

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

WELCOME!

We are glad you are with us today as we worship God and receive Christ's presence given to us in the sacrament of bread and wine. This service is offered by livestream to those who cannot assemble with us. To observe Lent, the announcements and greeting are placed at the conclusion of worship. Please maintain quiet for prayer. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 15, 2026

10:30 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Service Music from *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Voluntary *Psalm Prelude (Psalm 23:4)*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Please stand, as able, at the entrance of the cross and procession.

The Penitential Order

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People ***His mercy endures for ever.***

Celebrant Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

Please kneel, as able, for

The Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People ***Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.***

***We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.***

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Choir sings the Kyrie in either Greek or English.

Kyrie eleison from *Messe de Requiem*

Setting: Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray. Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated for

The First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

At the conclusion the People respond, "Thanks be to God."

The Choir sings

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

Chant: Charles Hylton Stewart (1884-1932)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention

what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

At the conclusion the People respond, "Thanks be to God."

Gradual Verse and Tract

Please stand at the sound of the bells. The Verse is sung first by the Cantor, then repeated by all before and after the Tract.

Verse I am the light of the world, says the Lord; //
whoever follows me will have / the light of life. – *John 8:12*

Tract Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.
For my brethren and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity.
Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good." – *Psalms 122:6-9*

The Gospel is carried to the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.

The Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do

know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Priest **The Gospel of the Lord.**

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

Once the Book of Gospels has returned to its place of honor, the People may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

The Homily

Ruth Beresford

Please stand for

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us affirm the creed of baptism, saying

People ***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A member of the parish leads

The Prayers of the People

In you, Gracious and Everlasting God, we find our wholeness and strength. Hear the prayers of your people, offered in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord God, we pray for all impacted by the attacks in Iran and around the Middle East: for the military and their families; for the leaders of the nations; for our president and his council; for the people of Iran and those who will rise to leadership; for enemies and allies; for those who are wounded and those who have lost their lives; for the innocents who cannot escape the tyranny of terror.

We turn to you, Lord God, that your ways may be known upon earth and your saving health among all nations; in your mercy, Lord,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, we pray for the Church throughout the world; for Christians who are persecuted or tempted to deny God in their life; for this congregation, that we have courage to serve Christ faithfully, inviting others to share our ministry and mission; for Sean, our presiding bishop, Kevin, our bishop, and for all your holy people, that they may triumph over evil and grow in grace; in your mercy, Lord,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we pray for every nation, for peace and for the welfare of all people; we pray for wisdom among the world's leaders in government, health, and commerce, that they may be filled with your truth and serve your whole creation; in your mercy, Lord,

hear our prayer.

Sheltering God, we pray for those affected by disease, disaster, and war; defend the weary, guard the children, give refuge to the homeless, protect the powerless, and teach us your way of compassion; in your mercy, Lord,

hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we pray for those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, especially N., and those we name now; that they may know your power to heal; in your mercy, Lord,

hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we pray for those who have died, especially N., and for the people who miss them; that your will for them may be fulfilled and that we may trust the power of Christ to save; in your mercy, Lord,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, you have promised forgiveness and blessing to those who humble themselves and exalt your Son as Lord and Savior. We give you thanks for your loving kindness, given to us and offered for all people in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Please be seated as those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month stand to be recognized; then all say

People 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.

Please stand for

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory and Preparation of the Table

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering. Giving money is a sign that our life serves God's purposes and expresses our gratitude for God's many blessings. The ushers will receive the offering and present it on our behalf. Also, you may give online using Apple or Google Pay, PayPal, Venmo, a credit/debit card, ACH, or text a contribution to (302) 244-5368. For those who give electronically, a card is available in the pews to participate in the act of offering. Newcomers and guests may place the welcome card in the offering plate.

Anthem

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

*Verbe, égal au Très-Haut, notre unique espérance,
jour éternel de la terre et des cieux,
de la paisible nuit nous rompons le silence.
Divin Sauveur, jette sur nous les yeux.*

*Répands sur nous le feu de ta grâce puissante
que tout l'enfer fuie au son de ta voix.
Dissipe le sommeil d'une âme languissante
qui la conduit à l'oubli de tes lois.*

*O Christ, sois favorable à ce peuple fidèle
pour te bénir maintenant rassemblé.
Reçois les chants qu'il offre à ta gloire immortelle
et de tes dons qu'il retourne comblé.*

Word, equal to the Almighty, our sole hope,
eternal day of the earth and the heavens,
we break the silence of the peaceful night.
Divine Savior, cast your eyes upon us.

Pour on us the fire of your powerful grace
so that all hell flees at the sound of your voice.
Dispel the sleep of a languishing soul
who lives forgetful of your laws.

