

# Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

*IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.*



**The Third Sunday in Lent**

**March 23, 2025**

**8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)**

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**10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)**

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**Children's Activities**

Pages 24 and 25



## Today's Readings—The Third Sunday in Lent

**The Old Testament 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."

**The New Testament Reading:** 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.

**The Holy Gospel:** Luke 13:31-35

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.

### Welcome to Christ 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** please talk to one of the ushers or Fr Bryce after the service. Please stay with us after the service in our **Fellowship Hall** to get to know us better. The most readily accessible **restrooms** are at the front of the fellowship hall to the left (men's) and just past the elevator (women's). **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.

For those in need of our prayers....

Runette	Kristin	Wyatt	Beverly
Connie	Randall	Dane	Polly
Mary	Carol	Lois	Kate
Max	Jason	Jeri	Bob
Doug and Dia	Eric	Shana	Riley
Nat	Hunter	Josephine	Judy
Shepherd & family	Mother Dolores	Stephanie	Joshua
Angelica	Scott	Jeff	Lori
Stella	Mike	Glen	Rosie
Nate	Riley	Hunter	Angelica
Elizabeth	Lisa	Lola and Family	Sandi
M.S.			

*Kindly submit any names you would like to be added to the prayer list by emailing Kim @officemgr@rdgchristchurch.org or writing the name on the paper on the table inside the church.*

## The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: In this Lenten season, as we grow closer to God through fasting, prayer, penitence and study of God's word, we pray that we may always faithfully follow in Jesus' way of service and love.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church and all of its people; for Bryce, our rector, Kevin, our bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America, St. Brigid's, Nazareth and St. Clement & St. Peter's, Wilkes-Barre ;

All **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

All **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, we especially pray for peace in Ukraine and the Holy Land;

All **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

We pray for those celebrating this week, Anita Powell and Emily Wandrey; give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

All **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

We pray for those on our prayer list printed in the bulletin and all of those we name now...; have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

All **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

We remember those who have died; give to the departed eternal rest.

All **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

All **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Celebrant: God of sacrifice, in your love and goodness you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Cover image: *The Burning Bush* by Sébastien Bourdon (1616-1671)

**Christ Church (Episcopal)  
Reading, PA  
8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

**The Liturgy of the Word**

*Please stand*

**The Acclamation and Response**

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.**

**The 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:

People: **And also with you.**

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, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**The Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 3:1-15 (full text on page 2)

*At the end of the reading*

Reader: The Word of the Lord:

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm** 63:1-8 (*the Psalm is read responsively by whole verse*)

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;  
my lips shall give you praise.

**So will I bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your Name.**

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

**When I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

For you have been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

**My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.**

**The New Testament Reading:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (full text on page 2)

*At the end of the reading*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**The Holy Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9 (full text on page 3)

*Before the reading*

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

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** (page 9)

**The Prayers of the People** (see page 4 for responses)

**Confession of Sin** (page 9)

**The Peace**

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

People: **And also with you.**

**Announcements**

**The Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving** (Eucharistic Prayer E from *Common Worship*, page 10)

**The Sanctus** (page 11)

*The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 11*

**The Lord's Prayer and Breaking of the Bread** (page 12)

**The Prayer of Humble Access and Invitation to Communion** (page 12)

*Everyone is invited to receive. 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.) Gluten Free wafers are available; if you require gluten free please indicate this when receiving. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail.*

**The Post-Communion Prayers**

Celebrant: Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand those things that draw us away from you, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Then all pray together:*

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**  
**you have graciously accepted us as living members**  
**of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,**  
**and you have fed us with spiritual food**  
**in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**  
**Send us now into the world in peace,**

and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Blessing**

**The Dismissal**

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**8AM Service Participants**

*Celebrant and Homilist*  
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

*Communion Assistant*  
Chris Spohn

*Lector and Intercessor*  
Rick Wolf

*Altar Guild*  
Victoria Wilson (Captain), Doris  
Schilpp, Helen Peemoeller, Sally  
Wilcox and Pat Kelley

*Usher*  
Ellen Sunderman

**10AM Service Participants**

*Celebrant and Homilist*  
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

*Ushers*  
Susan Doll, Christine Keeler, Larry Whalen

*Organist and Choir Director*  
John Painter

*Communion Assistants*  
Kate Fanning and Milah Smith

*Vergers*  
Jeff Morris

*Crucifer*  
Andrea Griffith

*Gospel Book Bearer*  
Amelia Fanning

*Acolytes*  
Elizabeth West and Zoe Morris

*Lector*  
Anita Powell

*Altar Guild*  
Victoria Wilson (Captain), Doris Schilpp,  
Helen Peemoeller, Sally  
Wilcox and Pat Kelley

*Intercessor*  
Diane Morris



### **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Confession of Sin**

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

All    **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.**

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.

