



321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896 • [www.christchurchmvl.org](http://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 Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 30, 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                      “O Lord For My Poor Sins”                      Dieterich Buxtehude

Processional Hymn (*standing*)    “Wilt thou forgive that sin”                      Hymn 140

*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 Joshua (5:9-12).

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

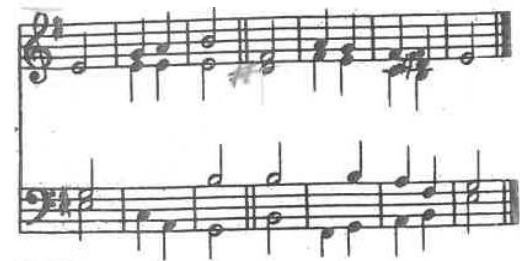
*People* Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 32** Beati quorum

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions /are for/given, \*  
and whose /sin is put a/way!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord im/putes no /guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit /there is no /guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones/ withered a/way, \*  
because of my /groaning all day /long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me /day and /night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as /in the heat of /summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my /sin to /you, \*  
and did /not conceal my /guilt.
- 6 I said," I will confess my transgressions/ to the /Lord." \*  
Then you forgave me the /guilt of my /sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in/ time of /trouble; \*  
when the great waters overflow,/ they shall not reach/ them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;  
you preserve /me from /trouble; \*  
you surround me with /shouts of deliver/ance.

**S 214**

Ray Francis Brown  
(1897-1965)



- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that /you should /go; \*  
I will /guide you with my /eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have /no under/standing; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they /will not stay near/ you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations /of the /wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those/ who trust in the /Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice /in the /Lord; \*  
shout for joy, all /who are true of /heart.

*Reader* A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Church in Corinth (5:16-21).

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn (*standing*) "Lord, Jesus, think on me" Hymn 641

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (15:1-3, 11b-32).

*People* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for

this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

*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, Carleigh, Rebecca, Harry, Ralphie, Carolyn, Sanddii, Millard, Wayne, Tom, Chuck, Bill, Susan, Rebecca, Colin, and Jimmy*; 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** "Angus Dei" Donald Moore

**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.*

## Luke 15, Psalm 33

Thomas Ravenscroft

*Once all have received, the celebrant says*

Let us pray.

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.*

Hymn 690

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

## Johann Pachelbel

## No flowers during Lent

Pray today for the retired Bishops of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, The Rt. Rev. Heath Light and The Rt. Rev. Neff Powell. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds, and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines.

# Lenten Study: Explorations in Christian Ethics

On the Mondays of Lent (**March 10 - April 7**), we will gather in the Undercroft for a light supper and program. Fr. John will lead us in discussions of Christian ethics, as we consider how we think about and apply Jesus' teachings to the moral problems we encounter in our daily lives. This takes the place of the usual Monday Bible Study, which will resume after Easter. Supper begins at 6:00 pm, with the discussion concluding by 7:30.

## Easter Lilies

The order forms for the Easter lilies are on both sides of the Narthex and in the Church office. All orders are due by Friday, April 11. The cost is \$15 each.

## 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:

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

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

### **Wednesday Eucharist**

On Wednesdays, we celebrate Holy Eucharist at Noon in the Chapel (enter via the glass Undercroft door at the back of the church building). These brief (thirty minutes) spoken services commemorate the saint of the day from the Episcopal calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts, and are perfect for those who want to attend a service but are unable to come Sunday mornings or who want an additional gathering for corporate prayer to help them through the week. **Our schedule in April is inconsistent: there will be Wednesday Eucharists on April 9 and 30, but no Wednesday Eucharist on April 2, 16, or 23.**

### **Kings Grant Eucharist**

Fr. John celebrates Eucharist in the chapel at Kings Grant at 1:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. The next services will be on **April 3 and May 1.**

### **Women's Club Meeting**

The Women's Club meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 8, at 5:30 in the Parish House.** There is a sign-up sheet on the church website to attend and bring something to share. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **History of the Early Church**

Our next study in the History of the Early Church will take place on **Wednesday, April 9 at 10:30 in the Undercroft**, as we consider 5<sup>th</sup>-century developments in the theological understanding of Jesus.

### **Public Theology**

Public Theology meets on **Wednesday, April 9**, at Renewal Brewing in Uptown Martinsville (32 Franklin St). We begin with socializing and pizza around 6:00, with the discussion going from 7:00 to 8:00.

### **Holy Week Schedule**

**Palm Sunday, April 13, 9:00 am** - Community Palm Sunday Service at J. Frank Wilson Park

**Palm Sunday, April 13, 10:30 am** - Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

**Wednesday, April 16, 7:00 pm** - Tenebrae

**Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:00 pm** - Holy Eucharist with Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar (followed by overnight Vigil in the Chapel)

**Good Friday, April 18, Noon** - Stations of the Cross

**Good Friday, April 18, 7:00 pm** - Good Friday Liturgy

**Saturday, April 19, 8:00 pm** - The Great Vigil of Easter (in partnership with Holy Trinity Lutheran, with Vicar Andy Taminger preaching)

**Easter Sunday, April 20, 10:30 am** - Holy Eucharist

### **Maundy Thursday Vigil**

In obedience to Jesus, who wondered that his disciples were unable to keep watch with him for one hour in Gethsemane, some find it deeply meaningful to stay awake and pray for a portion of the night on Maundy Thursday (April 17). Kyle Trent is organizing a vigil in the Chapel between the end of the Maundy Thursday liturgy and Friday morning; if you are interested in taking an hour, please contact him at [kyletrent@kyletrent.com](mailto:kyletrent@kyletrent.com).



## **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 by 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:** Hank Long

**Chalicer:** Bob Bushnell, Rives Coleman

**Organist/Choirmaster:** Lynn Gardner

**Chorister/Cantor:** Raul West

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

**Ushers:** Trippi Penn, Kyle Trent

**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