

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I
March 6, 2022: The First Sunday in Lent
8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

You may stream the 10:30 a.m. service from Christ Church's [website](#), [YouTube](#), or [Facebook](#) pages

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand as able.

THE GREAT LITANY

Dorothy Lee, *cantor*

Officiant O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, *People* Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *People* Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faith - ful, *People* Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, *People* Have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant
Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy

People
preserve us for ev - er. Spare us, good Lord.

Officiant
From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the

devil; and from everlast - ing dam - na - tion,

People
Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,



People
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)



Officiant Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

People Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

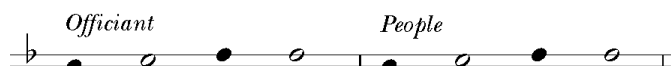


Officiant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer-cy up-on us.

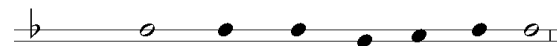
People O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer-cy up-on us.



Officiant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Grant us thy peace.



Officiant O Christ, hear us. *People* O Christ, hear us.

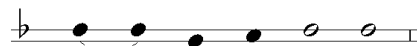


Officiant Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

People Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

or



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Chri - ste e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;

People: **His mercy endureth forever.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan: Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations; and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

The following psalm is read responsively by half-verse at 8:00 a.m.

PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16

Qui habitat

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

He shall say to the LORD,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."

Because you have made the LORD your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,

There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.

Choir:

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!" **Refrain: All sing**

Refrain:



Choir:

2. The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:
Under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. **Refrain: All sing**
3. You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. **Refrain: All sing**
4. For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. **Refrain: All sing**

THE EPISTLE

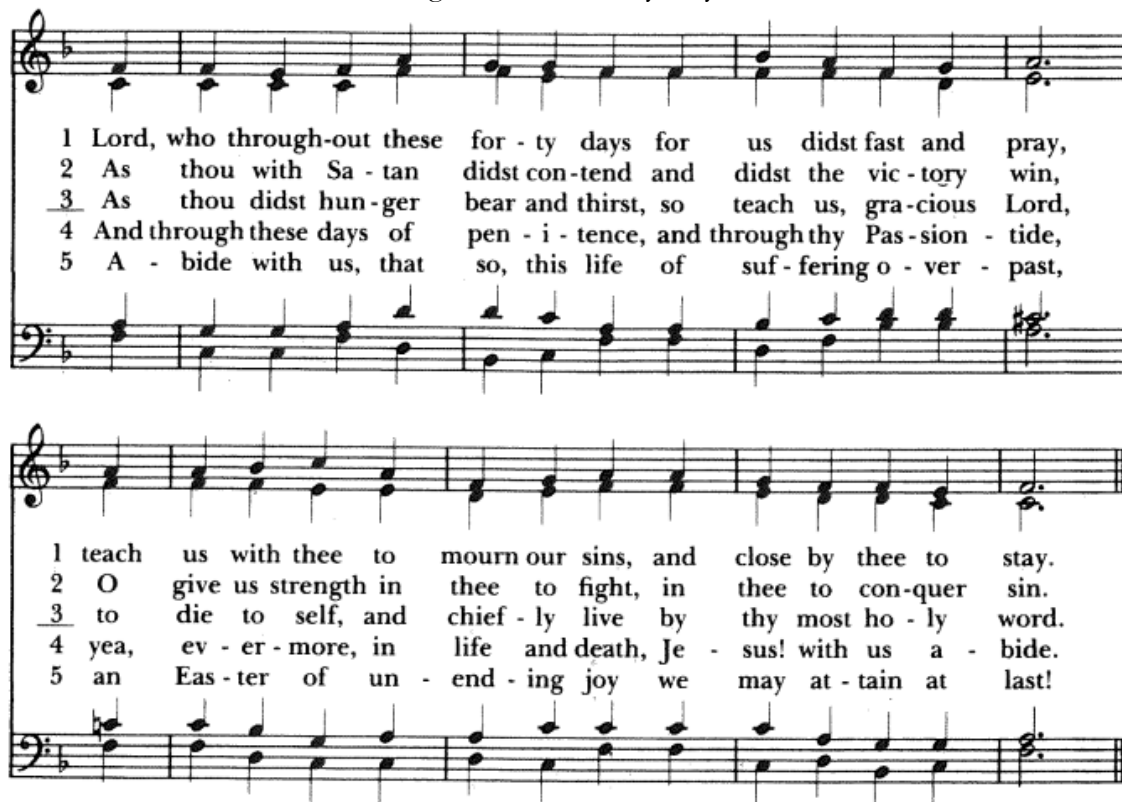
Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able for the singing of the hymn and the reading of the Gospel.



