



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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Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
The Third Sunday in Lent  
March 23, 2025

*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      “Prelude and Fugue in G Minor”      J. S. Bach

Processional Hymn (*standing*)      “Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church”      Hymn 149

*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.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit*

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Exodus (3:1-15).

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

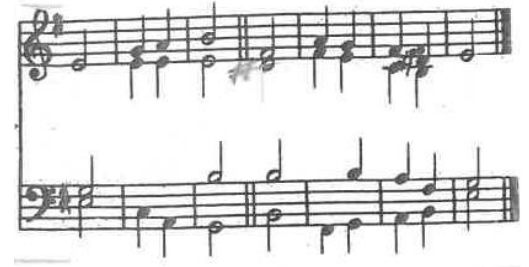
Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations."

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

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly /I seek /you; \*  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land/ where there is no /water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your/ holy /place, \*  
that I might behold your /power and your /glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than/ life it/self; \*  
my /lips shall give you /praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as /long as I /live \*  
and lift up /my hands in your /Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with /marrow and /fatness, \*  
and my mouth praises /you with joyful/ lips,
- 6 When I remember you u/pon my /bed, \*  
and meditate on /you in the night /watches.
- 7 For you have /been my /helper, \*  
and under the shadow of your/ wings I will re/joice.
- 8 My soul /clings to /you; \*  
your /right hand holds me /fast.



*Reader* A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Church in Corinth (10:1-13).

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Sequence Hymn (*standing*)

"Rock of ages, cleft for me"

Hymn 685

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (13:1-9).

*People* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

*Seated*

The Rev. John Adams

The Nicene Creed

*Standing*

BCP 327

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*

BCP 328

*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 Donald, 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 *Sue, Julia, Betty, Betsy, Mary Ruth, Jennifer, Lucia, Carleigh, Rebecca, Harry, Tina, James, Ralphie, Bill, Page, Carolyn, Sanddii, Millard, Wayne, and Tom*; 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 "Prepare Your Hearts" Jacob Handl

The Doxology (*standing*) (text below) 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.**

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*

BCP 334 - 336

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.**

*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*

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

*Teach me thy paths"*

Psalm 25



## Ecumenical Lenten Lunches

The churches of Martinsville are again coming together to offer lunch and a brief devotion at Noon on the Thursdays of Lent. All are invited to attend any or all of these lunches; the devotions will conclude by 1:00 pm. The schedule is:

**March 27** - Calvary Christian (515 Mulberry Rd.)

**April 3** - First Presbyterian (1901 Patrick Henry Ave.)

**April 10** - First Baptist East (1043 E. Church St.)

## Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **March: Pork & Beans 15 oz. For March: dish detergent, deodorant, laundry detergent, 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.**

### From Tracy, Executive Director of Grace Network

We have had a huge influx of food clients with all the food prices all last year and into this year. It's been a challenge to stay in stock. Your donations are so important to what we do here at Grace Network and we are so grateful for each of you. Please let your congregations know how much they are appreciated in keeping our pantry stocked for those in need.

God Bless you all!  
Blessings, Tracy

### THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

**Celebrant:** The Rev. John Adams

**Reader:** Pete Scouras

**Chalicer:** Natalie Coleman, John Swezey

**Organist/Choirmaster:** Lynn Gardner

**Chorister/Cantor:** Raul West

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

**Ushers:** Bob Weatherall, Ben Lewis

**Acolyte:**

**Camera Operator:** Andy Williams

**Counters:** Butch Hamlet, Pat Russell

**Altar Guild:** Team #5 - Lloyd Barber, Debbie Lewis, Jill Dickens, Amy Joyce,  
Pat Russell, Vicki Crosby

**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