

# Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost October 28, 2018



<http://www.stmatthews-sf.org/news/sermon-mark-1046-52-reformation-sunday-october-25-2015/>

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

Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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 183

Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; 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 Book of Job

42:1-6. 10-17

Psalm 34:1-8

BCP 627-628

I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

I will glory in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;  
let us exalt his Name together.

I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me out of all my terror.

Look upon him and be radiant,  
and let not your faces be ashamed.

I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me  
and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the LORD encompasses those who fear him,  
and he will deliver them.

Taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are they who trust in him!

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

7:23-28

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

10:46-52

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

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Rev. Bob Myers

### **South African Affirmation of Faith**

It is not true that this world and its inhabitants are doomed to die and be lost;  
**This is true: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him shall not die but have everlasting life.** (John 3:16)

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction;  
**This is true; I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.** (John 10:10)

It is not true that violence and hatred shall have the last word, and that war and destruction have come to stay forever;  
**This is true; For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given in whom authority will rest and whose name will be Prince of Peace.** (Isaiah 9:6)

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil that seek to rule the world;  
**This is true: To Me is given all authority in Heaven and on Earth, and lo, I am with you always to the end of the world.** (Matthew 28:18)

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the church, before we can do anything;  
**This is true: I will pour out My Spirit on all people, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young people shall see visions, and your old folk shall dream dreams.** (Acts 2:17)

It is not true that our dreams for the liberation of humankind, our dreams of justice, of human dignity, of peace, are not meant for this earth and this history;  
**This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that true worshippers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.** (John 4:23)

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: Ernest, Charlotte, Mary Helen, Evan, Maria, Mary Irish, Pat, Beth, Candi 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, 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.**

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

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 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!

*Kathy Preis 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*

## **Vestry**

### Class of 2018

Josh Fitzhugh

Liz Slayton

Ted Long

### Class of 2019

Bruce Story

David Blythe

Joan Murray

### Class of 2020

Diane Holland

Sarah Hofmann

Shawn Bryan

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

**“Great is Thy Faithfulness”** God is good and God is faithful to all people all the time! In response to that gracious faithfulness (that we sometimes take for granted), we are invited to “pay it forward” through acts of compassion and generosity. This year, our fall stewardship drive is focusing on God’s graciousness in our lives and our subsequent invitation to respond. “Great is Thy Faithfulness” is a 20<sup>th</sup> century Christian hymn that poetically describes God’s consistent mercy, faithfulness, and generosity of Spirit. We hope you will respond to God’s faithfulness by making a pledge to support Christ Church and her many ministries throughout 2019. As you know, we build our faith budgets based on your faithful, financial pledges which support this church. Thank you in advance and we hope you always give thanks to God for all the mercies and generosity God has shown to you and yours.

**Celtic Liturgies in November:** On the upcoming four Sunday’s during November, the Worship Committee will sponsor Celtic Eucharist’s at the (4) 10:00AM services and also at (1) of the 8:00AM services. Because the language within these liturgies is different from our traditional Eucharistic prayers, the Worship Committee wanted to provide ample notice of this liturgical offering. Celtic liturgies are often focused on Spirit and creation. The Worship Committee thought it would be appropriate to celebrate these liturgies in advance of Advent, which is also a season that prepares us for the coming of Christ into the world. Please see Rev. Paul if you have any questions. Thank you for your willingness to “try something new on.”

**Armistice Day.** On November 11<sup>th</sup>, we and other churches in Montpelier will remember and honor Armistice Day or Veterans Day by the ringing of church bells at 12:30PM. We at Christ Church will also participate and we invite anyone who is interested to help ring our bell at 12:30 which is located in the bell tower. The ringing of the bells celebrates and signifies the agreement that was reached in 1918 to end the hostilities of World War One.

### ***Social Justice News and Announcements:***

**The Good Samaritan Haven:** The overflow shelter at Bethany Church is opening again on November 1st. Churches and other community groups in Montpelier have been asked to provide simple evening meals and a warming

space for shelter guests from 5:00PM to 8:00PM each evening. Christ Episcopal Church will be providing meals and a warm space on Tuesday evenings through April 15th. For more information, call Marty Roberts at (802)-223-5506.

**Social Justice Committee Book Discussion:** Christ Church's parishioners are invited to participate with parishioners from St. John's Episcopal Church in Randolph to explore the book, "The Hate You Give" by Angie Thomas. This is a young adult book about a black teenager who witnesses the shooting of her friend. The discussions will be held on Wednesdays, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at St. John's, beginning with a soup supper at 5:30PM. We will have some books available if there is interest. Please speak with any member of the Social Justice Committee: Wendy Dale, Roberta Downey, Jean Jersey, Beth Ann Maier, Joan Murray or Marty Roberts.

### ***Youth & Family Ministry Updates:***

**BOB Drive (Bag of Basics):** On October 14<sup>th</sup> following the 10:00AM service, we will walk to Rite Aid Pharmacy to help our children select basic (unscented if possible) necessities for this year's drive. The drive will start the following week and end on November 18th, with the ***Fall Blessings Luncheon***. A second walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Last year, we helped collect hundreds of donated items that were then distributed to local nonprofit agencies. Let's do it again! The official congregation rollout will be Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, during Youth in Church Sunday! We will be collecting items until Sunday, November 19th. Volunteers are needed to staple flyers to the bags. Please contact Denise Womer at 603-545-9488 or youthandfamilies@christchurchvt.org if you can help.

