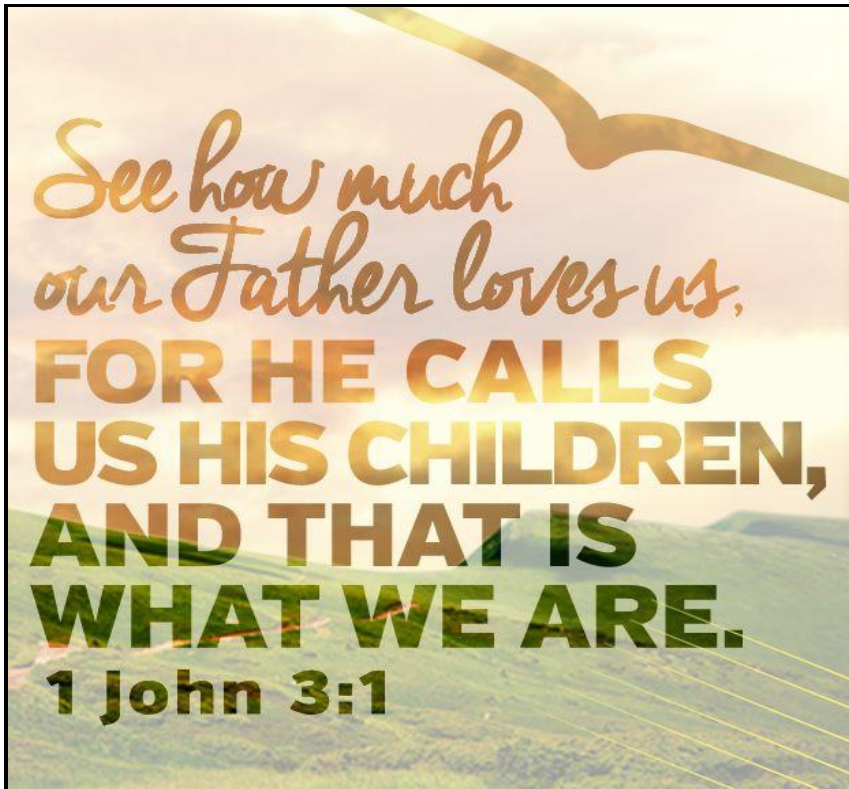


The Third Sunday of Easter
April 15, 2018



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8:00 AM

Christ Episcopal Church
Montpelier, VT

Christ Church is a Christian faith community that welcomes all, worships together, transforms lives, and engages in God's work in greater Montpelier and beyond.

The Holy Eucharist – Rite I – 8:00 am

We invite you to observe silence before the service begins.

Salutation and response

BCP 323

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

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.

Gloria

BCP 324

**Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

BCP 173

O God, whose blessed Son did manifest himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open, we pray thee, the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

The Word of God

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

3:12-19

Psalm 4

BCP 587-588

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?"

Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices
and put your trust in the LORD.

Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!"
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.

You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep;
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

A reading from the 1st Letter of John

3:1-7

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

24:36b-48

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

R ev. Steve Reynes

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

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.**

Prayers of the People

BCP 328

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 people: 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 the leaders of your church, and the participants in their ministries, that they may, both by their lives 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 Donald our president and Philip our governor, 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 all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. Today we pray for: Ida, Ernest, Charlotte, Mary Helen, Evan, Maria, Mary Irish, Dodge, Janet, Debbie Sabens, Joseph, Craig, the Buel Family and for those whom you wish to name either silently or aloud.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Eric Buel, 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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We encourage you to offer your neighbor a sign of peace!

The Holy Communion

*All are welcome to receive communion at our Lord's table!
In addition to traditional consecrated bread and wine,
consecrated gluten free hosts and grape juice are available upon request.*

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 340

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

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

**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.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for 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 to thee, he broke 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 this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, 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."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, 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; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

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

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Fraction

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Distribution of Communion

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 Dismissal

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Chris Long is the Lay Eucharistic Minister this morning.

Christ Episcopal Church's team of preachers reflects a variety of styles by bringing the Word of God to life in unique and relevant ways.

Your direct feedback is always welcomed and appreciated.

Christ Church Staff and Leadership

Paul Habersang, *Priest-in-Partnership*

Beth Ann Maier, *Regional Deacon*

Lynnette Combs, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Bruce Story, *Senior Warden*

Ted Long, *Junior Warden*

Denise Womer, *Youth and Families Director*

Kathy Preis, *Administrator*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Join the Choir! Do you want to sing in the choir? The choir always warmly welcomes new members. We rehearse on Wednesday nights from 7:00PM to 8:30PM (except during the summer) and sing most Sundays. You can make a seasonal commitment, if you are unable to sing year-round. Please speak to Lynnette Combs, choirmaster.

Thursday Noon Concerts in the Sanctuary: Thursday April 19th will feature Sweet Prospect: Music for Women's Voices. The concerts are free and begin at noon, ending about 45 minutes later. Tea and coffee are provided; bring your own lunch. Donations this year will benefit the building restoration fund, as we celebrate 150 years in this historic church building. There are five concerts: all four Thursdays in April, and the first Thursday in May.

Rededication of the Harpsichord: On Sunday, April 15, 2018, we will rededicate the newly acquired harpsichord in our sanctuary. This harpsichord was previously under the care of our former Organist & Choirmaster, Brian Webb. Brian's wife, Nancy, has generously decided to share this harpsichord with the Christ Church family and we are now the new caretakers of this wonderful instrument.

