Christ Episcopal Church

A Parish of the Anglican Communion
April 28, 2024, 8:00 AM

Empowered by Jesus to love, serve, and lead.

(Christ Church's Mission Statement)



The Fifth Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist Rite I

Welcome! Whether you are visiting for the first time or are a lifelong member, we are glad you are here. Whatever your religious background and wherever you are on your faith journey, we hope you encounter the Sacred here.

You'll notice that in our worship services not all people participate in exactly the same ways. Part of what makes The Episcopal Church special is that people with diverse beliefs and practices worship together here. We invite you to participate in the service as you feel comfortable. You are free to sit, stand or kneel; cry and laugh; doubt and question; hold hands with your partner; sit silently; or sing off key. Children are a blessing, not a bother, so don't be worried if they wiggle.

Most of the material you need is in this bulletin; as well as *The Hymnal 1982*, the songbook *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (LEVAS) and the *Book of Common Prayer* (has a cross on the front). There are Bibles in the pews in various translations, feel free to leaf through, or even take one, if you'd like.

The Holy Eucharist is Christ's eternal banquet. In the Episcopal Church it is our tradition to welcome everyone to receive communion. This is God's table, not our table; and God welcomes everyone to share in the Body of Christ.

Following the service, please join us for refreshments in St. Joseph's Hall. There are often presentations of varied topics of interest in the Adult Forum.

If you have questions about our church, please speak with a clergyperson, one of the ushers, or a greeter after the service or contact the church office, 610-566-7525 or rita@christchurchmedia.org. To join our emailing list, please fill out the tan visitor card in your pew and give it to an usher or put it in the collection plate.

God loves and accepts you, just as you are, and we do too. Welcome!

The Rt. Rev. Daniel G.P. Gutierrez - Bishop The Rev. Fr. Ernest Galaz - Rector The Rev. Dcn. Joseph German - Deacon Mr. Kurt Brunner - Senior Warden

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Celebrant: The Rev. Ernest Galaz, Rector Deacon: The Rev. Joseph German

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant says

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.

Summary of Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Gloria

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards all. 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 on us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of the God the Father, Have mercy on 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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you. **People** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray... Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen

The First Lesson Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader The Word of the Lord. **People Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; * he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

The Epistle 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader The Word of the Lord. **People Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John 15:1-8

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Priest The Gospel of Our Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon Rev. Ernie Galaz

The Nicene Creed

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 (truly human).

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.

The Prayers of the People

Let us join through prayer with everything that lives. Let us acknowledge to God the one life we share, saying: O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.

Leader: O God, your Holy Spirit is alive in all the earth. Your Spirit that moved and shaped land and sea, trees and beasts still moves and shapes us into creation. Through Christ we know your one Holy Spirit, for you are God of all. That all the world may know your Spirit, we pray:

O God, who makes us one,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Open your world before our eyes, so that we see far and near. Show us newly what lives around us, over and behind and within. Give us the mind of Christ.

O God, who makes us one, **People: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Bring us to one another, that we may hear and understand each other. Bring trust and sympathy between the peoples of the world. Make all nations one household with many rooms. O God, who makes us one,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Heal us who are sick. Cheer us who are guilty. Love us who are alone. Jin us who are distant. Call all the world to yourself.

O God, who makes us one,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Enliven the church with the Spirit of Christ. Through us give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our many gifts one offering for the world.

O God, who makes us one,

People: Hear our prayer.

The people add their petitions and thanksgiving aloud or silently.

The Celebrant concludes with a Collect

O God, keep our minds inside your love, for we are many parts and need to be one. We beg for this unity which only your Spirit can give, through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

The Peace (All Stand)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Greetings and Announcements

Prayer for Birthdays

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Travelers

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving, (Eucharistic Prayer II)

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 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. 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 and People

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.

The Celebrant continues

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.

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. The Body of Christ for the Body of Christ. Be what you see. Receive what you are.