All    **Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving** (Prayer E from *Common Worship*)

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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendor of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and saying:

*(8AM spoken, sung on page 17 at 10AM)*

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

Celebrant: We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Celebrant: Christ is the bread of life:  
All           **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
                  we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
                  until you come in glory.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favor on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with Blessed Mary all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

All:           And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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**

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

### **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**

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*, material from which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 and published by Church House Publishing.

**Christ Church (Episcopal)  
Reading, PA**

**10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

**Prelude**

*Holy, Holy, Holy/Worthy of Worship*

Suzanne Arant

**Opening Hymn 603**

*When Christ was lifted from the earth*

1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his  
2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and  
3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -  
4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,  
al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us  
vide us to our shame, he sees not la - bels  
I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.  
as his friends and loves us as we are.  
but a face, a per - son, and a name.  
cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936). Copyright © 1973 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved.  
Used by permission. Music: *St. Botolph*, Gordon Slater (1896-1979). By permission of Oxford University Press.

## 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.**

### The 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

Healy Willan

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

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

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

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

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

Music: From *Missa de Santa Maria Magdalena*, Healy Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

**The Collect of the Day**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

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, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**The Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 3:1-15 (full text on page 2)

*At the end of the reading*

Reader: The Word of the Lord:

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Gospel Hymn 488**

*Be thou my vision*



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,  
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

**The Holy Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9 (full text on page 3)

*Before the reading*

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

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** (page 9)

**The Prayers of the People** (see page 4 for responses)

**Confession of Sin** (page 9)

**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**

*Where Love Is*

Joanne Doxey

**Presentation Hymn**

*The glory of these forty days*



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we  
1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Erhalt uns, Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).



## The Holy Communion

**The Great Thanksgiving** (Prayer E from *Common Worship*, page 10)

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 him thanks and praise.**

*The celebrant continues with the Great Thanksgiving on page 10*

## The Sanctus

Franz Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. 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.

Music: From *Divine Mass*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828), arr. Richard Proulx (B. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

*The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 11*

**The Lord's Prayer** (page 12)

**The Fraction Anthem**

Graham Kendrick

1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Break the bread. taste the wine. Christ is with us here.  
In this bread there is heal-ing, in this cup is life for-ev-er.  
In this mo-ment, by the Spir-it, Christ is with us here.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950  
Music: Graham Kendrick

HERE IS BREAD  
3344335 and refrain

**The Prayer of Humble Access and The Invitation to Communion** (page 12)

*Everyone is invited to receive. 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.) Gluten Free wafers are available; if you require gluten free please indicate this when receiving. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail.*

**Agnus Dei**

Healy Willan

O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the  
world, have mcr-cy up-on us.  
O Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the  
world, grant us your peace.

### **The Communion Hymn**

*I cannot tell* (pages 20-21)

*If Eucharistic visitors 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.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Celebrant: Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand those things that  
draw us away from you, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Then all pray together:*

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

### **The Closing Hymn**

*Thy hand, O God has guided* (see page 22)

### **The Dismissal**

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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Unison

I can-not tell how he whom an-gels wor - ship should stoop to

love the peo- ples of the earth, or why as

shep - herd he should seek the wand - 'rer with his mys -

te - rious pro-mise of new birth. But this I know, that he was born of

Ma - ry, when Beth - l'em's man - ger was his on - ly

home, and that he lived at Na - za - reth and

la - boured, and so the Sa-viour, Sa-viour of the world, is come.

