# Christ Episcopal Church

# Reading, Pennsylvania Christ is All and in All



# The Fifth Sunday in Lent March 17, 2024

8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)
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10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)
Page 10



# Today's Readings

#### The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

#### The New Testament Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

### The Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

# Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

We are happy to welcome you to our church and worship services. Here are some things that you may find helpful. If you would like to know more about us there are cards that you can fill out hanging in each pew. Please hand your completed card to an usher as you leave today. Please join us after the service in our Fellowship Hall (down the stairs near the front of the church and on your right at the bottom of the stairs) to get to know us better. The most readily accessible restroom is through the door near the front of the sanctuary. Once you go through that door turn right; the restroom is across from the elevator. Parking is available for free on the street on Sundays and in the M&T parking lot behind the church on the corner of Washington Street and Madison Ave.

Cover Image: The Cross of Christ by Albrecht Durer

### The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: As we travel with Christ on his road to the cross, with confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying: hear our prayer.

Christ, for whom there was no room in the inn, give courage to all who are homeless and in need of your mercy; we also pray for all of those printed on our prayer list in the bulletin and everyone we name aloud now...; in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Christ, who fled into Egypt, give comfort to all refugees; we pray for peace in Ukraine and the Holy Land; in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Christ, who fasted in the desert, give relief to all who are starving; bless all of those who strive to serve you as you serve us, bless your Church and all who strive to grow closer to God, especially Bryce, our rector, Kevin, our bishop, Michael, our presiding bishop, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, The Church in Wales, St. Alban's, Sinking Spring and St. Andrew's, Allentown; in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Christ, who welcomed all to your table, feasted, broke bread and celebrated with them; bless those who celebrate this week, David Feick, Heather Boggs, Anita Powell, Emily Wandrey and Kathleen Sheridan and Archie Fenton; in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Christ, who hung in agony on the cross, give strength to all who suffer and bless those who mourn; we especially remember Marie A. Riddell and Russell W. Riddell; in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Christ, who died to save us, give peace to all who seek pardon; in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lord of the Church, hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.

# Christ Episcopal Church Reading, PA

# 8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Page numbers on the right side of this bulletin are from "The Book of Common Prayer" (BCP) - the black book in the pew racks.

# The Liturgy of the Word

Please stand

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

People: And blessed be his

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: This is love, not that we loved God, People: but that he loved us and sent his Son.

Celebrant:

People:

He is the sacrifice for our sins, that we might live through him.

#### Summary of the Law

Celebrant: Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All: Lord, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name. Amen.

#### The Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord have mercy
People: Christ have mercy
Celebrant: Lord have mercy

### The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

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

Psalm 51: 1-10 (read responsively by whole verse)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

The New Testament Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

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

Please stand

The Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

People: Glory be to you, Lord Christ.

After the reading

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord:

People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed 358

The Prayers of the People (page 4 of this bulletin)

Celebrant: in your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Confession of Sin

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A, page 361)

The Sanctus 362

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

#### The Prayer of Humble Access

All: We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

#### The Invitation to Communion and Communion

#### The Post-Communion Prayers

The Celebrant first prays the following:

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

Then all pray together on page 365.

## The Blessing

#### The Dismissal

Celebrant: Taking up your cross, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

# 8:00 AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist The Reverend Bryce Wandrey Terry Rowles and Chris Spohn

> Lector Communion Assistants Rick Wolf Rick Wolf and Cynthia Pipkin

Intercessor Terry Rowles

Altar Guild Victoria Wilson (captain), Doris Schilpp, Helen Peemoeller and Sally Wilcox

Ushers

# Excerpt from "The Cry of the Deer: Meditations on the Hymn of St Patrick" by David Adam

The Presence of God is an eternal fact. He never leaves us alone or forsakes us. It is when we lose sight of Him that we falter and sink beneath the waves. We need to regain a clear vision of the Presence, to perceive the reality of His relationship with us and act upon it.

Not long ago, I was in a little grey chapel in a valley. The preacher was rather tedious and the hymns dull. I could have endured both, but when he started his prayers by saying, 'Now, I just want to imagine God is present,' I could have wept. I now knew why it was such heavy going: he did not know the Presence, he could only imagine it. God is beyond our greatest imagination; either He is present, and that influences everything we do, or He is absent, and then we are poor indeed.

