.

The Columbarium arrangement is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sam and Martha Edmiston by the Family.

The Columbarium arrangement is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sally Ford Jordan and Gerald Leon Jordan by Debbie and Ben Lewis.

The Parish House wreaths are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Long, Sr., and Dr. and Mrs. Perry White by Kathy and Hank Long.

The entry post wreaths are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Breakell and Mr. & Mrs. William C. Beeler by Page and Ben Beeler.

*Poinsettia Flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of ... Given by families and friends for:*

Anna L. Wells

James B. Windle

Wilma Wilson Wayne

Ben Gardner

Buck Cole

Margaret E. Lester

Mr. & Mrs. William C. Beeler

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Breakell

Bob & Ruth Byrne Breakell

Harry Clay Gravely, IV

Crystal Austin

Lauren Prince

Mr. & Mrs. Clarence (Buddy) Bondurant

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Carpenter

Garlisle Coolidge Clark

Mr. & Mrs. Clarence (Todd) Bondurant

George P. Scouras, MD

James Thomas Scearce

Lib & Jim Hayes

Jimmy Hayes

Bob Spilman

Mimi Riggan

Frank I. & Frances Richardson

Pat Flathmann

Bob & Betty Hoffman

Ben R. Gardner

Ben W. & Dot Gardner

John Bevan

Mary Bevan

Barbara Holland

Dr & Mrs. William D. Lewis

Sally and Jerry Jordan

Cari Zimmer

Lauren & Dan Prince

David Joyce

David Leffel

Campbell Grace Pitzer

Phoebe and Vance Pitzer

Charles Lewis Pitzer III

Charles Johnson

Joe & Joy Johnson

David Cole

Marjorie & Pat Sutton

Andrea Sutton Courtney

James Patterson Sutton, Jr.

My parents Phyllis S. Wall & Roger I Wall, MD, and my sister, Phyllis W. Purdy by Linda & Ran Isley

***Poinsettia Flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in Thanksgiving for ... Given by families and friends for:***

Cole Michael Freeman

Altar Guild and John Adams

Ben & Page Beeler

Deborah Scarce and Mark Niblett

Joe & Kathryn Piasta

John & Will Piasta

Jennifer Gravely & Austin White

Quinn & Brooks Gravely

Adelaide & Douglas Beeler

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Phillippi

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Glenn

Mrs. Ran Isley

Virginia Hamlet

Patty Ann Trent

Anne, James, and Cita Souter

Ginny & Matt Marrapode

Gates, Robert and Sonny Spilman

Morgan Holland

Jason, Jenny, Ashley, and Lauren Farrar

Shane, Elizabeth, Lydia, and Finn Boyd

Family and Friends of Sue Rosser

Natalie, Hank, and Bob

George Lyle

Khy'cir

Lewis Pitzer

Benton, Ashley, Hadley & William Lewis

Sally Barrett and Elizabeth Lasky

Val, Helen, Steph, and Jeannie

Tiffany, Claire Warner, and Baylie Coleman James D. Coleman & Beverley Coleman Edward & Gail Acock

Children, six Grandsons, and three Great Grandsons of Betsy Cole

Dorothy Clark, Jimmy Scarce, Kristin Scarce, and Janis Scarce

Children (Philip & Elizabeth) and Grandchildren (Grace, Walker & Holt) of Ran & Linda Isley

Children and Grandchildren of Phil & Lynn Gardner

Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren of Celia Scouras

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

Celebrant: The Rev. John Adams

Reader: Hank Long

Chalicers: Rives Coleman, Dawn Stone **Acolyte:** Baylie Coleman

Ushers: Ben Beeler, Bob Weatherall

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Cantor: Raul West

Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir

Camera Operator: Andy Williams

Counters: Beverly Lyle, Rives Coleman

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

Nursery Attendant: Emily Williams