2. I cannot tell how silently he suffered,  
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,  
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,  
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.  
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,  
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,  
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden,  
for yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.
3. I cannot tell how he will win the nations,  
how he will claim his earthly heritage,  
how satisfy the needs and aspirations  
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.  
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,  
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,  
and some glad day his sun shall shine in splendour  
when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.
4. I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,  
when, at his bidding, ev'ry storm is stilled,  
or who can say how great the jubilation  
when ev'ry heart with perfect love is filled.  
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,  
and myriad, myriad human voices sing,  
and earth to heav'n and heav'n to earth, will answer:  
'At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'



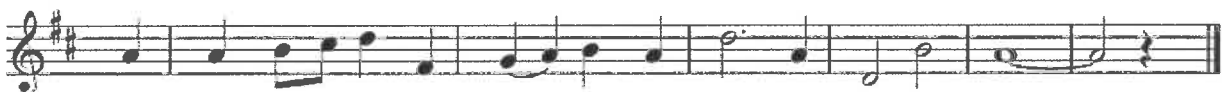
1 Thy hand O God has gui - ded thy church from a - ge to age  
 2 Thy he - ralds brought glad ti - dings to grea - test as to least  
 3 Through many a day of dark - ness, through many a sce - ne of strife  
 4 Thy mer - cy will not fail us, nor leave thy work un - done;



The won - drous tale is writ - ten, full clear on ev - ery page;  
 They bade them rise, and has - ten to share the great King's feast;  
 The faith - ful few fought brave - ly to guard the na - tions' life.  
 With thy right hand to help us, the vic - t'ry shall be won;

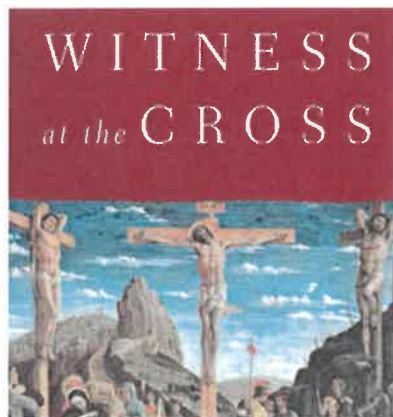


Our fore - bears owned thy good - ness, and we their deeds re - cord;  
 And this was all their tea - ching, in ev' - ry deed and word,  
 Their go - spel of re - demp - tion, sin par - doned, hope re - stored,  
 And then by all cre - a - tion, thy name shall be a - dored,



And both of this bear wit - ness: one Church, one Faith, one Lord.  
 To all a - like pro - claim - ing: one Church, one Faith, one Lord.  
 Was all in this en - fold - ed: one Church, one Faith, one Lord.  
 And this shall be their an - them: one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

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Our Adult Forum is focusing on "Witness at the Cross". Based in part upon the book by the same name by Amy-Jill Levine, we will be looking at those who witnessed Jesus' crucifixion: how did they see and react to Jesus' execution? How does their witness help us to be witnesses of Jesus' loving sacrifice? Join us at 9:05am in the Parlor on the Sundays in Lent.

# 2025 Easter Memorial Flower Order Form



Please use this form to place your order for Easter Flowers and/or contribute to:

The Christ Church Courtyard Fund or Safe Berks.

**All monies/forms are due in the office by April 6, 2025**

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to donate # \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Flowers @ \$10.00 each for a Total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to donate to The Christ Church Courtyard Fund or Safe Berks

(Please circle which charity you are choosing) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*Those donating a plant may take it home following the 10:00 AM Easter Day worship service. Plants remaining will continue to decorate our church throughout most of the Easter Season.*

*Those donating to the Garden Fund will help to beautify the Courtyard with dressing and mulching of the beds.*

Please **PRINT NAMES CLEARLY** in the spaces below for accurate listing in the Easter Worship Bulletins.