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,
 2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend and didst the vic - tory win,
 3 As thou didst hun - ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra - cious Lord,
 4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas - sion - tide,
 5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf - fering o - ver - past,

1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
 2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con - quer sin.
 3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.
 4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.
 5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

THE GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
 and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
 to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
 so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The people may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

All: 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 worshipped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one 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

Intervessor: 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 all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Diocesan Bishops; Emmanuel, our Rector; and Denise our Deacon; 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 those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph, our President; Lawrence, our Governor; and Calvin, our County Executive; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Jim, Kathleen, Chad, Caroline, Jess, Tinny, Catherine, Mary Ann, Norman, Chuck, Alta, Alfred, & Ashley, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

The People may add additional petitions and thanksgivings.

Intervessor: And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Patrick Tachie-Menson, Veronica McSween, 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.

People: Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.
Amen.

The Confession is omitted today due to the chanting of the Great Litany.

PRAYER FOR HEALING AND COMFORT FOR THE TACHIE-MENSON

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People:* And with thy spirit.**

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING – Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy’s Sake

Richard Farrant

*Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake lay not our sins to our charge,
But forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives:
To decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart,
Before thee now and evermore. Amen.*

PRESENTATION HYMN 321, V. 1

Rockingham



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

***People:* We lift them up unto the Lord.**

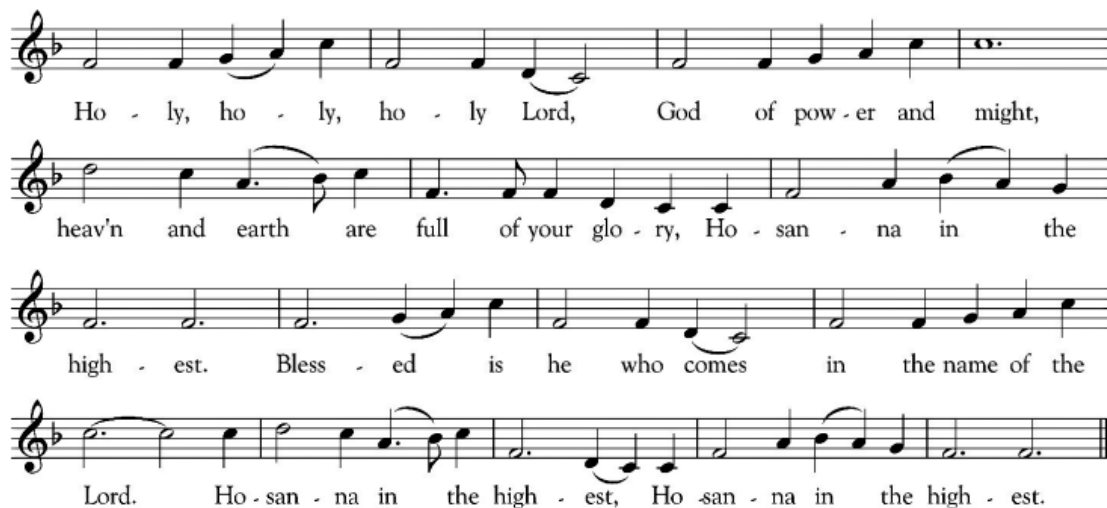
Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.

***People:* It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,



Celebrant: All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Spoken at the 8:00 a.m. service:

All: **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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

Sung at the 10:30 a.m. service:

Our Fa - ther in heaven, hal - lowed be your Name. Your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

AGNUS DEI

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.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

All: 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.

COMMUNION HYMN LEVAS 70 – I want Jesus to Walk with Me

Walk with Me

1. I want Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); I want
 2. In my tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my
 3. In my sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my

1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); All a -
 2. tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); When the
 3. sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); When my

1. long my _____ pil - grim jour - ney, _____ Lord, I want
 2. shades of _____ life _____ are fall - ing, _____ Lord, I want
 3. heart with - in _____ is ach - ing, _____ Lord, I want

1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 2. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 3. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: 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 BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the People, who respond Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 448 – O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Deus tuorum militum



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought; by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the People, who respond:
Thanks be to God!

