



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.

THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

February 2, 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.*

The Opening Voluntary *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Jan Bender

Processional Hymn *"Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates"* Hymn 436

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

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 everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reader A reading from the Book of Malachi (3:1-4)

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 24:7-10 *Domini est terra*

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O ever/lasting /doors; *
and the King of /glory shall come /in.

8 "Who is this /King of /glory?" *
"The Lord, strong and mighty,
the /Lord, mighty in /battle."

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O ever/lasting /doors; *
and the King of /glory shall come /in.

10 "Who is he, this /King of /glory?" *
"The Lord of hosts,
he /is the King of /glory."



Reader A reading from Hebrews (2:14-18)

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn *"Lord God, you now have set your servant free"* **Hymn 499**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (2:22-40)

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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.

A Litany of Healing

Standing or kneeling

Reader God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;
People *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Reader God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;
People *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Reader God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;
People *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Reader Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;
People *We praise you and thank you, O Lord.*

Reader Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, especially *Sue, Julia, Betty, Betsy, Mary Ruth, Nancy, Mark, Morgan, Jennifer, Lucia, Peg, Dennis, Carleigh, Carolyn, Rebecca, Harry, Tina, James, and Frankie* ; that they may be made whole;
People *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Reader Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;
People *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Reader Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;
People *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Reader Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;
People *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Reader Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit *the family and friends of Walter Penn* and all those who are bereaved.
People *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Reader Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;
People *Hear us, O Lord of life.*

Reader You are the Lord who does wonders:
People *You have declared your power among the peoples.*

Reader With you, O Lord, is the well of life:
People *And in your light we see light.*

Reader Hear us, O Lord of life:
People *Heal us, and make us whole.*

All may offer their prayers at this time, aloud or in the silence of their hearts, after which the Celebrant offers a concluding collect.

Celebrant Let us confess our need for God’s healing grace.

Celebrant and people

Compassionate God, we confess our weaknesses in body, mind, and spirit, and our need for your strengthening touch. We confess that some of what ails us stems from our own fault, while some is beyond our control. We turn to you, source of life, and ask in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ for the gifts of true healing and life in you. Amen.

Celebrant May the God of love visit you in your times of trial and weakness, and raise you to newness of life, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Those desiring laying on of hands and anointing with oil for healing of themselves or others may come to the altar rail at this time, or those who cannot or prefer not to come forward may inform an usher, who will tell the Celebrant to come to you. Please whisper to the Celebrant your name or the name of the person for whom you are praying so he may pray for the appropriate people.

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 *“In Peace and Joy I Now Depart”* arr. Carl Schalk

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 A *Standing* **BCP 361**

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.

Celebrant **BCP 361-362**

It is right... 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.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant

Kneeling or standing

BCP 362-363

Holy and gracious Father: ... do this in remembrance of me. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Hymnal S 132

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant

Kneeling or standing

BCP 363

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

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.

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

Simeon came into the temple

Luke 2

Communion Music

"O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ"

Hymn 25

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 *"Hail to the Lord who comes"* Hymn 259

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Closing Voluntary *In Peace and Joy I Now Depart* Dieterich Buxtehude

*The beauty of the Altar Flowers are
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Margo Hart
By Lucy Hart Davis*

Pray today for the ministry of Grace House on the Mountain and it's director Anita Boyd. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds, and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines.

Discretionary Fund – Today is the 1st Sunday of the month and the loose offering is designated for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. All checks should include the notation, "For RDF".

Monday Bible Study

The Monday night Bible study meets from 7:00 to 8:00 in the Parish House. On February 3, we will continue in Luke 18, as Jesus challenges a wealthy ruler and heals a blind beggar. All are welcome and encouraged to attend as you can; no preparation ahead of time is necessary.

History of the Early Church

Our next study in the History of the Early Church will take place on February 5 at 10:30 in the Undercroft; in *Canon Fodder*, we will discuss how the New Testament as we know it came to be and sample some books that didn't make the cut.

Kings Grant Eucharist

Fr. John celebrates the Eucharist in the chapel at Kings Grant at 1:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. The next services will be on February 6 and March 6.

Women's Club Meeting

The second Women's Club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, at 5:30 in the Parish House. There is a sign-up sheet on the church website. Hope you can make it!

Public Theology

Public Theology meets on **Wednesday, February 12 at Renewal Brewing in Uptown Martinsville** (32 Franklin St). We begin with socializing and food around 6:00, with the discussion going from 7:00 to 8:00.

The Church office will be closed on Monday, February 17 to observe President's Day.

Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **February - March: Pork & Beans 15 oz.** For **February: bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), and hygiene items.** *Grace has been experiencing a large increase in clients needing food, household, 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

Chalicer: Bob Bushnell, Steve Keyser

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Chorister/Cantor: Raul West

Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir

Ushers: Rives Coleman, John Swezey

Acolyte: Pete Scouras

Camera Operator: Andy Williams

Counters: Bob Weatherall, Rives Coleman

Altar Guild: Team #4 – Becky Farrar, Susan Smith, Natalie Coleman, Ashley Ullstein, Dawn Stone, Kyle Trent

Nursery Attendant: Emily Williams

2025 Christ Church Vestry

Year 3: Betty Budde, 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