

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

March 20, 2022: The Third Sunday in Lent

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

You may stream the 10:30 a.m. service from Christ Church's [website](#), [YouTube](#), or [Facebook](#) pages

PRELUDE –

Greta Barnes, Flute

CHORAL INTROIT – *Crux Fidelis* (Faithful Cross)

Steven Warner

*Crux fidelis; cross of gladness, tree on which our hope is hung;
Let my arms be as your branches! Yours, the song that must be sung.*

OPENING HYMN 439 – What Wondrous Love Is This

Wondrous Love



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;

People: His mercy endureth forever.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: 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.**

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ***Amen.***

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

At 8:00 a.m., the Psalm is read responsively by half-verse

At 10:30 a.m., the Psalm is sung, one measure per half verse, changing notes on the underlined syllable



O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee. *
**My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee,
 in a barren and dry land where no water is.**

Thus have I looked for thee in the sanctuary, *
that I might behold thy power and glory.

For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself: *
my lips shall praise thee.

As long as I live will I magnify thee in this manner, *
and lift up my hands in thy Name.

My soul shall be satisfied, even as it were with marrow and fatness, *
when my mouth praiseth thee with joyful lips.

Have I not remembered thee in my bed, *
and thought upon thee when I was waking?

Because thou hast been my helper; *
therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

My soul hangeth upon thee; *
thy right hand hath upholden me.

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able for the singing of the hymn and the reading of the Gospel.

SEQUENCE HYMN 648 – When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land

Let My People Go

1 When Is - rael was in E - gyp't's land, let my peo-ple go;
2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;
3 They jour - neyed on at his com - mand, let my peo-ple go;
4 Oh, let us all from bond - age flee, let my peo-ple go;

op - pressed so hard they — could not stand, let my peo-ple go.
to lead the chil - dren of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.
and came at length to — Ca - naan's land, let my peo-ple go.
and let us all in — Christ be free, let my peo-ple go.

Refrain
Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gyp't's land;

tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo-ple go.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The people may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead:
and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intervessor: 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 men: 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 all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Diocesan Bishops; Emmanuel, our Rector; Marcia, our Associate Priest; and Denise our Deacon; that they may, both by their life 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 Joseph, our President: Lawrence, our Governor; and Calvin, our County Executive; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.
And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Daniel, Susana, Rena, Linda, Kandi, Bradley, Jim, Kathleen, Chad, Caroline, Jess, Tinny, Catherine, Mary Ann, Chuck, Alta, Alfred, & Ashley, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

The People may add additional petitions and thanksgivings.

Intervessor: And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Don Bauer and Tom Scott, 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.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

All: **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.**

Celebrant: 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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING – There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Maurice Bevan

*There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.*

*For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own;
And we magnify his strictness with a zeal he will not own.*

*There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members to the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.*

*If our love were but more simple we should take him at his word;
And our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.*

PRESENTATION HYMN 321, V. 1

Rockingham



My God, thy ta - ble now is spread, thy cup with love doth o - ver - flow,
be all thy chil - dren thith - er led, and let them thy sweet mer - cies know.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I

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 our 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of 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, he brake 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 ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, 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."

Celebrant: Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, 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; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