O Christ, look kindly on your faithful people
assembled now to glorify you.
Receive the songs that we offer to your immortal
glory and let us depart, crowned with your gifts.

Please stand and sing

Presentation Hymn 313, vs. 1 & 4 *Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured*

(blue) Hymnal 1982

The Great Thanksgiving

(red) Book of Common Prayer 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

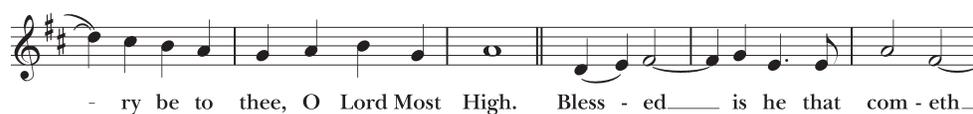
People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

The Celebrant continues the prayer, inviting our praise in the ancient song of the Sanctus.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Please stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues the prayer, inviting our acclamation of Christ's sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection,

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues the prayer, concluding

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant invites the People to say the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples.

The Lord's Prayer

*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 Breaking of the Bread

We sing the anthem at the breaking of the bread, which is Christ's Body, broken for us. Please be seated after the sacrament is presented.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Christ or a blessing. Come up the center aisle and take your place along the altar rail, kneeling or standing. If you desire a blessing, cross your arms over your chest to indicate your intent. Receive the host in open hands. Gluten-free host is available; let the clergy know your need when they approach you. When you are presented with the cup, drink from it or dip the bread carefully into the cup and consume in both kinds together. If you do not wish to receive the cup, please cross your arms to indicate your intent, but wait for the minister to pass you before you leave the rail. Please use the side aisle to return to your pew. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher to let the clergy know, and communion will be brought to you.

Communion Anthem

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

*Tantum ergo Sacramentum
veneremur cernui;
et antiquum documentum
novo cedat ritui;
præstet fides supplementum
sensuum defectui.*

*Genitori, Genitoque
laus et jubilatio,
salus, honor, virtus quoque
sit et benedictio,
procedenti ab utroque
compar sit laudation. Amen.*

Down in adoration falling,
lo! the Sacred Host we hail;
lo! o'er ancient forms departing,
newer rites of grace prevail;
faith for all defects supplying,
where the feeble senses fail.

To the everlasting Father,
and the Son who reigns on high,
with the Holy Ghost proceeding
forth from Each eternally,
be salvation, honor, blessing,
might, and endless majesty. Amen.

Communion Hymn 321 *My God, Thy Table Now is Spread*

Hymnal 1982

Please stand for

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant In thanksgiving, let us pray.

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

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People.

People ***Amen.***

Announcements

All sing

Hymn in Procession 429 *I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath*

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

During this solemn season of Lent, there is no concluding organ voluntary. Please take your bulletin with you or return it to the table in the narthex as you leave.

We are sent forth to be Christ's blessing in the world. Our prayer is that today's worship has encouraged you in love, strengthened you for service, and filled you with grace. We look forward to your presence again in worship, in service to others, in learning and fellowship.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Christ Church welcomes you into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.



NEW HERE? Scan the QR code to let us know or complete the card in the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PARISH CLERGY

The Rev. Ruth Beresford, *Rector*
The Rev. Thomas Word Peters, *Associate Rector*
The Very Rev. William Lane, *Pastoral Associate*

LAY MINISTRY STAFF

Sheila Abio, *Head of School*
Bruce Barber, *Director of Music*
Mason Cruz, *Minister for Children & Youth*
Jason Keller, *Saturday Worship Leader*
Cameron Kuzepski, *Assistant Director of Music/Director of Choristers*

ADMINISTRATIVE & FACILITIES STAFF

Sherry Lawton-Fasic, *Parish Administrator*
Terri Carpe, *Finance Manager*
Jennifer Fordham, *School Administrator*
Deb Piper, *Philanthropy/Stewardship Associate*
Jane Rubini, *Administrative Associate*
Nigel Sanderson, *Livestream Technician*
Michael Sayer, *Facilities Manager*
Deborah Webb, *Communications Associate/Graphic Designer*
Leroy Folks, Andy Marine, Charles Parfitt-Simpson, *Sextons*

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Ran Barton, *Senior Warden*; Alexia Wolf, '26, *Junior Warden*
Mark Parsells, *Treasurer*; Bob Reardon, *Assistant Treasurer*
Jennifer O'Connor, *Clerk*; MJ O'Connor, *Youth Representative*
Chuck Arensberg, '26; Cindi Cozza, '27; Barbara King, '27
Shelley Kinsella, '28; Kendall Meldrum, '28; Thorpe Moeckel, '27; Scott Nickle, '26
John Olsen, '28; Jamie Poston, '27; Wil Stith, '28; Jaqueline Whalen, '26

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