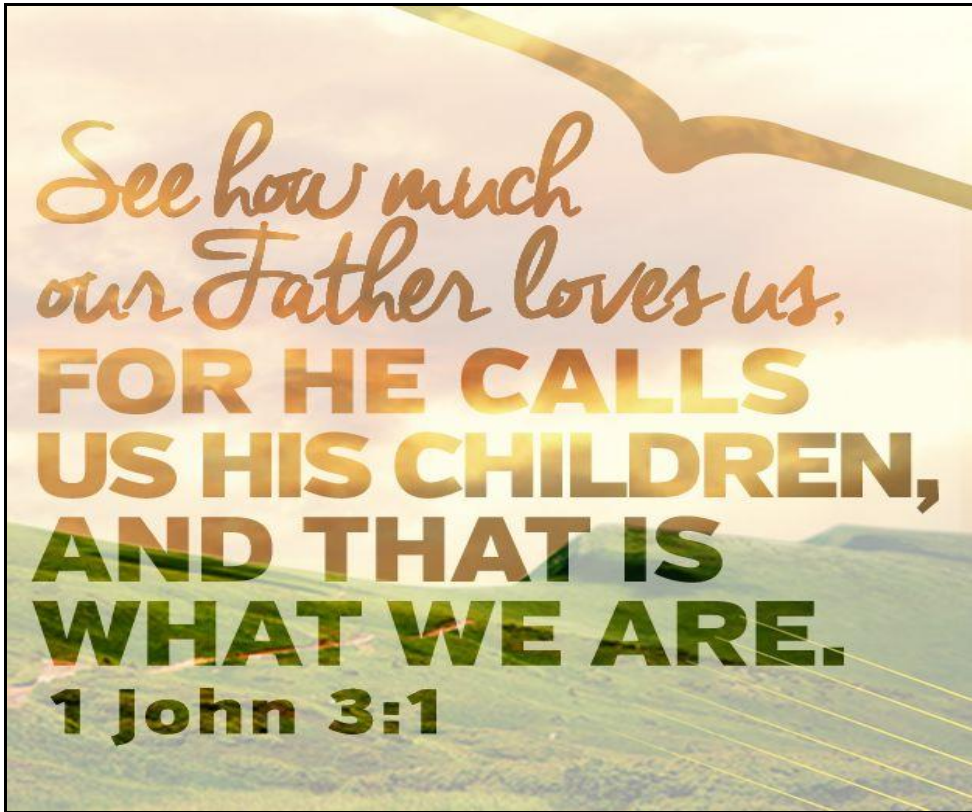


The Third Sunday of Easter
April 15, 2018



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10:00 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 II – 10:00 am

Worship in the Episcopal Church involves body mind and spirit. We stand to praise and pray. We sit to listen and learn. We sometimes kneel in silent meditation. No matter which prayer posture you choose, we want you to feel comfortable in your own style of worship here at Christ Episcopal Church.

Prelude: “*Siciliana and Vivace*”

George F. Handel

Andrea Brightenback, oboe

Processional Hymn: #210, “*The day of resurrection*”
(words from the 1873 hymnal)

Salutation and response

BCP 355

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

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 - See pew card

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

BCP 224

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, 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



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?"

Antiphon

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.

Antiphon

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.

Antiphon

A reading from the 1st Letter of John

3:1-7

Sequence Hymn #440, "Blessed Jesus, at thy word"

Verses 1&2

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

24:36b-48

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn #440, "Blessed Jesus, at thy word"

Verse 3

The Sermon

Rev. Steve Reynes

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 – A short pause is given after each prayer for you to offer your own prayer either silently or aloud.

Let us pray for the church and for the world.

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.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

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.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

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.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

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.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal 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.

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.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those who rest in Christ, for all the dead, especially Eric Buel, and for those persons you wish to remember either silently or aloud.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

And in conclusion, let us together pray the prayer to end homelessness.

An open door,

A roof above,

Safe homes for all,

In the power of love.

The Concluding Collect

The Rededication of the Harpsichord.

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

Offertory Anthem: “*Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem*”

Wallace Dobry

Doxology – See pew card

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 369

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus – See pew card

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Mothers and Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem – See pew card

Distribution of Communion

Communion Anthem: “*Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring*”

J.S. Bach

Communion Hymn: “*We are climbing Jacob’s ladder*” (see insert)

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom and now, Father send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and fore ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: #192 “*This joyful Eastertide*”

The Dismissal

Organ Postlude : “*Allegro*”

George F. Handel

We thank Andrea Brightenback for sharing her music with us today.

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

David Blythe is the Lay Eucharistic Minister this morning.

Our Lectors this morning are Diane Holland and Rilla Murray.

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	Bill Beard (802-223-2137)
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 (802-223-5506)
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.