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

People: **Amen.**

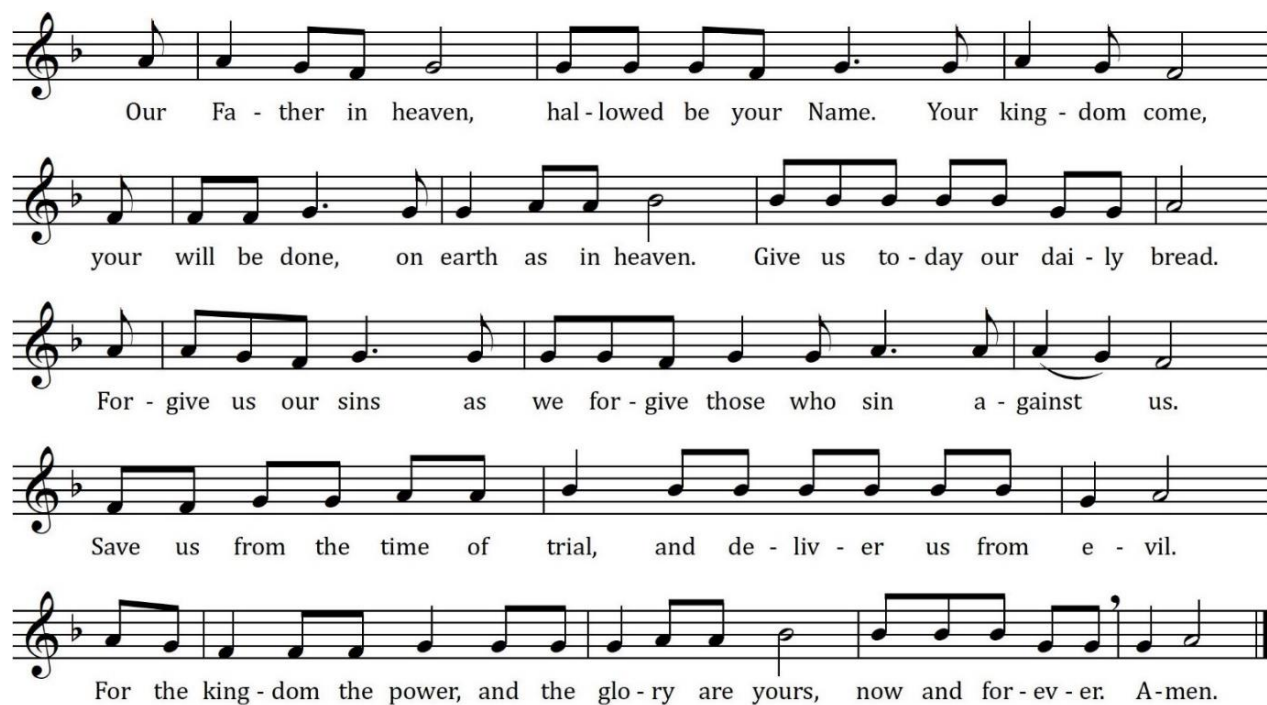
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Spoken at the 8:00 a.m. service:

All: **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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Sung at the 10:30 a.m. service:



Our Fa - ther in heaven, hal - lowed be your Name. Your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

AGNUS DEI

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
All: **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
All: **have mercy upon us.**

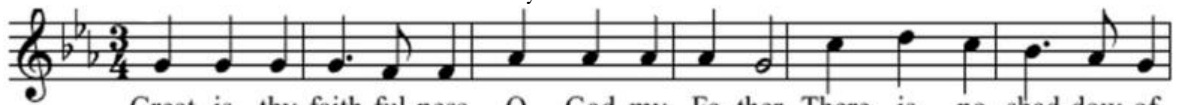
Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
All: **grant us thy peace.**

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

All: **We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

SOLO – Communion Meditation

Charles Callahan
Greta Barnes, Flute



Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther. There is no shad-dow of
Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest, Sun, moon and stars in their
Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, Thine own dear pres-ence to



turn - ing with thee, Thou chang-est not, thy com - pas-sions, they fail not
cours - es a bove, Join with all na-ture in man - i - fold wit-ness,
cheer and to guide; Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor-row,



As thou has been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To thy great faith - ful-ness, mer - cy and love. Great is thy faith-ful-ness!
Bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have



need-ed thy hand hath pro-vid-ed, Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord un-to me!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: 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.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People: We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the People, who respond Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 152 – Kind Maker of the World

A la venue de Noël

1 Kind Ma - ker of the world, O hear the fer - vent
2 Each heart is man - i - fest to thee; thou know - est
3 Spare us, O Lord, who now con - fess our sins and
4 Give us the dis - ci - pline that springs from ab - sti -
5 Grant, O thou bless - ed Trin - i - ty; grant, O un -

1 prayer, with man - ya tear poured forth by all the
2 our in - fir - mi - ty; now we re - pent, and
3 all our wick - ed - ness, and, for the glo - ry
4 nence in out - ward things with in - ward fast - ing,
5 chang - ing U - ni - ty; that this our fast of

1 pen - i - tent who keep this ho - ly fast of Lent!
2 seek thy face; grant un - to us thy par - doning grace.
3 of thy Name, our weak - ened souls to health re - claim.
4 so that we in heart and soul may dwell with thee.
5 for - ty days may work our pro - fit and thy praise!