Faith is the discovery that He is at hand... Faith is the joy of knowing that we dwell in Him and He in us. You cannot imagine this, you cannot even make it happen, but you can experience it as a fact. It is necessary to keep ourselves sensitive, what the Celt calls 'to tune the five-stringed harp', to keep each of our five senses alert to the fact of God and His surrounding Presence."

(The Revd Canon David Adam was for thirteen years Vicar of the Holy Island of Lindisfarne)



# Christ Episcopal Church Reading, PA

10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Page numbers on the right side of this bulletin are from "The Book of Common Prayer" (BCP) - the black book in the pew racks.

Prelude

Gospel Prelude on "Just As I Am"

William Bolcom

Please stand

Processional Hymn 474 When I survey the wondrous cross

The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: This is love, not that we loved God, People: but that he loved us and sent his Son.

Celebrant: He is the sacrifice for our sins, People: that we might live through him.

#### Summary of the Law

Celebrant: Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All: Lord, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name. Amen.

The Kyrie (see page 11 of this bulletin)

Healey Willan

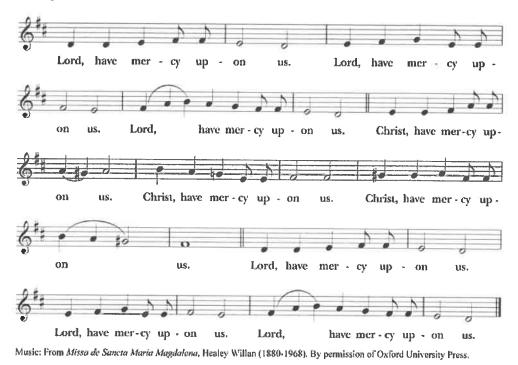
# The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you: People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

### The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #91



Please be seated

The New Testament Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

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

Please stand

Gospel Hymn 685 Rock of ages

The Holy Gospel: John 12:20-33 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

After the reading

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed 358

The Prayers of the People (page 4 of this bulletin)

Celebrant: in your mercy, People: hear our prayer.

Confession of Sin 360

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements and Children's Message

The Offertory Anthem Prayer of St. Patrick John Rutter

Christ be with me, Christ within me Christ behind me, Christ before me Christ beside me, Christ to win me Christ to comfort and restore me Christ above me, Christ beneath me Christ in quiet, Christ in danger Christ in hearts of all that love me Christ in mouth of friend and stranger

Presentation Hymn 143 (vs 1)

The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, through whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A page 361) S120

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts:

People:

We lift them to the Lord

Celebrant:
People:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The celebrant continues with the Great Thanksgiving on page 361

The Sanctus S130 (at the front of the hymnal)

Franz Schubert

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

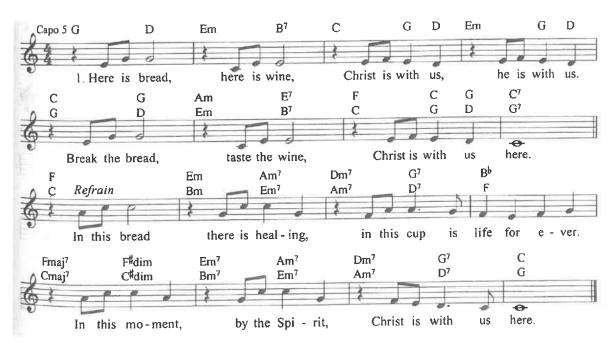
### The Lord's Prayer

364

#### The Fraction Anthem

Here is Bread

Graham Kendrick



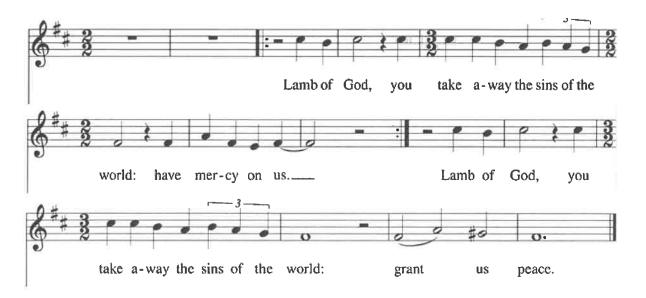
#### The Prayer of Humble Access

All: We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

#### The Invitation to Communion

Everyone is invited to receive. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail. There will be two chalices for receiving: the first to drink from and the second chalice is for intinction (dipping the host instead of drinking).