**We want your Leftover Halloween Candy For "Operation Gratitude":** On Sunday, November 4th, please bring in your leftover candy (non-chocolate preferred) along with some toothbrushes and give them to a good cause! Youth and Family Ministry will box these items up along with your cards for "Operation Gratitude", which will be sent to our deployed troops and first responders throughout the world. For more information, please visit <https://www.operationgratitude.com/can-help/>.

**Cards of Gratitude and Thanksgiving:** Over the next two weeks, Youth and Family Ministry will be setting up a card writing campaign, to send

along with the candy for Operation Gratitude. We are asking everyone to please help us. Blank cards and art supplies will be made available in the parish hall over the next month. Thank you!

**Fall Blessings Luncheon:** Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Please come celebrate the end of fall, the conclusion of our fall stewardship campaign, and the completion of our BOB Drive. Soup, salad and dessert will be served in the Parish Hall by our youth following the 10:00AM service (11:30PM-12:30PM). Our luncheon is also open to the Montpelier community. Volunteers are needed for set up, clean up and to bring food items such as milk, juice, bread, fruit and salad mixings. Please, don't hesitate to invite a friend or neighbor to join us and contact Denise Womer at 603-545-9488, or at [youthandfamilies@christchurchvt.org](mailto:youthandfamilies@christchurchvt.org) if you have questions or would like to volunteer or donate food.

### ***Other Events and Announcements:***

### **News About Our Search for the 11th Bishop of The Episcopal Church in Vermont**

The Bishop Discernment and Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the launch nationwide of our Profile and website! We invite you to take a look, at [www.bishopsearchvt.org](http://www.bishopsearchvt.org) The Profile is a thorough, accurate and honest summary of The Episcopal Church in Vermont and is the document that potential candidates will read as they discern their call to apply. The BDNC will be accepting applications until November 16, 2018. Feel free to spread the word and share this website among priests you know who may be interested in applying and others who may know potential applicants. The BDNC work of screening and interviewing applicants is confidential. The slate of finalists will be announced in late March. Meanwhile, please keep the applicants and the BDNC in your prayers as we proceed in our mutual discernment. Maggie Thompson, Chair, Bishop Discernment and Nominating Committee

### **SURVIVOR-CENTERED SACRED SPACE**

If you are a survivor of sexual violence or domestic violence or if you are someone who supports a survivor. You are invited to silent, prayerful, meditative contemplation and rest. Stories of others' trauma can remind us of our own. It

has been a heavy time. You are invited to bring the weight of your stories and lay them down for a moment. You are invited to breathe easier - in a space that is held for you.

WEDNESDAYS in OCTOBER

**10/31**

**5:30-6:30PM**

Christ Episcopal Church

Rev. Auburn Watersong

**Tuesday Eucharist's at 5:30PM:** On Tuesday evenings into the fall, we will continue celebrating informal evening Eucharist's in the chapel. Please feel welcome to stop by after work for a few minutes of contemplation and reflection. All are welcome.

**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 October, if your family or someone you know could use a visit or other kind of support, please contact Jody Pettersen. Jody may be reached via email at: [jodypettersen@gmail.com](mailto:jodypettersen@gmail.com)

**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 Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays 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](mailto:administrator@christchurchvt.org). Thank you!

## **Christ Episcopal Church and the Parking Garage**

Christ Episcopal Church is in a unique position relative to the proposed construction of a large parking garage less than eight feet from its rear property line. This communication is to clarify for our community the Christ Church's position on the project.

The church, as a formal organization, does not desire to take a position on the merits of this project. Clearly downtown economic development is important as is the preservation of green space near Montpelier's rivers. We will leave that debate to individuals within our community, including individuals who are part of our faith community.

The specific interests of the church are as follows:

1. We want to be certain that any large project behind the church building does not preclude construction of affordable housing on the church's property, a project that has been under discussion for nearly three years and which has been delayed by resources being diverted to the Transit Center. At this point, the church has been informed that the new plans for the garage, in and of themselves, will not prevent housing from being built. It could make a housing project less attractive to funders and potential tenants, but it does not kill the project.
2. We have special concerns related to the impact of the project on the current 150-year-old historic sanctuary and current church operations. The church is seeking a memorandum of understanding with the City of Montpelier, similar to one which had been under negotiation with the Bashara family/Capitol Plaza Corp, addressing issues such as storm water runoff, loss of parking, management of the increased elevation of the Church's right-of-way, and the costs to the church of protecting itself from the impact of such a large project. Timely completion of such a memorandum of understanding will help address these concerns.

We encourage all voters – both within and external to this congregation – to exercise their rights by voting their consciences on this public matter.

Thank you



## Psalms 34:1-2

I will praise the LORD at all times. I will constantly  
speak his praises. I will boast only in the LORD;  
let all who are helpless take heart.

[http://cove-bibletalk.blogspot.com/2015/10/the-lectionary-passages-for-sunday\\_21.html](http://cove-bibletalk.blogspot.com/2015/10/the-lectionary-passages-for-sunday_21.html)

## **The Missions & Ministries of Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier**

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