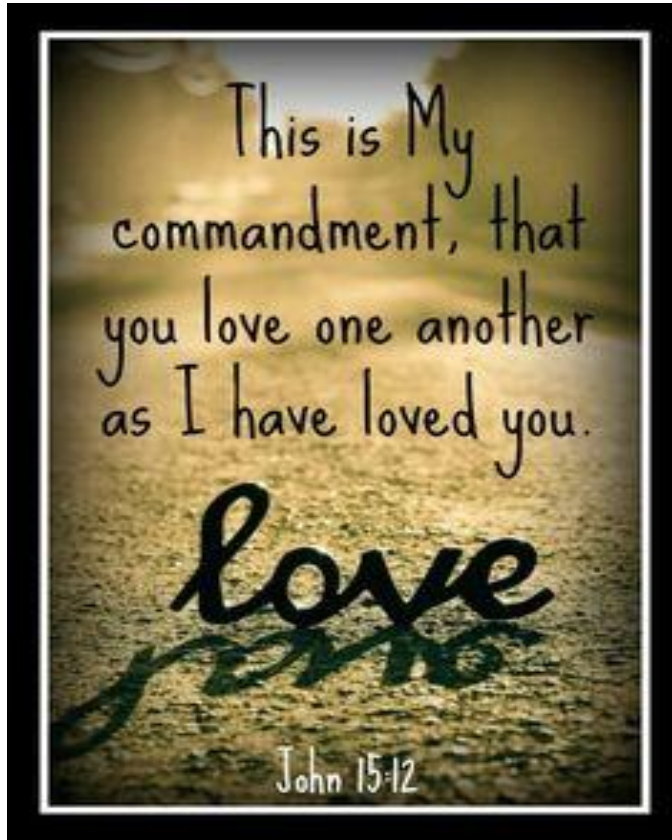


The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2018



<http://www.heraldmalaysia.com/news/this-is-my-commandment-love-one-another/23472/11>

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 174

O God, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass human's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards thee, that we, loving thee in all things and above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word of God

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10:44-48

Psalms 98

BCP 727-728

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.
The LORD has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

A reading from the 1st Letter of John

5:1-6

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

15:9-17

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Bob Meyers

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.

We give thanks O Lord, for the safe arrival of Ivy to Eric and Stephanie Kucinkas and her big sister Tess.

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: Ernest, Charlotte, Mary Helen, Evan, Maria, Mary Irish, Dodge, Janet, Debbie Sabens, Craig, Tom 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, 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

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 339

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 myscial 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!

Pat Dupont 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

5/6/2018 ALL PARISH MEETING: There will be an all-Parish meeting TODAY immediately after church to provide an update on our planned housing development, and to provide information on the range of issues involving the hotel and parking garage planned by the Capitol Plaza behind our building.

Although this is all a work in progress, we felt it important to update everyone. It is particularly important since the Montpelier Design Review Board will likely be completing its process for the hotel and parking garage at a meeting on May 7th!

We want you to know that the Housing Committee and the Vestry have been paying close attention to all of these issues. We are making sure that the hotel construction project will not negatively impact the current building and parking, but also will not prevent us from moving forward with our housing project, should we decide to proceed with that effort over the next two years. We look forward to seeing you in the Parish Hall immediately after church on May 6th. Thank you, Steve Dale & Shawn Bryan

Finance Committee: There will be a meeting of the Finance Committee on Monday, May 7, 2018 at 6:30PM in the administrative offices.

Worship Committee: There will be a meeting of the Worship Committee on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 6:30PM in the administrative offices.

**Celebrating 150 Years in Montpelier
Christ Episcopal Church
Celebratory Weekend of Scheduled Events
June 1-3, 2018**

All events are free and open to the public!

Friday, June 1, 2018, 7:30PM.

Jennifer Bower, Organ Recital

Jennifer is the 2018 artist of the year for the Vermont Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Saturday, June 2, 2018, 5:00-7:00PM.

Celebratory Community Dinner – All Are Welcome!

Sponsored by Youth & Family Ministry of Christ Episcopal Church

Saturday, June 2, 2018, 7:30PM.

“The Vermont Civil War Songbook”

Featuring Linda Radtke & Arthur Zorn

Singer and researcher Linda Radtke, dressed in period costume and joined by pianist Arthur Zorn, shares songs popular in Vermont during the Civil War as well as letters from Vermonters from the era. Linda will also integrate the history of Christ Church into the program. This program is made possible by the Vermont Humanities Council.

Sunday, June 3, 2018, 10:00AM.

Festive & Celebratory Service of Holy Eucharist with full choir and special instrumentalists.

Ice Cream Social Reception and burial of a time capsule will take place immediately following the service.

Friends of Christ Church? Do you know someone who may have been part of our community but has moved away? Do you think they would like to receive an invitation to our celebrations? If so, please send us their names and addresses and we will send them a formal invitation. Please send us this information to the church office via email at: administrator@christchurchvt.org Thank you!

Memorial Service for Ida Lange: Ida’s memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 1:00PM followed by a pot luck luncheon in the Parish Hall. Please join us to give thanks to God for the life and ministry of Ida.

Youth & Family Ministry Coming Events

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

Washington County Youth Service Bureau: Do you have space in your home and heart to house a teen in need? We are seeking host homes for teens who are experiencing stressful times with their families. Host homes will typically house a youth one or two times per year for no more than two weeks at a time, often limited to a few nights only. We provide a \$30/night stipend and the universe provides the good karma that can impact our world in a positive way! Contact Melaine @ WCYSB at 802-229-9151.

“Blessed Be” Montpelier Community Gospel Choir: Joined by guest artist Lloyd Dugger, the Montpelier Community Gospel Choir (MCGC) will perform a benefit concert today at Bethany United Church of Christ in Montpelier. The concert begins at 7:00PM, with admission by suggested donation of \$10 per person or \$25 for families. For more information, call (802) 778-0881 or visit via Facebook or at www.vtgospel.com

Racial Justice Series: Next Sunday, May 13, 2018 as part of our series on racial justice, our own Allen Gilbert, former head of the ACLU in Vermont, will speak about his faith and how it intersects with his work for social justice, especially as it pertains to racial profiling in Vermont. This will be followed by a film and discussion about racial justice presented by the Social Justice Committee on Tuesday, May 15 at 6:00PM.

Poor People's Campaign: When Martin Luther King was assassinated in Memphis 50 years ago, he was working on the Poor People's Campaign, an effort to link racial justice work and economic justice work as the next phase of the civil rights movement. A new Poor People's Campaign is emerging. On Mother's Day, the Campaign kicks off 40 days of moral action to challenge systemic poverty, racism and ecologic devastation in our country. Moral direct actions are planned during the 40 days. A training for these actions will be held on Sunday, May 13, 2018 at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Barre. For more information, see <http://www.poorpeoplescampaignvt.org>

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 challenging personal situations; e.g., through visits, meals, cards, prayers, errands, home Eucharist. For the month of May, if your family or someone you know could use a visit or other kind of support, please contact Kate Montross. Kate may be reached via phone at: 802-272-6434 or via email: ktandme@gmail.com

The Missions & Ministries of Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier

Altar Guild	Liz Slayton (802-229-0164)
Choir/Music	Lynnette Combs (802-371-5066)
Christ Church Connections	Rev. Beth Ann Maier (802-793-4234)
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)
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.