



The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2026
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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 Exodus (1:8-2:10)

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

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

Psalm 124 Nisi quia Dominus

- 1 If the Lord had not been/ on our /side, *
 let/ Israel now /say;
- 2 If the Lord had not been /on our /side, *
 when enemies /rose up against /us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us /up a/live *
 in their /fierce anger toward /us;



- 4 Then would the waters have/ over/whelmed us *
and the /torrent gone over /us;
- 5 Then would the/ raging /waters *
have /gone right over /us.
- 6 Blessed /be the /Lord! *
he has not given us over to be a /prey for their /teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare /of the /fowler; *
the snare is broken, /and we have es/caped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name /of the /Lord, *
the maker of /heaven and /earth.

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Church in Rome (12:1-8)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

Sequence Hymn *"Where charity and love prevail"* **Hymn 581**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew (16:13-20)

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Ideas to ponder:

- Without looking, can you name the Hebrew midwives from Exodus 1?
- What do you take away from the story of the midwives?

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.

The Prayers of the People Form VI

Standing or kneeling

BCP 392

<i>Reader</i>	In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. (Pause) For all people in their daily life and work;
<i>People</i>	<i>For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.</i>
<i>Reader</i>	For this community, the nation, and the world;
<i>People</i>	For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.
<i>Reader</i>	For the just and proper use of your creation;
<i>People</i>	For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.
<i>Reader</i>	For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
<i>People</i>	For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.
<i>Reader</i>	For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
<i>People</i>	For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.
<i>Reader</i>	For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Karin our Bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;
<i>People</i>	For all who serve God in his Church.

Reader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially
Sue, Julia, Mallory, Ginger C., Jay J., David C., Ashley F., Michael, Jim A, Tracy,
Ruby, Valerie B. LaRue, and Jean, (Pause for intercessions) Hear us, Lord;
People For your mercy is great.

Reader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(Pause for thanksgivings)*
We will exalt you, O God our King;

People And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Reader We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal
kingdom. *(Pause for intercessions)* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon
them;

People Who put their trust in you.

Reader We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Reader and People, kneeling or standing

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that
we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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

Hear Thou Shepherd of Israel

John Christmas Beckwith
arr. Mason Martens

The Doxology:

v. 3, Hymn 380

All: Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Holy Communion, Eucharistic Prayer B

Standing

BCP 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up our 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 It is right... to 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. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant

Standing or kneeling

We give thanks to you... do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

Hymnal S 138

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice... all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant 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 (*sung in unison*)

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 *The earth is full of thy riches* Psalm 104

Communion Anthem *God is My Shepherd* Anton Dvorak

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 *"The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord"* Hymn 525

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Closing Voluntary *Prelude in B Flat* J. S. Bach

*The beauty of the Altar Flowers are
Given to the Glory of God and in Honor & Love of
Beverley Lester Coleman
James Lester, Anne Parker & Nubby*

Pray today for the Commission on Ministry and their Interim Chair, The Rev. Susan Bentley. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Toby Howarth.

Summer Sunday Lemonade

Continuing a summer tradition, we will have fellowship time with lemonade and cookies on the patio (or in the undercroft if it's raining) **after the 10:30 service, August 23 through August 30**; if you are willing to help bring beverages and treats or set up and clean up, please sign at on the Church's website under volunteers for your Sunday. **We need 1 person for August 23.**

Loaves & Fishes - Wednesday, August 26

We are always looking for volunteers to help prepare/serve/clean up, as well as folks to bring desserts and fruit to distribute. **The August 26 Loaves & Fishes is being hosted by the Mission Committee. Come out and show your support.** Sign up on the Church's website under 'volunteer' to donate items or help with preparing and serving.

Diocesan Formation Day

Diocesan Formation Day will be **Saturday, August 29, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Christ Church, Roanoke**. Bishop Karin will lead us in an exploration of Being Disciples: What Does It Mean, and How Do We Do It? This gathering is open to all people, clergy and lay, who are interested considering the full meaning of Christian discipleship. Please register here; lunch is provided, and the day concludes with the celebration of Eucharist.

Raffle Tickets ARE ON SALE NOW!

Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are on sale from your Vestry members (Rives Coleman, Susan Critz, Jay Dickens, Butch Hamlet, Michael Hodges, Steve Keyser, Linda O'Dell, and Ron Probst) and the church office. The cost is \$10.00 per ticket or \$100.00 per book, with the maximum winnings of \$2,500.

Save the Date

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

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

Tickets are **\$60 per person** for this all-inclusive event. Make your reservation by signing up on the **reservation page** or **calling the church office at 276-632-2896**. Take advantage of the convenient credit or PayPal options (small fee applies, \$2.58/ea.). Check or cash may also be dropped off or mailed to the CEC office (311 E. Church St. Martinsville, VA 24112). **The deadline for reservations and payments is Monday, October 26th.** No money will be accepted at the door.

Please sign up as soon as possible so the correct amounts of food can be purchased and prepared well in advance of the event. Your help in making the CEC Oyster Roast a success year after year is greatly appreciated.

For any questions contact Rives Coleman at rcoleman@rivessbrown.com or 276-732-2859 or Ron Probst at rlpsystems@gmail.com or 276-224-5433.

Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **August – September: Boxed Dinners (Hamburger Helper)**. For August: bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), and hygiene items. 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: Pete Scouras

Chalists: Bob Bushnell, Steve Keyser

Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner

Chorister/Cantor: Raul West

Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir

Ushers: John Swezey, Jay Dickens

Camera Operator: Linda O'Dell

Counters: Bob Weatherall, Rives Coleman

Nursery: Caroline Davis

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

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