Youth & Family Ministry Coming Events

Heifer International Program: The ingathering of the Heifer International coin boxes received from last week's collection totaled \$197.00! The children of our Youth & Families Ministry will help to decide what animal(s) these funds will support and they will soon let our faith community know of their decision. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Time Capsule! Again, as we celebrate our 150th year in Christ Church, the Youth & Family Ministry is preparing to bury a time capsule on the morning of June 3, 2018 when we will officially celebrate our sesquicentennial anniversary. If you have suggestions as to what might be included in this time capsule, please see Denise Womer, Director of Youth & Family Ministry at Christ Church.

Other Ministry News, Social Justice Initiatives and Community Events

The Social Justice Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 17 at 5:30PM in Paul's office. We are going to plan for programs for this spring. For more information, call Marty Roberts at 802-223-5506.

Telling Their Stories: On Sunday, April 22nd, two students from Montpelier High School will share reflections with us during the homily period of our liturgy. We so rarely have the opportunity to listen to people face-to-face, to experience their story-telling, to take it to heart and ponder how we are all connected in that story. My hope is that all of you will be able to be present with us to support these courageous young women as they step out of their comfort zone and encourage us to move out of ours.

Action with Governor Scott: On Monday, April 23rd from 6:30-7:45 PM at Christ Church, join Vermont Interfaith Action as we call on Governor Scott to sign bills supporting a Moral Economy. Come and listen to our neighbors who seek livable wages for the long hours they work, parents and children who deserve to make ends meet while they care for their loved ones, and the steps being taken towards a more transparent budget. At the end of our time together, we will ask Gov. Scott to sign the minimum wage as well as the family and medical leave bills when they come to his desk. If you want our economy to reflect our vow to “respect the dignity of every human being”, please come and pack the church! Governor Scott has been invited and asked to attend.

Dinner & Conversation: On Tuesday, April 24th, from 6:00-7:30PM, join the Christ Church Social Justice Group in our focus on systemic racial injustice as we discuss the homily given by the Montpelier High School students and watch a film presenting other first-person stories. Come at 5:30PM to share a light potluck dinner of soup, salad, bread, and cheese.

12th Annual People's Health & Wellness Clinic (PHWC) Annual Bowl-A-Thon: This year's fundraiser will take place on Saturday, May 5, 2018, from 1:00-3:00PM at Twin City Family Fun Center, 708 US Rte 302, Barre. This year marks the 12th year of the largest fundraising event in support of the free clinic. Kenley Freeman and Deb Barnwell have put together a team and welcome any support to meet their fundraising goal. Or put together your own team! For details call the Clinic at 802-479-1229 or Kenley at 802-476-7859.

Christ Church Connections (CCC)

Christ Church Connections is a ministry of mutual caring within this faith community. We promote connections by helping members in health or other personal crises (e.g., visits, meals, cards, prayers, home Eucharist). For the month of April, if your family or someone you know could use a visit or other help, please contact Ginny Catone. Ginny may be reached via phone at: 802-272-8992 or via email: vcatone@comcast.net

Bee Moulton Flower Fund: Would you like to dedicate fresh altar flowers to celebrate a milestone or remember a loved one? If so, just contact the office and we can help you select a date that's best for you.

Estate Planning? Is God in your will? If you are thinking about drawing up a will or planning for your future estate settlement, please consider including Christ Church in your will. This is way in which your lasting legacy will help us continue doing God's work in the neighborhood. Thank you.

Email Distribution List: If you would like to be added to our weekly email distribution list, please contact Kathy Preis in our office to add your address to the weekly communications. Thank you.

Office Hours: Kathy Preis, our Administrator is in the office on Monday's, Tuesday's, and Thursday's from 9:00AM-1:00PM. If you would like to make an appointment with Kathy or with Rev. Paul, please contact the office by phone or via email: administrator@christchurchvt.org. Thank you!

The Missions & Ministries of Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier

Altar Guild	Liz Slayton (802-229-0164)
Choir/Music	Lynnette Combs (802-371-5066)
Communications Team	Kathy Preis (802-522-8219)
Diocesan Representatives	Maggie Thompson (802-454-4635) Deb Barnwell (802-476-7859)
Discretionary Fund for Community Outreach	Virginia Catone (802-229-9898)
Fellowship Ministry	Stephen Dale (802-229-4686)
Finance Committee	John Jaworski (802-476-4942)
Food Shelf	Sharon Wilson (802-244-8037)
Full Ladle Soup Kitchen	Sharon Wilson (802-244-8037)
Hospitality Committee	Aldora Chamberlin (802-461-5527)
Lay Eucharistic Ministers/Chalice Bearers/Lectors	Steamer Walke (802-223-3632)
Christ Church Connections	Rev. Beth Ann Maier (802-793-4234)
Prayer Chain	Rev. Beth Ann Maier (802-793-4234)
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Maggie Thompson (802-454-4635) Rilla Murray (802-272-2663)
Social Justice Committee	Marty Roberts – 223-5506
Stewardship Committee	Bruce Story (802-225-6343)
Sudan Communion	Deb Jerard (802-223-0531) Martha Holden 802-229-9036)
Youth and Families Ministry	Denise Womer (603-545-9488)
Vestry (elected leadership team)	Bruce Story (802-225-6343)
Usher/Greeter Ministry	Jody Pettersen (802-522-6171)
Worship Committee	Rev. Paul Habersang (802- 223-3631)

Would you like to get involved or learn more about these ministries? If so, please contact the persons listed so you can become active in our ministries.