



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

321 East Church Street • Martinsville, Virginia • 276-632-2896
www.christchurchmvl.org

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 26, 2025
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/Acoustic Music
Pastor Appreciation Sunday

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).

Processional Music

Here I am, Lord

By Daniel L. Schutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, They turn away.
I will break their heart of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.

I will speak my word for them, whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them, whom shall I send?

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1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music

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

Glory to God

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 everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Reader A reading from the Book of Sirach (35:12-17)

Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and as generously as you can afford. For the Lord is the one who repays, and he will repay you sevenfold. Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice; for the Lord is the judge, and with him there is no partiality. He will not show partiality to the poor; but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan, or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

Reader Here ends the reading.

Psalm 84:1-6 *Quam dilecta!* Spoken

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
 my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
 and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
 by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
 my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
 they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Reader A reading from Paul's Second Letter to Timothy (4:6-8,16-18)

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Sequence Music

Seed You Sow

Keith Getty/Kristyn Getty

1 Like a seed you sow on a feeding
ground
There are those who hear
But lose what they have found
Like a seed you sow on a rocky ground
There are those who hear
But roots don't go deep down

Seed you sow like a seed you sow
Hide God's word within don't let it go
Seed you sow like a seed you sow
Hide God's word within don't let it go

2 Like a seed you sow on a thorny ground
There are those who hear
But worries tear them down
Like a seed you sow on a perfect
ground
There are those who reap
The greatest crop around

Seed you sow like a seed you sow
Hide God's word within don't let it go
Seed you sow like a seed you sow
Hide God's word within don't let it go

CCLI Song # 4605238
Keith Getty | Kristyn Getty
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The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (18:9-14)

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon "There but for the Grace of God" The Rev. John Adams

Ideas to ponder:

When have I felt or acted like the tax collector in the parable? Or the Pharisee?

Into what suffering or challenge might I go with the grace of God?

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.

Reader Let us pray for the Church and for the world. (*Pause*) Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Reader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Reader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Reader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Reader Comfort and heal *Sue, Julia, Jennifer, Mallory, Hope, Doug, Kim, Leon, Randy, Ruby, Dorothy, and Joe*, all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Reader We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. (*Pause*) Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

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. 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

God and Man At Table Are Sat Down

Words & Music by Robert Stamps

O, welcome all ye noble saints of old
As now before your very eyes unfold
The wonders all so long ago foretold
God and man at table are sat down
God and man at table are sat down

Beggars, lame, and harlots also here
Repentant publicans are drawing near
Wayward sons come home without a fear
God and man at table are sat down
God and man at table are sat down

Elders, martyrs, all are falling down
And Prophets, patriarchs are gathering
round
What angels longed to see now man has
found
God and man at table are sat down
God and man at table are sat down

Who is this who spreads the victory feast?
Who is this who makes our warring cease?
Jesus, risen savior, prince of peace
God and man at table are sat down
God and man at table are sat down

CCLI Song # 16842

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The Doxology:

v. 3, Hymn 380

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.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

BCP 361-362

It is right... proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Land of Rest

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,
Comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna in the highest.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. CCLI License # 11108630

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. And harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)

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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

Spoken

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.

Fraction Anthem

Christ Our Passover

BCP 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People ***therefore let us keep the feast. 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 Music

*In His Arms I'm Not Afraid*Recorded by The Isaacs
Written by Homer Eanes

1 Not afraid to bid this world goodbye
Not afraid to close my eyes and die
For His courage I have prayed
In His arms I'm not afraid.

2 When I close my eyes in death
Fold my hands upon my chest
Sing for me a pretty song

While I take my journey home

Repeat #1

When I cross that silent sea
And the home lights beckon me
I'll feel no pain and I'll fear no harm
I'll be safe and secure in Jesus' arms

Repeat #1*Once all have received, the celebrant says*

Let us pray.

Celebrant and people, standing or kneeling

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.

The celebrant blesses the people.

Recessional Music

Leap of Faith

Will Zimmer

We have but one life
To travel this path and take in all the
beauty
We have a choice to make
Lord help us see, it is our joyful duty
Be quick to gladden the hearts of those
who travel with us
Don't waste the little time we have to
serve
Be swift to love, make haste to be kind
And go forth in the name of the Lord
And go forth in the name of the Lord
We have to take the lead
It is a leap of faith, not knowing where

we'll land
Don't let fear intercede
Don't miss your chance to jump into the
quicksand.
Be quick to gladden the hearts of those
who travel with us
Don't waste the little time we have to
serve
Be swift to love, make haste to be kind
And go forth in the name of the Lord--
Hallelujah
And go forth in the name of the Lord--
Hallelujah
And go forth in the name of the Lord--
Thanks be to God.