(The Alleluias are omitted in Lent)

POSTLUDE – Toccatta in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel
Nelda Clelland, guest organist

PERMISSIONS | *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. | Book of Common Prayer, 1928 and 1979, Church Publishing. Public Domain. | The Great Litany. Words: Book of Common Prayer, 1549. Music: setting by John Merbecke (1510?-1585?), alt. Words in the Public Domain. Music © 1927 by Wallace Goodrich, Secretary for the Joint Commission on Church Music. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-701378. All rights reserved. | Trisagion. Words: Ancient. Setting: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Words, music in the Public Domain. | “| Agnus Dei. Words: Book of Common Prayer. Music: Richard Fitzgerald (1979-), alt. Words in the Public Domain. Music © Richard Fitzgerald. All rights reserved. Used with permission. |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Welcome | Today, Christ Church welcomes the family of Patrick Tachie-Menson. We join the family in mourning the passing of Patrick, celebrate his beautiful life and pray for God’s comfort at this difficult time.

Our Lenten Schedule is Online | As we begin to gather for Lent, there are many new and traditional services and gatherings being presented at Christ Church. You can view the entire Lenten schedule and read service and event details on our website's *Lent at Christ Church* page. Be sure to check back regularly or bookmark the page on your browser as we'll regularly update details as needed.

Christ Church's Wednesday Evenings in Lent Supper Series - Begins March 9th | The Spiritual Life Commission invites everyone to take part in the return of our annual Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series, meeting in the Great Hall of New Brick at 6:30 p.m. We'll host a different cuisine each week, and our first event will be Italian food. There is no cost for this evening, but if you would like to donate to help cover the catered dinner expenses, you can choose "Spiritual Life Commission" from the *Fund* dropdown menu on our online giving form, or bring a donation to the event. This popular series will center on our 2022 theme, *Be One Body in Christ, Belonging to Each Other*, and every week we'll host a different presenter who gives their perspective on this theme. For our first evening, March 9th, we are blessed to have The Rt. Rev. Robert Ihloff, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland. This series is a hybrid event so for those who prefer to join us virtually, you are welcome to do so; those details will be in Monday's email. If you want to join us in person, please RSVP here or notify the Church Office by email or phone.

Youth Formation: Sunday School | Every child is always welcome to join us virtually for Sunday School, with both sessions beginning at 9:15 a.m. If this is your first time, the registration form is located here and you can send completed ones to ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org to enroll. You can receive the elementary-age Zoom link by emailing Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkins@verizon.net. The older youth session is run by our Youth Minister, Todd Domer, and you can reach him by emailing youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for those Zoom details.

Adult Forum: Sunday Circle | Our popular Sunday morning Adult Forum series continues through Lent with a new cycle of topics based on the History of Women in the Church. Starting this Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall (lower level) of New Brick, we will explore *Women of the Bible*. The documents for this Sunday are in the *Sunday Circle Programs* section of our website's Adult Formation page.

Grab Your Copy of Our 2022 Lenten Meditation Book | The 2022 Lenten Meditation Book is now available for you to pick up and take home. Daily Lenten Meditations will be posted on our website and social media pages each weekday between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, with a *Saturday Song* musical selection posted each weekend. Thank you to everyone who sent us their submissions - this is the largest LMB we've ever published and that's due to the incredible response we received from our parish family.

Confirmation Class - Begins Sunday | Christ Church is offering Confirmation classes for all high school students in 2022 and will begin this Sunday, March 6th. At the moment, we'll hold these classes online via Zoom but may make adjustments as we go along. It is our hope that our candidates will be confirmed by one of the Bishops of Maryland later this year; we'll share that date when it becomes available. If you are interested in learning more about Confirmation and/or registering for the class, please reach out to Fr. Manny at revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Centering Prayer – Mondays | Centering Prayer takes place Mondays at 7 p.m. and is a form of contemplation, a method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God. We invite you to log in, see what Centering Prayer is all about, and how it can find a unique and valuable space in your own life. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is 859 2522 4340 and Password is Centering!

Adult and Children's Choir - Tuesdays and Thursdays | Our choirs are in full swing for both youth and adults, and everyone is welcome to join... so maybe 2022 is your year! Children's Choir meets on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Adult Choir meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. If you've ever been interested in joining our choir, now's that time... and this invitation is open to every parishioner. No experience is necessary, and the more people who join us, the better we sound! Please email Len Langrick, our Director of Music, at music@christchurchcolumbia.org to learn more.

