



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.

Holy Eucharist, Rite I with Penitential Order
The Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026

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 “The Glory of These Forty Days ” Johann Gottfried Walther

Introit “My eyes are ever toward the Lord” Psalm 25

Processional Hymn (*standing*) “The glory of these forty days” Hymn 143

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.**

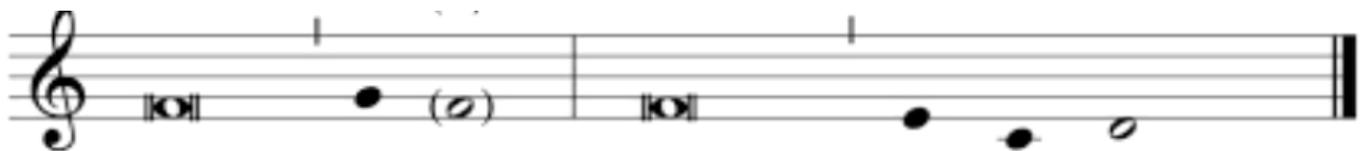
The people sit

Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus (17:1-7)

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm 95 *Venite, exultemus*

- 1 Come, let us sing to the /Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of /our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanks/giving *
and raise a loud shout to /him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a /great God, *
and a great King a/bove all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the /earth, *
and the heights of the hills are /his also.

- 5 The sea is his, for he/ made it, *
and his hands have molded/ the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the/ knee, *
and kneel before the /Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of /his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken/ to his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the /wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they /tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the /test, *
though they had /seen my works.
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation/ and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not /know my ways."
- 11 So I swore in /my wrath, *
"They shall not enter in/to my rest."

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Church in Rome (5:1-11).

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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 John (4:5-42).

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in

common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

"Suffering and hope"

The Rev. John Adams

Ideas to ponder

- What do you feel about the woman at the well?
- Have you experienced or witnessed a progression from suffering to hope?

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

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 Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Karin, our bishop-elect, 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, Jennifer, Mallory, Ginger C., Jay J., David, Ashley F., Michael, Randy M., Ruth K.* 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 "Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" arr. Ronald Turner

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.

Celebrant **BCP 333 - 334**

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

"A spring gushing to eternal life"

John 4, Isaiah 12

Communion Hymn

"Remember, O Thou Man"

Thomas Ravenscroft

Once all have received, the celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and people

Kneeling or standing

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

Dear Members and Friends of CEC,

Each year at Christmas and Easter we decorate our church in praise, celebration, and honor of God. It is an honor and with a sense of pride that we undertake this task. We can do this because you remember and honor loved ones with your gifts of money that make our decorating possible. **Please prayerfully consider adding a memorial or honorarium this year. We are fewer in number and expenses have increased significantly.**

Page Beeler, Altar Guild Chair

Beth Cahill, Flower Committee Chair

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 29, 9:00 am - Community Palm Sunday Service @ J. Frank Wilson Park

Palm Sunday, March 29, 10:30 am - Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, April 1, 7:00 pm - Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2:30 pm - Ecumenical Holy Eucharist @ Kings Grant

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7:00 pm - Holy Eucharist with Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar (followed by overnight Vigil in the Chapel)

Good Friday, April 3, Noon - Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, April 3, 7:00 pm - Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Sunday, April 5, 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist (Easter Breakfast beginning at 9:00 in the Undercroft)

Grace Network - Our Grace Network Assignments for March: Assorted canned greens (turnip, collard, etc.). For March: dish detergent, deodorant, laundry detergent, and other hygiene items. There are many families in our community that struggle all of the seasons of the year. But your participation in our mission to help is priceless, and we thank you so much for your dedication. Remember to pick up our assigned items when you visit the grocery store. As a Church family, we have committed to helping Grace Network with stocking their food pantry for those in need. 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: Susan Critz

Chalicer: Jay Dickens, Dawn Stone

Acolyte: Pete Scouras

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Chorister/Cantor: Raul West

Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir

Ushers: John Swezey, Ben Lewis

Camera Operator: Hank Long

Counters: Butch Hamlet, Linda O'Dell

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

Nursery Attendant: Caroline Davis

2026 Christ Church Vestry

Year 3: Bob Bushnell, Rives Coleman; Senior Warden, LaRue Powers, Bob Weatherall, Junior Warden

Year 2: Susan Critz, Butch Hamlet; Treasurer, Michael Hodges; Secretary, Steve Keyser

Year 1: Kelly Cain, Jay Dickens, Linda O'Dell, Ron Probst