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the People, who respond:

Thanks be to God!

(The Alleluias are omitted in Lent)

POSTLUDE – Trumpet Tune in C Major

David N. Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Our Lenten Schedule is Online | As we begin to gather for Lent, there are many new and traditional services and gatherings being presented at Christ Church. **You can view the entire Lenten schedule and read service and event details on our website's *Lent at Christ Church* page.** Be sure to check back regularly or bookmark the page on your browser as we'll regularly update details as needed.

Youth Formation: Sunday School | Every child is welcome to join us virtually for Sunday School, with both sessions beginning at 9:15 a.m. If this is your first time, the registration form is located **here** and you can send completed ones to ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org to enroll. You can receive the elementary-age Zoom link by emailing Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkins@verizon.net. The older youth session is run by our Youth Minister, Todd Domer, and you can reach him by emailing youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for those Zoom details.

Adult Forum: Sunday Circle | Our Sunday morning Adult Forum series continues through Lent with a new cycle of topics based on the History of Women in the Church. This Sunday, we will learn about *Formative Women in the Church* at 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall (lower level) of New Brick. You can also join us virtually; **the Zoom link is here**, Meeting ID is **830 0680 9158**, and Password is **AFSC**.

Confirmation Class - Sunday Afternoons | Christ Church is offering Confirmation classes for all high school students and adults who may be interested. At the moment, we'll hold these classes online via Zoom but may make adjustments as we go along. It is our hope that our candidates will be confirmed by one of the Bishops of Maryland later this year; we'll share that date when it becomes available. If you are interested in learning more about Confirmation and/or registering for the class, please reach out to Fr. Manny at revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Christ Church's COVID Update - Beginning the Green Phase | Christ Church has been approved by the Diocese of Maryland to begin transitioning into the Green "Omicron" Phase. **You can read more about this here.** Last Sunday, masks became optional at Christ Church and beginning on Sunday, April 3rd, we will incorporate wine into Communion and host a Coffee Hour fellowship. We will continue to gradually make adjustments as we move forward. For questions and clarifications, **email us**.

Celebrating Good News! | We are thrilled to announce that our very own Rebecca Warlow has recently been accepted to move forward to postulancy in the Diocese of Maryland. Rebecca has been discerning a call to the vocational diaconate this past year. She will be engaged in the diocese's Deacon Formation Program for the next few years, completing various studies and internships. Please join us in congratulating Rebecca as she embarks on this next stage of her journey and call to ordained ministry!

Centering Prayer – Mondays | Centering Prayer takes place Mondays at 7 p.m. and is a form of contemplation, a method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God. We invite you to log in, see what Centering Prayer is all about, and how it can find a unique and valuable space in your own life. The Zoom link is **here**, Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340** and Password is **Centering!**

Adult and Children's Choir - Tuesdays and Thursdays | Children's Choir meets on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Adult Choir meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. If you've ever been interested in joining our choir, now's that time... and this invitation is open to every parishioner. No experience is necessary. Please email Len Langrick, our Director of Music, at music@christchurchcolumbia.org to learn more.

Lectionary Bible Study – Wednesdays | Bible Study takes place on Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., discussing and reflecting on the readings for the coming Sunday. Our next gathering's readings are located [here](#). You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and we'll all study and learn together. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is **885 9287 2661** and the Password is **CECBible**.

Christ Church's Wednesday Evenings in Lent Supper Series - Week Three | The Spiritual Life Commission welcomes everyone to take part in our Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series, meeting in the Great Hall of New Brick at 6:30 p.m. Afghan cuisine is the menu of this week, and although there is no cost for this evening, you can donate to help cover the catered dinner expenses by choosing "Spiritual Life Commission" from the *Fund* dropdown menu [on our online giving form](#) or bring a donation to the event.

This popular series centers on our 2022 theme, *Be One Body in Christ, Belonging to Each Other*, and every week we'll host a different presenter who gives their perspective on this theme. **For our next evening, March 23rd, we are very blessed to have Rev. Barbara Seras, Former Assistant Rector of Christ Church, lead us.** This series is a hybrid event so for those who prefer to join us virtually, you are welcome to do so via YouTube; those details will be in Monday's email. **If you want to join us in person, please RSVP here** or notify the Church Office by [email](#) or phone.