*My gift is given:*

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of (if in Heaven)) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of (if living) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In Thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to "Christ Church" (Easter Flowers on text line) and mail to:  
Post Office Box 1094 no later than **Sunday, April 6, 2025**, or place in the collection plate. Thank You!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHRIST CHURCH, P.O. BOX 1094, READING, PA 19603-1094

## Living a Fruitful Life

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' " Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

Based on Luke 13:1-9



K E Q J O S E L E H D I G G A  
 Z Q D T H J C A A I A Y L P L  
 Q U B O G Z R T L O O K J A O  
 L D A L V I N E Y A R D T R N  
 W E E D P T R C S L X J L A E  
 Z K X X R H L O X B K S P B V  
 F R U I T R V H K R R B Q L V  
 V V Y L F E R T I L I Z E E W  
 K G P U D E K A F X O L P Z A  
 H R K T S Y E A R S F O D G E  
 M T U S D E Y Q L C N N U E N  
 F C I G O O W O E M I Q R K G  
 S S B F K I W L A F L T L I Z  
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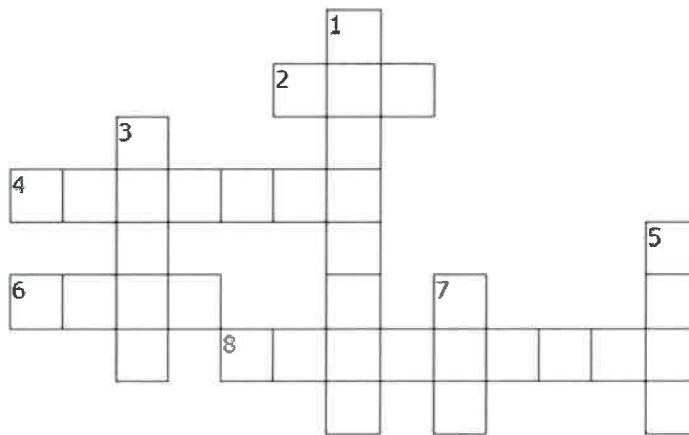
LEAVE	PARABLE	FRUIT	LOOK	THREE
VINEYARD	MAN	SOIL	FERTILIZE	FIG
TOLD	TREE	DIG	FIND	DOWN
YEARS	USE	PLANTED	CUT	ALONE



# Living a Fruitful Life

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' " Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

Based on Luke 13:1-9



## ACROSS

2. The sweet, pear-shaped, fruit of a plant found in Bible lands.
4. A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson.
6. The top layer of the earth's surface favorable to plant growth.
8. To spread a something on land or plants to help plants grow.

## DOWN

1. An area of ground planted with vines and fruit trees.
3. The usually sweet-tasting part of a tree which can be eaten.
5. A large plant with a trunk, limbs, branches, and leaves.
7. To break up and move dirt using a shovel.

DIG	VINEYARD	TREE	PARABLE
FIG	FERTILIZE	SOIL	FRUIT

**Regular Christ Church Office hours:**

Monday: 8:00 am - 2:00 PM; Tuesday 8:00AM-12:30PM

Wednesday 8:00 am - 2:00 PM

**IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.**

We are grounded in the values of love, service and faithful stewardship. Firmly rooted in compassionate collaboration, we welcome partnerships that nurture our neighbors and address pressing issues in our community. We endeavor to be a cornerstone for the city of Reading, enabling all that come through our doors to experience the dignity, purpose and opportunities that God desires for everyone.



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.

The ECW is once again participating in **United Thank Offering** during this season of Lent. The collection boxes for coins are in a basket outside the chapel; there are children's boxes and adult boxes as well as envelopes if you don't want to use a box.

Please join us at 5:30pm on Wednesday March 26th for our **Lenten Taizé Service**. This is a candlelit service with dimmed lights and meditative music from the Taizé tradition. We offer this special service during the Lenten season and hope that you can attend.