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

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

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia. **People Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Don Glackin in thanksgiving and celebration of Joyce's 91st Birthday.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST – (friends, family and acquaintances of parishioners)
Michael, Teresa, Helen, Mark, Al, Tracy, Lynn, Lee, Diana, Jackie, Bruce, Barbara, Peter, Patrick, Lucille, Bryan, Rosemarie, Rick, Robert, Meredith, Cindy, Willa, Thomas, Joan, Elizabeth, John, Guy, Mike, Bette, Carol, Sherry, Linda, Peggy, Mary, Ed, Taylor, Robin, Joy, Alex, Paul, Judi, Rebecca, Terry, Sandy, Carolyn, Daniella, Rachel, Morgan, Karen, Anthony, Jean, Marco, Abigail, Pat, Barbara, Doug, Debbie, Judith, Taylor, Sandy, Carol, Isabella, Connor, Bruce, Bonnie, Cynthia, Anu, Robert, Mark, Jim, Linda, Greg, Joanne

WE CELEBRATE THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS: Joyce Glackin, Kate Zurick, Bryan Scranton, Callie Scranton

<u>SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE</u> 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I and 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II, the 10am service is live-streamed.

<u>WEDNESDAY PRAYER, BIBLE STUDY, and SERVICE</u> Every Wednesday, all are invited to join in a spiritually uplifting morning. **Intercessory Prayer at 10am**; **Bible Study at 11am** in the Rector's Office. Following Bible Study, the **midday service** is offered in the Chapel. All are welcome!

<u>NURSERY CARE</u> Nursery care is available today from 9:30am—12:30pm for infants to 3 years of age in the Acorn Classroom located on the lower level. Ashley Steinhauer and De Anna Hickson, Nursery care givers.

<u>CHURCH SCHOOL</u> Church school is held immediately following the 10am Sunday worship service. All children 4 years of age through 5th grade meet in St. Mary's Hall. Church School ends promptly at 12:15pm.

ADULT FORUM Adult Forum immediately follows the 10 AM worship service and is held in St. Joseph's Hall. Upcoming topics:

April 28 – Vestry Meeting - All are welcome to attend meetings of the Vestry May 5 – St. James School - Dave Kasievich, Head of School, along with students and staff will be with us for both services and Adult Forum on Sunday May 5, 2024. The Rev. Frank Allen, Chair of the St. James School Board of Directors will be guest preaching as well. Staff will be available to talk about the unique tax credit program where you can redirect your PA State tax liability and turn them into scholarships for students. St. James graduates will be selling products from their Woodshop, as well as St. James jarred honey from campus beehives and assorted preserves from the Trappist Monastery.

St. James School appreciates the long standing support from the Christ Church, Media parish family. Hear about exciting updates about the last year in the new Schoolhouse and expanded learning space. Learn where this year's 8th grade graduates will be taking backpacks full of supplies generously provided by Christ Church upon graduation.

ST JAMES BACKPACK PROJECT As part of our outreach ministry we will once again partner with St. James School in providing backpacks for their 18 graduating students. Each backpack will have a calculator, homework assignment book, school supplies, books to read, and other items needed for their educational journey and a personally selected item.

The first two items – backpack and calculator – will be a donation of \$170 (for our 170th year celebration!!) When you sign up to donate, please note payment by cash or check. Other items, that is, assignment books, supplies, etc. will be for you to purchase. There will be table in St. Joseph's Hall where you will place your donations and they will be collected each Sunday until May 19th. Sign up sheets will be available in St. Joseph's Hall. Checks payable to Christ Church memo: *Backpack project* If you have any questions, please see or email JoAnn Townsend at joanntownsend@mac.com

If you'd like to present a topic at an upcoming Adult Forum, or if you have an idea for a topic, please contact Beth Termini 978-239-3937

<u>CHRIST CHURCH GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP</u> The Christ Church Grief Support Group meets every month on the third Saturday at 10 AM. This meeting is offered both in-person at the church and via Zoom. All are welcome, whether your loss is recent or long ago.

THURSDAY EMPOWERMENT GROUP meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7pm. The group has decided to study the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) beginning with our next meeting. This is a great opportunity for both those new to the Episcopal church and for long time members to delve into our shared faith. The BCP includes all of the various rites (Eucharist, Baptism, Marriage, etc.) prayers, as well as historical documents, a catechism of church teachings, and so much more. All are welcome to join us and hopefully have many of your questions answered. If you have any questions about this group, please contact Dan Mistichelli via email ddmisti@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATES!