Taizé Worship - Friday Evenings in Lent | On Friday evenings at 6 p.m. in Old Brick, Mother Marcia offers a series of six Taizé worship services including chants, prayers, Scripture, intercessory prayer, and silence. Mother Marcia is a long-time adherent to the Taizé community and frequent visitor. This form of worship, based on the practice of the Taizé community in France, offers a time of quiet and intentional reflection, worship, and drawing closer to the Presence of God in Christ Jesus. Silence is also an important component and a welcome gift to Taizé worship. The use of lighted candles and icons offers a visual invitation to pray silently in the presence of others and God. Although chants and even prayers are sung, there is no requirement to be musically gifted to participate. For more information, [email Mother Marcia](#) or simply join us in Old Brick any Friday during Lent.

CEC Book Club – Fridays | The CEC Book Club is back this Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., as we begin our discussion of the book *Why I Believe in a Personal God: The Credibility of Faith in a Doubting Culture* by George Carey, former Archbishop of Canterbury. We're always welcoming new members to join our virtual gathering. For about an hour each Friday, we discuss a specified section of the current book and plan future readings and ideas. The Zoom link is here, the Meeting ID is **894 0227 6226**, the Password is **CECbooks** and we hope that you'll find time to join us for this engaging and enlightening group discussion. Email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com if you're interested or have any questions.

Women of Christ Church News | This Monday, March 21st, is our trip to Maryland Women's Heritage Center to celebrate Women's History Month. The director of the Center will give us a presentation, and we will be able to examine the exhibits before heading to lunch at a nearby restaurant. Carpooling will be available, and we will be leaving the church parking lot at 09:30. If you are interested in coming, **you can RSVP by going here**, or [email us](#).

We've also been invited by St. John's in Ellicott City to their Saturday afternoon guided Lenten Labyrinth walks. Guides will be available between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. each Saturday in Lent. They also have a service in their Historic Chapel at 5:00, if you wanted to follow up your walk with a service. We visited the site last fall; you can see our report about that experience [here](#).

Altar Flowers and Gifts | If you would like to present Altar gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on an upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and 2022 sign-up sheet at <https://tinyurl.com/CECaltargifts>. You can also sign up and reserve a slot by using our **Realm Online Giving Form**; just choose "Altar Flowers and Gifts" from the *FUND* drop-down menu, and place the dedication name(s) and service date in the *MEMO* line. **Email the Church Office** with any questions.

Christ Church's Grief Support Group | If you are grieving a loss and would like to occasionally join a group of others for mutual support and learning, please let us know. Christ Church is planning on creating a Zoom gathering, led by Mother Marcia, for those who might find comfort in sharing &/or listening to experiences of processing loss. This group would meet on a schedule that's most convenient for all participants. Mother Marcia is also happy to meet individually to offer pastoral care and counseling, so if you're interested in taking part in either gathering, **please email** or speak to her at any time.

Youth Ministry UPDATE | A couple of weeks ago, the Christ Church youth got together for a night of bowling and fun. **You can see a photo of the event on our blog**. Our Youth Minister, Todd Domer, is looking for a few volunteers to occasionally help out during youth activities and gatherings. If you're interested, or have a child who would like to join, please email Todd at youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org

Episcopal Relief and Development Gets Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine |

More than 3 million people have fled Ukraine in the three weeks since Russia invaded the country, causing widespread death, destruction, and deprivation. **Episcopal Relief & Development** continues to work with Anglican and ecumenical partners to provide aid to those displaced by the crisis.

“International Program staff are in close contact with church and ecumenical partners including the ACT Alliance, The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe, the Diocese of Europe, the Anglican Alliance and United Society of Partners in the Gospel. These organizations are coordinating immediate and long-term humanitarian responses through their local partners in Romania, Poland, Hungary, and Slovakia,” ERD said in **a statement on March 16th**.

“We are extremely grateful to all of our generous donors and supporters who are enabling us to provide assistance through our partners,” said Abigail Nelson, Executive Vice President of ERD.

Christ Church is among these donors. On behalf of parishioners, members of the Outreach Commission voted at its March meeting to contribute \$1,000 to ERD to assist in humanitarian relief efforts. These are Vestry-approved funds derived from your pledges and contributions. Heartfelt thanks go out to one and all who make this possible.