<p><b>Vestry</b>  Diane Morris (Senior Warden/Stewardship)  Chuck Brantman (Junior Warden/Property)  Anita Powell (Pastoral Care)  Pam Wheat (Grants)  Carolyn Handy (Hospitality)  Rick Wolf (Finances)  Bob Kappenstein (Worship)  Kim Alarcon (Security Task Force)  Mary Arguelles (Children/Youth)  Jill Braun (Community Ministries)  Bob Barkley (Community Ministries)  Michelle Rowles-Cranmer (Daycare/Nursery Initiatives)</p> <p><b>Our Ministries</b></p> <p><b>Worship</b>  Acolytes  Altar Guild  Eucharistic Ministers  Lectors and Intercessors  Vergers  Guitar and Taizé Services  Healing Team  Centering Prayer  Morning Prayer  Ushers  Kristallnacht Service</p> <p><b>Music</b>  Parish Choir  Bell Ringers  Children's Choir  Fall Festival of Arts</p>	<p><b>Education</b>  Adult Forum  Library  Children's Ministries  Education For Ministry  Bible Study  EYC</p> <p><b>Pastoral Care</b>  Cards and notes  Prayer Lists  Eucharistic Visitors  Flower Delivery  Pastoral Visits</p> <p><b>Fellowship</b>  Sunday Fellowship Hour  50+ Club  Hospitality Committee</p> <p><b>Business</b>  Property  Churchyard  Maintenance  Stewardship Team  Planned Giving  Communications  Capital Campaign  Security Task Force</p> <p><b>Community Outreach</b>  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 Youth Chorus  Sunday Service  Livestream  Berks County  Community Foundation</p>
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**Altar Candle Memorials for March are given for Blessings Received** by Susan Frankowski; **Paul and Alice Swain and Arthur and Mary Hoare** by Stephen and Charlotte Hoare; **Sherry Feick Chandler** by David and Judy Feick.  
**Lectern flowers are given today for Anita's Birthday from Cliff.**

Our Thursday morning **Bible Study** continues at 9am in the Library. Prior attendance is not required; please join us.

Due to a confusion in scheduling, we will **NOT** be hosting an **ESL Conversation and Dinner** on April 8th but we **WILL** be on **Tuesday May 13th at 6pm**. A new sign up sheet is hanging on the wall near the chapel.

Consider becoming a member of the **Reading Franciscan Justice Circle** being formed by some Bernardine Franciscan Sisters and Secular Franciscans. Franciscan Justice Circles are a grassroots initiative promoted by Franciscan Action Network (FAN) to connect individuals in prayer, action, and advocacy in cities across the country. For further information, check out [www.FranciscanJusticeCircles.org](http://www.FranciscanJusticeCircles.org). Participants can attend in person or via Zoom. If you would like to attend an upcoming meeting to consider joining, please contact Sister Cara Garofalo at [caralucilleg@gmail.com](mailto:caralucilleg@gmail.com).

**This Week at Christ Church  
Sunday, March 23—The Third Sunday  
in Lent**

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)  
9AM Sunday School  
9AM Youth Confirmation Class  
9:05AM Adult Forum  
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)  
11AM Adult Confirmation Class  
11:15AM Children's Choir Practice  
3-5:30PM BYC Practice  
4-5PM NA meeting

**Monday, March 24**

9AM ESL class  
12PM—1PM NA meeting

**Tuesday, March 25**

9AM Citizenship Class  
9:30AM Zoom Centering Prayer  
12PM—1PM NA meeting

**Wednesday, March 26**

8:30AM Staff Meeting  
9AM ESL class  
11:30AM Stations of the Cross  
12PM Noon Eucharist  
12PM—1PM NA Meeting  
5:30PM Lenten Taizé Service  
5:30-7PM NA Meeting

**Thursday, March 27**

9AM Bible Study  
9AM Citizenship Class  
9:30AM Zoom Centering Prayer  
11AM Morning Prayer in the Chapel  
12PM—1PM NA Meeting  
5PM-6:30PM NA Meeting

**Friday, March 28**

12PM—1PM NA Meeting  
6PM-8PM Jr. EYC

**Saturday, March 29**

12PM-2PM NA meeting

**Sunday, March 30—The Fourth Sunday in Lent**

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)  
9AM Sunday School  
9AM Youth Confirmation Class  
9:05AM Adult Forum  
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)  
11AM Adult Confirmation Class  
11:15AM Children's Choir Practice  
3-5:30PM BYC Practice  
4-5PM NA meeting

**Upcoming Events**

**March 26** Lenten Taizé Service with David Cullen 5:30pm

**March 28** Jr. EYC 6-8PM

**April 12** Youth Mission Trip Training 9AM-11AM

**April 12** Berks Jazz Fest Concert 5:30PM

**April 13th** Passion/Palm Sunday services 8AM and 10AM

**April 17** Maundy Thursday service with Foot Washing 7PM

**April 18** Good Friday Solemn Service 12PM

**April 19** Easter Vigil Service 7PM

**April 20** Easter Day (The Resurrection of our Lord) Services at 8AM and 10AM



Christ Episcopal Church  
Christ is all and in all