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

We Give Thanks for the Beauty of the Altar Flowers
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
George P. Scouras, MD
By the Family

**We Give Thanks for the Beauty of the Narthex Flowers
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
George M. Dickens, Sr. and Dr. John W. Campbell, II
By Jay and Jill Dickens**

Monday Bible Study

Our Monday evening study meets in the Parish House from 7:00 to 8:00. On **October 27**, we will continue in the Book of Esther beginning with chapter 7, in which Esther's plans come to fruition and Haman's to ruination. All are welcome and encouraged to join at any time; no reading ahead of time is necessary.

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 during the week. Barring the unexpected, we will meet every Wednesday in October.

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are on sale from your Vestry members (Rives Coleman, Pat Russell, and Will Zimmer). The cost is \$10.00 per ticket or \$100.00 per book, with the maximum winnings of \$2,500.

**THE DAN PRINCE AND GENE MEDLEY MEMORIAL OYSTER ROAST
RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY**

Mark your calendar, invite friends, and make reservations for **Friday, November 7th** for the Dan Prince and Gene Medley Memorial Oyster Roast at Christ Episcopal Church! The fun begins at 6:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 per person for this all-inclusive event. Make your reservation by signing up on the event page on our website or calling the church office at 276-632-2896. Take advantage of the convenient credit or PayPal options (small fee applies). Check or cash may also be dropped off or mailed to the CEC office (311 E. Church St., Martinsville, VA 24112).

Please sign up as soon as possible so the correct amounts of food can be purchased and prepared well in advance of the event. **The deadline for reservations and payments is Monday, October 27th. No money will be accepted at the door.**

For any questions, contact Page Beeler via email at pagebeeler@comcast.net or 276-732-4000.

BAKED GOODS NEEDED FOR SALE AT THE OYSTER ROAST

Sign up under volunteers on the Church's website to donate baked goods, casseroles, soups, sauces, breads, etc. **FOR SALE AT THE OYSTER ROAST.**

Brownies, bars, and cookies need to be individually packaged in servings of six (6). Generous portions are appreciated (2x2). If your item(s) has nuts, please specify that on the packaging.

We will set up drop off for Thursday and Friday, November 6 and 7 at the Parish House between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Lewis, Nancy Spilman, Susan Smith, OR Rita Hodges. *Thank you for participating in making the 2025 Oyster Roast a huge success.*

Food Lion Grocery Cards for Sale

Trippi Penn and the Church office have Food Lion grocery cards for sale in \$50, \$100, and \$200 increments. Thanksgiving and Christmas are coming up. These cards make wonderful presents. We also have sleeves for the cards if you want to give them as a gift.

A Collect for the Election of Our Bishop

Creator God, whose Church lives beyond the walls of buildings and the boundaries of cities, we ask that you guide our work as the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia moves together through a transition of leadership. We pray for patience in dialogue and wisdom in discernment, that the richness of our diverse voices, from farmland to small town, mountain to downtown, will be valued and heard. We pray for the person who will be elected as our next Bishop, for all those who are in discernment, and for the people of this diocese, so that the work of spreading God's love in southwestern Virginia and beyond will grow and flourish in the years to come. In the name of your incarnate son we pray. Amen.

Grace Network - Our Grace Network Assignments for October thru December: Oatmeal canister or instant packets. For October: toilet paper, feminine products, deodorant, and other hygiene items (toothbrushes need to be individually wrapped). As we approach cooler temperatures, there are many families in our community that struggle all the seasons of the year. But your participation in our mission to help is priceless, and we thank you so much for your dedication. (Tracy Hinchcliff, Grace Network Executive Director).

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

Celebrant: The Rev. John Adams

Reader: Pete Scouras

Chalists: Natalie Coleman, Tom Webster

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Chorister/Cantor: Raul West

Acoustic Music: Will Zimmer

Ushers: Rives Coleman, Michael Hodges

Camera Operator: Andy Williams

Counters: Michael Hodges, LaRue Powers

Nursery: Caroline Davis

Altar Guild Team #2 – Valerie Payne, Page Beeler, Frankie Smith, Janice Cain, Rita Hodges, Michael Hodges, Linda O'Dell, Michelle Probst

2025 Christ Church Vestry

Year 3: 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