The **UN Refugee Agency** has declared the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine to be a Level 3 Emergency, its highest level.

Earlier this month, in commenting on the crisis, ERD noted its own history. “Episcopal Relief & Development was founded by The Episcopal Church to help people fleeing violence in World War II,” said Nagulan Nesiah, Senior Program Officer, Disaster Response and Risk Reduction, Episcopal Relief & Development. “We remain committed to supporting our partners on the ground as they meet both immediate and long-term needs created by this crisis.” If you wish to donate personally to the ERD’s fund, go online to **“Ukraine Crisis Response.”**

Last Call: CCC Asks the Community to Help in Pantry Set-Up on March 19-20 | The all-volunteer organization **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) has obtained a site to establish a new pantry and has been recruiting volunteers to work various shifts on Saturday, March 19th, and Sunday, March 20th. It will clean up a county-owned building that was once home to the *Columbia Flier*. It is located at 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway.

For information, go to the **CCC Facebook Group** or check online for two separate signups. The first is a good opportunity for youth looking for school-required service hours. Go to CCC’s **sign-up form for volunteers**. The second asks for people to lend or donate cleaning and painting supplies by using a separate **online sign-up form**.

At Christ Church, members of R.A.G.E and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to continue CCC by collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Please put them in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall.

DreamBuilders Trip to Repair Homes in Puerto Rico: May 15 - 21, 2022. REGISTER BY MARCH 25th! | Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico in September of 2017. Though it's been over 4 years, hundreds of Puerto Ricans are still waiting for the day when their home can be livable again. DreamBuilders will be making its second trip to the island in May to work with SBP-Puerto Rico to repair damaged homes.

The trip is for adults 18 and older. The cost of the trip is \$1000 per volunteer, which covers the flights, housing, food, and rental vehicles. **Trip registration is only open for ONE WEEK, until March 25th, to meet airline requirements for a group rate.**

SBP has covid protocols in place to protect their staff, homeowners, and us. All volunteers must be vaccinated. Puerto Rico has recently relaxed their requirements for entry to the island, and pre-flight testing is no longer required.

You can register as a volunteer by clicking here. You will be required to pay at least half of the cost (\$500) upon registration. The remaining \$500 will be due by March 31st. The payment portal can be found at this url: <https://goo.gl/4SHxKv>

Hope to see you in Puerto Rico in May!

Baltimore Seafarers News | As a reminder, the Women of Christ Church gather donations for Seafarers throughout the year. At this time, they are looking for magazines, cards, notebooks, gloves, hats, and scarves. If you'd like to donate any of these items, the "Seafarers" box is under the table in the Tower Room of New Brick.

FISH Continues its Request for Cookies, Crackers, and Snacks | As winter continues, organizers for **FISH of Howard County** continue to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill shopping lists. They also say thanks to Christ Church for its response to their earlier needs, which produced an adequate inventory of household cleaning supplies and personal items. The bin is on the breezeway near the door to the Parish Hall.

In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org. Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.



Join Small Delusions in Helping Provide Needed Support for Ukrainian Refugees

This Sunday, March 20th, folks of all ages are welcome to join us for a special concert at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary of New Brick. The wonderful trio, Small Delusions, will present a special performance to help raise funds for Ukrainian refugee families.

The United Nations reports that, as of this publication, 3.5 million people have fled the catastrophic situation in their homeland, and that number is very likely to continue to rise exponentially. For a few hours this Sunday, we'll have an opportunity to hear classic sounds and fan favorites - as well as get up and dance, if the mood strikes - while helping to support a very necessary cause.

Small Delusions - Jan DeBoissiere, JB Hanson, and Shannon Pruitt - used to be part of a larger group called Delusions of Grandeur. As they tell us, "Our delusions are still there; they are just smaller." They've performed together for over six years, and we're thrilled to have them back on the Christ Church "stage" for this one-off gig.

Contributions can be brought with you to the show; be sure to write "Ukrainian refugees" in the *MEMO* line of your check so that it goes to the right place. If you

wish to donate online, you can use the [Refugee Ministry online form](#) or scan the QR code in the accompanying image. Just select "Ukrainian Refugee Ministry" from the *MEMO* dropdown menu, and Christ Church will direct every bit of those gifts toward relief for the people of Ukraine.