Lectionary Bible Study – Wednesdays | Bible Study takes place on Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., discussing and reflecting on the readings for the coming Sunday. Our next gathering's readings are located here. You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and we'll all study and learn together. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is 885 9287 2661 and the Password is CECBible.

CEC Book Club – Fridays | The CEC Book Club is back every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., as we begin our discussion of the book *Why I Believe in a Personal God: The Credibility of Faith in a Doubting Culture* by George Carey, former Archbishop of Canterbury. We're always welcoming new members to join our virtual gathering. For about an hour each Friday, we discuss a specified section of the current book and plan future readings and ideas. The Zoom link is here, the Meeting ID is 894 0227 6226, the Password is CECbooks and we hope that you'll find time to join us for this engaging and enlightening group discussion. Email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com if you're interested or have any questions.

Women of Christ Church - March 7th | The next WOCC meeting takes place via Zoom next Monday, March 7th at 1 p.m. If you're a woman aged 18 or older, you're already a member of the WOCC, so join us and see what's happening!

We've also published our 2022 calendar of events, so please check it out and join us in our activities. We've got lots of opportunities coming up in March, so mark your calendars:

- March 21st is our trip to Maryland Women's Heritage Center to celebrate Women's History Month. Carpooling will be available. Email us for details.
- We've been invited by St. John's in Ellicott City to their Saturday afternoon guided Lenten Labyrinth walks. Guides will be available between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. each Saturday in Lent, beginning this Saturday, March 5th. We visited the site last fall; you can see our report about that experience here.

(continued)

In other news, The WOCC delivered large-print bibles, sugar-free hot cocoa mix, and a variety of snacks to our friends at Springfield Hospital Volunteer Services on February 17th ([see the photo on the WOCC blog post for March](#)). We still can't make our monthly bingo visits due to COVID-19 restrictions, but we check in with Volunteer Services to see if we can help them meet current patient needs. The snacks will be used in their Incentive Program, and the Bibles were a request from their new chaplain, on behalf of a few patients with sight challenges.

Altar Flowers and Gifts | If you would like to present Altar gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on an upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and 2022 sign-up sheet at <https://tinyurl.com/CECaltargifts>. You can also sign up and reserve a slot by using our [Realm Online Giving Form](#); just choose "Altar Flowers and Gifts" from the *FUND* drop-down menu, and place the dedication name(s) and service date in the *MEMO* line. [Email the Church Office](#) with any questions.

Christ Church's Grief Support Group | If you are grieving a loss and would like to occasionally join a group of others for mutual support and learning, please let us know. Christ Church is planning on creating a Zoom gathering, led by Mother Marcia, for those who might find comfort in sharing &/or listening to experiences of processing loss. This group would meet on a schedule that's most convenient for all participants. Mother Marcia is also happy to meet individually to offer pastoral care and counseling, so if you're interested in taking part in either gathering, [please email](#) or speak to her at any time.

Knitters... We Need You! | The Christ Church Prayer Shawl Group has recently been very successful in creating prayer squares, so we are in abundance of those. We do, however, need help in knitting complete prayer shawls at this time. There are several people who are in need of one, but we don't have any to offer to them. If you are interested in knitting a prayer shawl, they can be made approximately 20" wide and 60" long, and knit in a machine-washable material (cotton or acrylic are preferred). An example of a completed prayer shawl can be seen [here](#). The fun in making these is that the knitter is creating something with love to comfort someone in need and that they can be creative in choosing a design or creating their own. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Kathy Lyon at rklyon@cablespeed.com.

We Can Use a Few More Ushers and Lectors... How About You? | Several people have recently offered to help out during Christ Church services, and we are extremely grateful to each of you! We do have several spots available for more volunteers, so we encourage you to consider becoming an usher and/or lector for the occasional Sunday service. You will know your schedule well ahead of time, and all ushers and lectors will receive training before scheduling. Please contact Yetti Lipede at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

Youth Ministry Assistance Needed | Our Youth Minister, Todd Domer, is looking for a few volunteers to occasionally help out during youth activities and gatherings. If you're interested, please email Todd at youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org

Diocese of Maryland's COVID Update for This Week | [The most recent Diocesan update can be read in full here](#). Please note that masks are still required at all times while indoors at Christ Church, and we encourage those with compromised immune systems to remain home on Sundays and worship virtually. As always, we'll continue our dialogue with the appropriate organizations and adjust restrictions with care and consideration.