The Agnus Dei Ronald Arnatt



The Communion Hymn 676 There is a balm in Gilead

If Eucharistic ministers are being sent forth today to take the sacrament to people at home, the following prayer is said after Communion:

Celebrant: In the name of God, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

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

#### The Post-Communion Prayers

The Celebrant first prays the following:

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

Then all pray together on page 365.

#### The Blessing

The Closing Hymn 655 O Jesus, I have promised

#### The Dismissal

Celebrant: Taking up your cross, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Fugue in C minor, BWV 582

J. S. Bach

For those in need of our prayers			
Guilfoyle Family Penny Beverly Gigi Linda Joe Michael Tim Charlie	Daphne Kristin Lisa MaryAnn Carol Nancy Haia Richard Wyatt	Craig JaeMarie Greg Polly	

### 10AM Service Participants

 $\begin{array}{c} \textit{Celebrant and Homilist} \\ \textbf{The Reverend Bryce Wandrey} \end{array}$ 

Organist and Choir Director
John Painter

Verger Kathleen Harris Brantman

> Gospel Book Bearer Milah Smith

Lector Joann Hyneman

Intercessor
Diane Morris

Ushers
Wayne Fanning, Susan Doll, Dale
Goodyear and Larry Whalen

Communion Assistants
Kate Fanning and Milah Smith

Crucifer Andrea Griffith

Acolytes
Cadence Carvalho and Dalia Carvalho

Altar Guild
Victoria Wilson (captain), Doris Schilpp,
Helen Peemoeller and
Sally Wilcox

On **Saturday**, **March 23**, the Property Ministry and the DOK are going to jointly hold a Courtyard Work Day and Block Clean Up. Property Committee will start at 9:00 am and work until 11:00 am. We are hoping the weather will cooperate to allow us to do some outside maintenance painting and courtyard work. DOK is planning to clean up the block around the church. If it rains, we can shine our church pews and woodwork. Cleaning materials will be provided! Thank you.

Our United Thank Offering campaign is almost over! Are your boxes getting full? Don't have one? Need an envelope for your check? Boxes and envelopes are available in the large basket on the table in the nave. If donating by check, please make it payable to UTO. Boxes and envelopes are to be handed in by Palm Sunday, March 24.

#### Vestry

Wayne Fanning (Senior Warden) Diane Morris (Junior Warden) Terry Rowles (Pastoral Care)

Pam Wheat (Grants)

Carolyn Handy (Stewardship)

Michael West (Finances) Connie Fegley (Worship) Anita Powell (Hospitality)

Kim Alarcon (Outreach)

Mary Arguelles (Children/Youth) Chuck Brantman (Security/Property)

#### **Our Ministries**

#### Worship

Acolytes Altar Guild Eucharistic Ministers Lectors and Intercessors

Vergers

Guitar and Taizé Services

Healing Team Centering Prayer

Morning Prayer Ushers

Kristallnacht Service

#### Music

Parish Choir Bell Ringers

Children's Choir Fall Festival of Arts

#### Education

Adult Forum Library Children's Ministries Education for Ministry

#### Pastoral Care

Cards and notes Prayer Lists

Eucharistic Visitors

Flower Delivery Pastoral Visits

#### Fellowship

Sunday Coffee Hour 50+ Club Hospitality Committee

#### Business

Property Ministry

Church Maintenance Days Stewardship Team

Planned Giving Communications Capital Campaign Security Taskforce Outreach

Opportunity House

Rummage Mary's Shelter

Narcotics Anonymous Literacy Council of Reading Berks

**ESL Dinners** 

Daughters of the King Episcopal Church Women

**Helping Harvest** 

Veterans Coalition of PA

Angel Tree

Berks Community Health Center

Berks Youth Chorus

The **Easter egg hunt** will be held following the 10am service Easter morning. There will be three separate hunts: infant to age 3 in the parish hall, catechesis age children in the parlor, and joyful path age children in the Sunday school hallway. Candy donations including allergy friendly varieties would be appreciated and can be placed in the foyer!



The Berks Jazz Fest is coming to Christ Church! On Wednesday April 10th at 7pm we are hosting Jazz, Folk & Blues by Calli Graver (vocals), Chico Huff (bass), and David Cullen (guitar and vocals). Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by scanning the QR code. Refreshments will be on sale before the concert begins. This concert is made possible through funds provided by the Cynthia Phillips Concert Fund. Get your tickets today!

#### Holy Week 2024 at Christ Church

March 27 Wednesday of Holy Week

11AM Stations of the Cross 12PM Holy Eucharist

March 28 Maundy Thursday

7PM Holy Eucharist with foot washing

March 29 Good Friday

12PM Solemn Service of Readings, Hymns and Prayers

March 30 Holy Saturday

7PM Easter Vigil with Holy Eucharist

March 31 Easter Day

8AM Holy Eucharist 10AM Festal Eucharist

#### Lent by Frederick Beuchner

In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians, to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days. After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness, where he spent forty days asking himself the question, what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves.

If you had to bet everything you have on whether there is a God or whether there isn't, which side would get your money and why?

When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it that you most like and what do you see in it that you most deplore?

If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less?

Of all the things you have done in your life, which is the one you would most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember?

Is there any person in the world or any cause that, if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for?

If this were the last day of your life, what would you do with it?

To hear yourself try to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something not only of who you are, but of both what you are becoming and what you are failing to become. It can be a pretty depressing business all in all, but if sackcloth and ashes are at the start of it, something like Easter may be at the end.~originally published in Whistling in the Dark and later in Beyond Words

#### Regular Christ Church Office hours:

Monday: 8:00 am - 2:00 PM; Tuesday 8:00AM-12:30PM Wednesday 8:00 am - 2:00 PM The Christ Church Mission Sharing God's Love with All

Please visit us at www.rdgchristchurch.org. The Diocesan and church staff members are listed, as well as a calendar of events. You may use this website to send in prayer requests. You may also request to be added to the list for e-news and newsletters.

Altar Candle Memorials for March are given for Blessings Received by Susan Frankowski; Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Paul and Alice Swain and Arthur and Mary Hoare by Stephen and Mary Hoare; Lois Feick by David and Judy Feick.

Altar Flowers for today are to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Marie Riddell and Russell W. Riddell from their children, Victoria and James Wilson.

Lectern Flowers today are For Anita's Birthday with love from Cliff.

**Adult Forum:** This week we begin a series with David Emes on the Holy Land. Today's topic is "The Via Dolorosa: The Way of the Cross in Jerusalem" Please join us at 9:05AM in the parlor.

Sunday School: 9:00 · 9:50; Catechesis (pre-school · first grade): room A1 Joyful Path (second grade · sixth grade): room A2; Live and Learn · a weekly class for middle and high school students. Room A3 Nursery: 9:00 · 11:30—Infant to preschool across from Parish Hall. The nursery is available from Sunday school to Coffee Hour for ages infant to age 5. Children are free to learn, play, and explore in a safe, child-friendly environment.



Did you forget your checkbook this morning? Have you been wanting to set up a pledge but keep forgetting? Life just got a whole lot easier: scan the QR code on your phone and it will take you directly to our giving homepage.

### This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, March 17—The Fifth Sunday in Lent

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM Adult Forum
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
11AM Fellowship Hour
3PM Berks Youth Chorus rehearsals
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Monday, March 18

9AM ESL Class 12PM—1PM NA meeting 5:30-6:30PM NA meeting

Tuesday, March 19

9AM Citizenship class 12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, March 20

9AM ESL Class 11:30AM Stations of the Cross 12PM Holy Eucharist 12PM—1PM NA Meeting 5:30-6:30PM NA Meeting

Thursday, March 21

9AM Citizenship Class 11AM Morning Prayer in the Chapel 12PM—1PM NA Meeting 7PM—Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 22 12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, March 23 12PM—2PM NA Meeting

# Sunday, March 24—The Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM Adult Forum
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
11AM Fellowship Hour
3PM Berks Youth Chorus rehearsals
4PM—5PM NA meeting

# **Upcoming Events**

March 28 Maundy Thursday 7PM

March 29 Good Friday 12PM

March 30 Holy Saturday 7PM

March 31 Easter Sunday 8AM and 10AM

March 31 Easter Egg Hunt after the 10AM service

**April 10** Berks Jazz Fest concert at Christ Church 7PM