FREE CONCERT FOR UKRAINIAN RELIEF



Sunday, March 20th
at 2 p.m. in the
New Brick Sanctuary
6800 Oakland Mills Rd.
Columbia, Maryland

with
SMALL DELUSIONS

Also livestreamed on
christchurchcolumbia.org

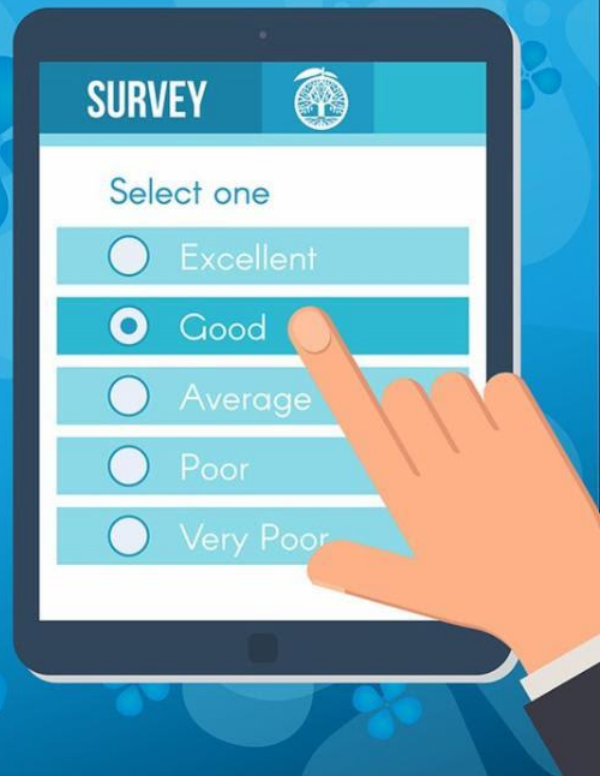
FREE-WILL OFFERINGS
LOVINGLY ACCEPTED

Scan the QR code for online donations,
or bring yours to the show!

Your support will help Episcopal Relief & Development provide humanitarian assistance to people fleeing the violence in Ukraine, as they work with ACT Alliance and our Anglican partners in Europe.



ALL-CHURCH SURVEY



Christ Church invites your kind participation in a survey about our common life. You may complete the survey by using this link or by scanning the QR code below. The survey has four main sections: Christian education (subdivided into Christian education for ages 3-5th grade, youth, and adults), fellowship, worship, and general. If a particular section doesn't apply to you, you can scroll to the bottom of the page and click Next to continue to the next section. Christ Church relies on all of us to volunteer for the many ministries that enrich our common life. Please share your interests in volunteering in the General section of the survey. The survey will close on Wednesday, March 30th. If you have any problems accessing the survey, please contact the Church Office. Thank you for your faithfulness and input.





WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH

Because of your genuine and overwhelming acts of selflessness, kindness, grace, compassion, and love, you continue to give immensely to support and build our common life at Christ Church. You inject life into Christ Church so that we may be able to serve the world. It is your giving that has made it possible for us to accomplish some of the work that God has given us. The truth is that we have been able to minister and serve countless people because of your faithfulness, and for that, we thank God for each one of you and thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

We also want to thank **YOU**. Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables Christ Church to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us.

We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness. Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving, and so as we celebrate the season of giving, we want to highly encourage all who have not fully completed their pledge for 2021 to remember their faithfulness. We also want to appeal to all who have not as yet returned their pledge for 2022 to remember their faithfulness.

TEXT GIVING: You can now give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply text **CECGIVING** to **73256**, and you'll receive a secure link to our page where you can set up a one-time or recurring gift.

ONLINE GIVING: You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing towards your annual pledge or another offering. Whether it's a one-time donation or a recurring gift, you can go to our [overview page](#) for instructions and links. Signing up is fast and easy; if you need assistance doing so, or if you have any Stewardship-related questions, please contact us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org



Christ Episcopal Church

6800 Oakland Mills Road

Columbia, MD 21045

(410) 381-9365

www.christchurchcolumbia.org

office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*
The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*
Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*
Len Langrick, *Interim Music Director*
Kathleen Lyon, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*
Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*
Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*
Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)
Tim Beaty • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • Greta Pike-Barnes •
Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman