CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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.

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2026
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
w/Acoustic Music

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).

Introit *Goodness and mercy shall follow me* **Psalm 23**

Processional Music *10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)* Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul;
Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, oh my soul
O my soul;
Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, oh my soul,
O my soul;
Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before,
O my soul;
I'll worship Your Holy name.

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore.

Bless the Lord, o my soul,
O my soul;
Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before,
O my soul;
I'll worship Your Holy name.

Bless the Lord, oh my soul,
O my soul;
Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before,

O my soul;
I'll worship Your Holy name.
Worship Your Holy name,
Lord I'll worship Your Holy name.

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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 *spoken* *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, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession 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 (33:12-23)

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth." The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

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

Psalm 99 *Dominus regnavit* **spoken**

1 The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

Reader A reading from the First Book of Thessalonians (1:1-10)

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Gospel 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 will speak My word 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 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?

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.

1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew (22:15-22)
People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

The Sermon *"The face of God"* **The Rev. John Adams**

Ideas to ponder:

- **Have you ever been taken in by a friendly face?**
- **How might we "not regard the face of anyone"?**

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 IV BCP 388

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, Mallory, Ginger C., David C., Ashley F., Michael, Jim A., Valerie B., LaRue, Jean, Tina, Dorothy, Nancy, Jimmy, Honore,* and 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 Music *I Saw The Light* By Hank Williams, Sr.

I wandered so aimless life filled with sin
I wouldn't let my dear Savior in
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night
Praise the Lord I saw the light

I saw the light, I saw the light
No more in darkness, no more in night
Now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

Just like a blind man I wandered along
Worries and fears I claimed for my own
Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

I saw the light, I saw the light
No more in darkness, no more in night
Now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

I was a fool to wander and stray
Straight is the gate and narrow the way
Now I have traded the wrong for the right
Praise the Lord I saw the light

I saw the light, I saw the light
No more in darkness, no more in night

Now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord, I saw the light

CCLI Song # 45064
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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.

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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

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 chalicer 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 chalicer. Those who cannot or prefer not to come forward may inform an usher, and the Celebrant will come to you.

Communion Chant *Let them follow me* **Matthew 16, Psalm 34**

Communion Music *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

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

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

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

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Once all have received, the celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and people *Kneeling or standing* BCP 365

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
Ben Gardner
By His Children and Grandchildren

We Give Thanks for the Beauty of the Narthex Flowers
Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
Clara Irene Ullstein
By Peter and Ashley Ullstein and Family

Pray today for the Bishop's Visitation to St. Thomas, Abingdon. Pray today for the people of St. Thomas, Abingdon and their rector, the Rev. Heather Ma. For Grace and Peace in the Diocese of Haiti. Our companion diocese, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Toby Howarth.

Third Sunday Supper and Evening Prayer
Join us on **Sunday, October 18 at 5:30** pm at a new opportunity for fellowship and worship! We will begin with Evening Prayer before adjourning for supper, which will be **a potluck. You are invited to contribute a main dish, side, salad, or dessert to share, but are also welcome to bring just yourself.** We hope that, in addition to giving us another occasion to socialize, this service will allow members who can rarely attend on Sunday mornings or Wednesdays at Noon to join us for worship and give us a chance to invite our friends and neighbors to a low-pressure service and meal.

Monday Bible Study
Our study of the Revelation to John of Patmos continues on **October 19 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm in the Parish House.** This week we will begin blowing the trumpets of woe in chapter 8. No reading in advance is required, and all are welcome at any time.

Oyster Roast

The Dan Prince and Gene Medley Memorial Oyster Roast, our annual fundraiser featuring great food, live music, a silent auction, and more, is **Friday, November 6, beginning at 6:00 pm**. Tickets ($60 check or cash, $62.58 credit via PayPal) are available at the Church's website (https://christchurchmvl.org/event-signup.cfm?eID=3). Contact Rives Coleman (rcoleman@rivessbrown.com or 276-732-2859) or Ron Probst (rlpsystems@gmail.com or 276-224-5433) for more information or to volunteer to help.

Baked Goods Needed for Sale at the Oyster Roast

Sign up on the Church's website under 'volunteers' 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) have nuts, please specify that on the packaging.

Drop-off is Thursday and Friday, November 5 and 6, at the Parish House between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Nancy Spilman, Susan Smith, Debbie Lewis, or Rita Hodges. *Thank you for participating in making the 2026 Oyster Roast a huge success.*

WE NEED SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

The 2026 Dan Prince and Gene Medley Memorial Oyster Roast committee **needs items for the silent auction.** Interesting, unique, amazing, and appealing out-of-the-box items. We love new furniture, parties, house rentals, jewelry, gift certificates, and more. **More of those items would be great.**

Your help with making this year's silent auction a huge success will be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Auction Chairs, Nancy Spilman, Susan Smith, Debbie Lewis, or Rita Hodges if you have any questions or suggestions.

Lanterns, Pop-Up Tents, and Outdoor Heaters are Needed for the Oyster Roast

The Oyster Roast is fast approaching. The event will be held on Friday, November 6th. **Every year, we are in need of numerous outdoor battery lanterns (for camping or decoration), pop-up tents, and outdoor heaters.** If you have any of these items that we can borrow, please let me know as soon as possible. You can drop off your lanterns at the church office. Make sure to mark your name on the lanterns so we can return them to you.

All Saints and Baptism

November 1 is the Feast of All Saints, and this year we will celebrate by welcoming a new member of the communion of saints! Khycir, Beverly and George Lyle's son, will be baptized during the 10:30 service, with a reception in the Parish House to follow, and you are encouraged to join us for this festive occasion. **Please sign up to bring food or beverages on** the **Church's website under 'volunteers.**

Bishop's Visit and Church Membership

If you are interested in being confirmed or received in the Episcopal Church, reaffirming your baptismal vows, or being baptized by our new Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Karin MacPhail, when she visits Christ Church on February 21, 2027, **please talk to Fr. John by November 1 so he can schedule classes and begin making arrangements.**

Grace Network
Our Grace Network Assignments for **October - December: Saltine Crackers (box).** For **October: toilet paper, feminine products, deodorant, 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: Susan Critz
Chalists: Dawn Stone, John Swezey
Organist/Choirmaster: Lynn Gardner
Chorister/Cantor: Raul West
Christ Church Choir: St. Christopher's Choir
Ushers: Pete Scouras, Dan Cahill
Camera Operator: Vicki Crosby
Counters: Kelly Cain, Butch Hamlet
Nursery: Caroline Davis
Altar Guild Team #4 – Becky Farrar, Susan Smith, Natalie Coleman, Ashley Ullstein, Dawn Stone, Kyle Trent

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