Taizé Worship Services in Lent Begins this Friday, March 4th | On Friday evening at 6 p.m. in Old Brick, CEC will offer a series of six Taizé worship services including chants, prayers, Scripture, intercessory prayer, and silence. Mother Marcia, a long-time adherent to the Taizé community and frequent visitor, will lead the service. This form of worship, based on the practice of the Taizé community in France, offers a time of quiet and intentional reflection, worship, and drawing closer to the Presence of God in Christ Jesus.

(continued)

The founder of the Taizé community, Brother Roger, explains: "What we usually call 'worship' the Taizé community simply calls 'Prayer'. Taizé Prayer consists of 'short chants, repeated again and again, giving them a meditative character. Using just a few words, they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God." Silence is also an important component and a welcome gift to Taizé worship. The use of lighted candles and icons offers a visual invitation to pray silently in the presence of others and God. Although chants and even prayers are sung, there is no requirement to be musically gifted to participate. For more information, [email Mother Marcia](#) or simply join us in Old Brick any Friday during Lent, beginning on March 4th.

Sabina School Expresses Gratitude for Educational Support during Uganda's Coronavirus Difficulties | The headteacher at Sabina Boarding Primary School in Uganda has written to Christ Church, voicing the gratitude of teachers who have been able to continue their careers in extremely difficult times. In Uganda, students returned to classrooms in January after months of suspended schooling due to the pandemic.

The school is operated by the nonprofit, [Friends of Sabina](#) (FOS), which is supported through the Outreach Commission by parishioners' contributions and by individuals. Some parishioners sponsor students whose families are unable to pay tuition while other parishioners support teachers. Some at Christ Church do both.

Because of the support, teachers did not have to abandon their profession to survive. The Sabina staff was retained and – even more significantly – children weren't at risk for falling behind while schools were shuttered nationwide. Sabina teachers prepared education packets that they and staff members delivered to students' homes to keep them engaged in learning.

In Uganda and around the world, other children have fared much worse. A recent United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) [report](#) called the shutdowns "a nearly insurmountable scale of loss." Younger and more marginalized children faced the greatest loss, the report says.

By contrast, headteacher Jude Ssentale had a positive tone in his letter of Feb. 24th: "Currently, our neighborhoods are entrusting us with more children into the school," he wrote, "with now a more robust human resource in place that is assured of a salary at the end of the month." Sabina is located in the Kyotera District, an agricultural area.

"It should be noted that Sabina Boarding School is a unique institution where those who would not be in a position to afford education are supported to acquire quality education and mentorship," he wrote. "The bigger community where the school is located is extremely challenged and therefore, without this support from sponsors like you, these highly vulnerable children would not be at school."

In January, returning students showed great eagerness to learn, [a FOS newsletter says](#).

For more than a decade, the Outreach Commission at Christ Church has backed efforts at the school and, as you may recall, hosted FOS leaders during a Zoom coffee hour. Through Outreach, Christ Church supports the Sabina library, which serves as a community center, and pays the annual salary of the librarian, Richard Tumusiime. (See photos from a video shown at the Aug. 2 virtual coffee hour). Vestry-approved funds, derived from your contributions, also pay for news and periodical subscriptions and Sabina's internet fees.

FOS expects to put that internet service to even better use during 2022, as plans take shape for a new computer lab. FOS is raising funds for the lab and other improvements now that the nonprofit has met its goal of raising \$80,000 for WASH, a water and sanitation campaign. It was featured in [a FOS video on YouTube](#) shown during a Dec. 8 virtual update.

FOS leaders will be on-site during spring and summer. Ann Marie Davis plans a stay from March 10 through May 2, and Maria White, from July 18 to Aug. 10. If you have questions, contact info@friendsofsabina.org while they are at Sabina.

Join Small Delusions in Helping Provide Support for Ukrainian Refugees | On Sunday, March 20th at 2:00 p.m. join us in New Brick as the wonderful band, Small Delusions, performs a concert to help raise funds for Ukrainian refugee families. The United Nations reports that nearly one million people have already fled the catastrophic situation in their homeland, and that number will likely rise exponentially. For a few hours on the 20th, we will have an opportunity to hear classic sounds while raising funds for a very worthwhile cause.

Small Delusions - Jan DeBoissiere, JB Hanson, and Shannon Pruitt - used to be part of a larger group called Delusions of Grandeur. As they say, "Our delusions are still there; they are just smaller." They have performed together for over six years, and we're thrilled to have them back at Christ Church.