- Ladies Spring Tea There has been a wonderful response to this year's Ladies Spring Tea, Saturday, May 4, 12 noon-2:00 pm in St. Joseph's Hall. We have space for 4 more women and girls; all generations welcome. Please see sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Feel free to invite other special women to attend and be sure to include their names on the sign-up sheet. Teacups and saucers will be provided. Please note, we have volunteers for all of the needed sandwiches, fruit salad and desserts. No other food is needed. For those who signed up to bring food, please bring by 11:15 am to allow set up time. Reach out to the Tea Planning Committee with questions: Terry Andrews, Marylee Bunting, Bobbi Morris, Sandy Rendin, Barbara Wilson
- St. James POOL & PACKING PARTY On Saturday, May 25th you're invited to the "BARN" (JoAnn Townsend's) 327 W Baltimore Pike, Media for a fun day of crafts, swimming, and outdoor play. We will also be packing backpacks and wrapping presents for graduating students of St. James as part of our outreach ministry. It all begins at 11am, lunch will be provided. \$25 per person donation to St. James Backpack project. Please see sign up posted on the bulletin board.
- <u>Sunday, June 2 END OF YEAR CELEBRATION</u> This fun event takes place immediately after the 10am worship service.
- Tuesday, July 30 CHRIST CHURCH NIGHT AT THE PHILLIES

Christ Church has purchased 50 tickets for the Phillies vs Yankees game. The game has a 6:40pm start time. Tickets are \$50 each. Please see Bob Miller if interested on purchasing tickets or contact him via email: Robertmiller42311@gmail.com

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

5 Easter, April 28 8AM

Altar – Rob Miller

OT, Psalm – Sandy McKeown

PP – Geoff Kitson

NT/CB - Kate Zurick

10AM

1st Server – Ivy Comerford 2nd Server – Maya Scranton Crucifer – Robert Miller

Gospeler – Frank Mathews

OT – Carol Smith NT – Connie Davies PP – David Klassen

CB1 – Mary Ann Klassen

CB2 – Kurt Brunner

Ushers

8AM – Sandy & Jim McKeown 10AM –Don Glackin, Ron Mecklin

6 Easter, May 5 8AM

Altar – Peter Falcone OT, Psalm – Ginny Davis

PP – Leslie Bullitt

NT/CB - Steve Falcone

10AM

1st Server – Caroline Lenderman 2nd Server – Ivy Comerford Crucifer – Scott Scranton Gospeler – Robert Miller OT – Suzie Laborda NT – Marylee Bunting PP – Ann Haslanger

Paten – Susan Mayer CB1 – Frank Mathews

CB2 – Kurt Brunner

Ushers

8AM – Randy & Leslie Bullitt

10AM – Adrianne Somaru, Faith Elcock

Weekly Calendar

5 Easter, April 28

8am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:30am Nursery Care

10am Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:30am Church School & Youth Group

Monday, April 29

9am Soccer Shots

Tuesday, April 30

7pm 170th Planning Committee Mtg, SJH

Wednesday, May 1

10am Intercessory Prayer

11am Bible Study

12:15pm Midday Service

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

8pm AA Meeting, SJH

Thursday, May 2

1:30pm Sterling

7pm Empowerment Group, SJH

Friday, May 3

Saturday, May 4

9am Altar Guild

12-2pm Ladies Spring Tea, SJH

6 Easter, May 5

8am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:30am Nursery Care

10am Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:30 Church School & Youth

ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Rector: The Reverend Ernest Galaz. frernie@christchurchmedia.org

Organist/Choir Director: Mr. Joel Lenderman, joel@christchurchmedia.org

Treasurer: Mr. Geoff Kitson, gkitson@christchurchmedia.org

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Rita Caserta, rita@christchurchmedia.org Preschool Director: Mrs. Lori Crussard, lori@christchurchmedia.org

Vestry

2025 2026

Heather Comerford, Preschool Kurt Brunner, Rector's Warden

Karen Mason, Parish Life Rob Miller, Outreach

Robert Miller, Liturgical Patti Davis
Kate Zurick, Secretary & Communications Stephanie Untz

2027

Jo Trout, Hospitality

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 8AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 10AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
311 S. ORANGE STREET, MEDIA, PA 19063
www.christchurchmedia.org

CHURCH OFFICE 610-566-7525

CHRIST CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT
"Empowered by Jesus to love, serve, and lead."