We'll have more info in the coming weeks, but if you wish to donate in the meantime you can use the [Refugee Ministry online form](#). Just select "Ukrainian Refugee Ministry" from the MEMO dropdown menu, and Christ Church will direct those gifts toward relief for the people of Ukraine.

Columbia Community Care Calls for Volunteers to Prepare Its Next Pantry | The all-volunteer organization [Columbia Community Care](#) (CCC) has obtained a site to establish a new pantry and has set dates for a weekend clean-up.

"We officially have the keys to the Columbia Flier Building for a temporary home for now, and we will begin our process to re-start our home delivery service!" announced CCC founder Erika Strauss Chavarria in a recent post on the [CCC Group on Facebook](#).

"The first step of this process is to clean and decorate our new space, and we need YOUR HELP! We will have a "CCC Volunteer Clean-up and Beautify the Flier Building Weekend Extravaganza" on Saturday, March 19th, and Sunday, March 20th," she wrote.

The building, located at 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway, had been the iconic home of the *Columbia Flier* and other community newspapers of Patuxent Publishing Co., which was acquired by the Baltimore Sun Media Group. After the building was vacated in 2011, the Howard County government bought it in 2014.

CCC asks the community to pitch in on the conversion to a pantry. "Anyone looking for service hours, this is a GREAT opportunity to get those hours in! Hope to see you all there!" said Chavarria. CCC has an online [sign-up form for volunteers](#) who are willing to perform duties during various shifts from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 19th or from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 20th.

CCC also asks supporters to lend or donate items needed to clean and paint. Please go to a separate [online sign-up form](#), which will give further instructions as the dates approach.

At Christ Church, members of R.A.G.E and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to continue supporting CCC by collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers. Put these items in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall.

Baltimore Seafarers News | As a reminder, the Women of Christ Church gather donations for Seafarers throughout the year. At this time, they are looking for magazines, cards, notebooks, gloves, hats, and scarves. If you'd like to donate any of these items, the "Seafarers" box is under the table in the Tower Room of New Brick.

Donate Snacks, Crackers, and Cookies to FISH in Bin on our Breezeway | Organizers for [FISH of Howard County](#) are continuing to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill its shopping lists. The yellow bin is between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your contributions to our neighbors in need.

In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org. Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.



Christ Church invites your kind participation in a survey about our common life. You may complete the survey by using this link or by scanning the QR code below. The survey has four main sections: Christian education (subdivided into Christian education for ages 3-5th grade, youth, and adults), fellowship, worship, and general. If a particular section doesn't apply to you, you can scroll to the bottom of the page and click Next to continue to the next section. Christ Church relies on all of us to volunteer for the many ministries that enrich our common life. Please share your interests in volunteering in the General section of the survey. The survey will close on Wednesday, March 30th. If you have any problems accessing the survey, please contact the Church Office. Thank you for your faithfulness and input.





WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH

Because of your genuine and overwhelming acts of selflessness, kindness, grace, compassion, and love, you continue to give immensely to support and build our common life at Christ Church. You inject life into Christ Church so that we may be able to serve the world. It is your giving that has made it possible for us to accomplish some of the work that God has given us. The truth is that we have been able to minister and serve countless people because of your faithfulness, and for that, we thank God for each one of you and thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

We also want to thank **YOU**. Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables Christ Church to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us.

We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness. Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving, and so as we celebrate the season of giving, we want to highly encourage all who have not fully completed their pledge for 2021 to remember their faithfulness. We also want to appeal to all who have not as yet returned their pledge for 2022 to remember their faithfulness.

TEXT GIVING: You can now give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply text **CECGIVING** to **73256**, and you'll receive a secure link to our page where you can set up a one-time or recurring gift.

ONLINE GIVING: You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing towards your annual pledge or another offering. Whether it's a one-time donation or a recurring gift, you can go to our [overview page](#) for instructions and links. Signing up is fast and easy; if you need assistance doing so, or if you have any Stewardship-related questions, please contact us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org



Christ Episcopal Church

6800 Oakland Mills Road

Columbia, MD 21045

(410) 381-9365

www.christchurchcolumbia.org

office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Len Langrick, *Interim Music Director*

Kathleen Lyon, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Tim Beaty • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • Greta Pike-Barnes •

Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman