



**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

***“A welcoming, compassionate and healing community
in Christ”***

Sunday March 19, 2023
10:15am Rite 2

Welcome visitors and seasonal neighbors! We rejoice in your presence among us. In order to get to know you better please sign our guest book kept in the narthex or scan the QR code printed in this bulletin.

Worship Key

- Prayers** BCP or *The Book of Common Prayer* is the red prayer book in your pew.
- Hymns** Hymns starting with S or with a number are in the blue *Hymnal 1982*, in your pew. Service hymns beginning with an S are listed first.
- WLP indicates *Wonder, Love and Praise*, the green hymnal in your pew.

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 23 (BCP p. 612-613)

The people remain seated

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

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.”.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN (sung 3Xs)

All stand.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

All stand.

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. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As 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, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The 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?” ⁹Some 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?” ¹¹He 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. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then 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; ²¹but 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.” ²²His 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. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They 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.” ³⁷Jesus 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.**

SEQUENCE HYMN (sung 2Xs)

All stand.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory.

THE SERMON

THE CREED (BCP p. 358)

All stand.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remain standing. The following is spoken after each petition:

Celebrant: Light of the world

People: *open our eyes*

Today's prayer list:

For the church:

Michael our Presiding Bishop, Kevin our Bishop, Bruce our Priest, Sidnie our Assisting Priest, Barbara our Canon Missioner.

For the nation:

Joe our President, Josh our Governor and Michael our Mayor.

For our congregation:

Reverend Dennison and Fay Richards, Colleen Schaufele and Helen Hawkes, Linda Schumann, Christine Searles, and Sharon Seay,

For the Diocese of Bethlehem and Kajo Keji:

St. Gabriele's, Douglasville and Good Shepherd Learning Center. In Kajo Keji for St. John Lukura Parish

For the Anglican Communion:

The Anglican Church of South Africa.

For the sick:

Anthony, Antonia, Rebecca, Jeanne, June, Louise, Margaret, Otilie, Kelly Ann, Berni, Ed, Bob,

Frank, Julian, Noel and for our families, friends, and neighbors.

Reader: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant:

Almighty God, inspire us to see Your vision for Christ Church. Bless us with boldness and wisdom so that we may be a beacon of Your welcome, compassion, and healing in our community and the world; through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

All stand.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

The Lord is my song, (sung 2X)

The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
All my hope comes from God,
The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
God, the well-sprung of life.

**The Great Thanksgiving
Prayer A BCP p.361-366**

SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 361)

The People remain standing.

PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 361)

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

SANCTUS S130 Holy, holy, holy

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 362)

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

EPICLESIS (BCP p. 363)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM S161

Lamb of God

INVITATION (BCP p, 364)


DISTRIBUTION

Please come forward to receive the Sacrament in both kinds. The priest will distribute the bread and the chalice bearers will distribute the wine. Kindly dispose of the cups into the baskets provided. If you would like a blessing, come forward and cross your hands over your heart to indicate you would like to be blessed.


The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

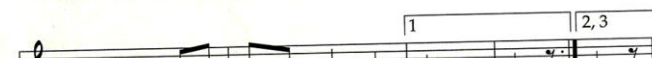
COMMUNION MEDITATION *Lamb of God*



1. Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2. Your gift of love, they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and
3. I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side, to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died, the hum - ble king they named a
brought me to your side, to be led by your staff and



sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God. 1
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. 2, 3
rod, and to be called a lamb of God.


Refrain



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the



ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre - cious



blood — my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

LENTEN BLESSING

stand or kneel

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.
or deacon

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

People **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN 690 *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*
DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Please join us after the service for coffee hour downstairs

Today's Liturgy Participants:

Celebrant and Preacher: The Reverend Bruce Gowe

Chalice Bearers: Cynthia Leenerts

Pianist/Organist: Delany Burke

Acolyte/Altar Server: Anthony Piscutti

Lectors: Mary Ellen Whitely & Carl Ausfahl

Counters: Coleen Schafele & Jan Selving

Next Week's Liturgy Participants:

Preacher: The Reverend Sidnie Crawford (8:00am & 10:15am)

Celebrant: The Reverend Bruce Gowe (10:15am)

Vergers: Rob Causton

Chalice Bearers: Carl Ausfahl (10:15am)

Pianist/Organist: Delany Burke

Acolyte/Altar Server:); Rob Causton (8:00am); Anthony Piscutti (10:15am)

Lectors: Patti Alleger & Deborah Emin (10:15am); Rob Causton (8:00am)

Counters: Bob Nelson & Rob Causton

VESTRY

Senior Warden - Chris Nelson

Jr. Warden – Kevin Casey

Clerk of Vestry – Jan Selving

Myra Bailey, Carolyn Buckley, Debby Campbell, Rob Causton,
Kevin Furst, Jan Selving and Jihan Taylor

Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols, *Bishop of the Diocese of Bethlehem*

The Rev. Bruce Gowe, *Priest-in-Charge*

The Rev. Dr. Sidnie Crawford, *Assisting Priest*

Christ Episcopal Church

205 North Seventh Street

Stroudsburg, PA 18360

(570) 421-7481

Office Email: christchurchsburg@gmail.com

Website: www.christchurchstroudsburg.net

Office Hours: 10:00am-2:00pm | Tuesday through Friday

Joyce Onsted, Administrative Assistant

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Morning Prayers

Tuesday

8 am Zoom Morning Prayer

Email Cynthia Leenerts (cleenerts@esu.edu) for link

Wednesday:

8 am Zoom Morning Prayer

Email Rev. Sidnie (crawford1@me.com) for link

Thursday:

8 am Zoom Morning Prayer

Email Fr. Bruce bgowe01@gmail.com for link

Friday:

8 am Zoom Morning Prayer

Email Patti Alleger for link(palleger@ptd.net).

Lenten Schedule

Wednesday Mid-Week 12:05 PM -Healing Mass *each day, we will offer anointing for the sick and observe the Saint of the day.	Fridays 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross *folks are invited to head out for dinner with Fr. Bruce and James after.	Saturdays 5 PM	Sunday 8 am Spoken & 10:15 am Sung
Mar. 22 nd St. James De Koven	Mar. 24 th	March 25 th Rite II the Annunciation	March 26 th 5 th Sunday in Lent
Mar. 29 th St. John Donne	Mar. 31 st	April 1 st Palm Vigil Mass	April 2 nd Palm Sunday

Holy Week Worship Schedule

April 2nd- Palm Sunday

8am-Spoken Mass starting in the Resurrection Chapel
10:15am- Sung Mass starting in the fellowship hall at 10am

April 5th- Holy Wednesday

12:05pm- Healing Mass
6:30-Soup, Study, and Supplication

April 6th- Maundy Thursday

7pm The Watch Vigil after Mass until 8am Morning Prayer on Friday.

April 7th- Good Friday

11am Cross Walk begins @

St. John's Lutheran with the 4th station at Christ church.
12:30ish- Traditional Spoken Service with Communion from the Reserve
7pm -Contemporary Service walking through the Stations of the Cross in a Tenebrae style service.

April 8th- Easter Vigil Liturgy

8pm- with friends from St. John Lutheran joining us.

April 9th- Easter Sunday

8am- Spoken Mass
10:15am- Sung Mass

Church Announcements

Lenten Christ Church Mission

Easter Basket - Collections for Easter candy and baskets **now** through April 2nd. We are collecting candy and supermarket \$25 gift cards. The gift cards may be from a local supermarket like Weis, Shoprite and Giant.

Choir Activities

The choir rehearses Sunday 9:45am before the 10:15am Mass. Holy Week choir rehearsals open to all will held be after Mass on March 19th and 26th.

CHRIST CHURCH LAY MINISTRY TRAINING -- Laity interested in renewing or receiving licenses for:

Lay Eucharist Minister *Chalice Bearer* *Acolyte/ Altar Serving*
Lay Eucharist Visitor *Worship Leader*

Saturday, April 22nd, 3-5 pm: Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, & Lectors

Saturday May 13th, 3-5 pm: Worship Leaders & Wrap-up

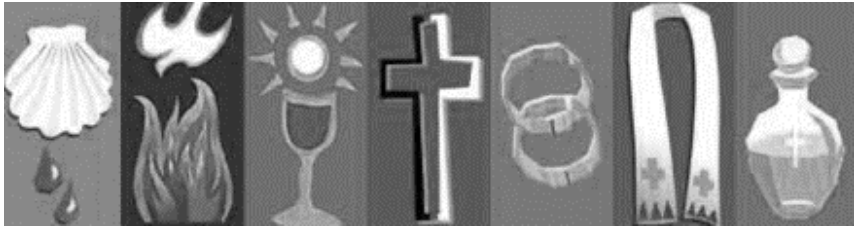
Thank You for all those who sign-up an email about future will be coming directly to you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday school has started! If you

would like your child to attend, please fill out our

registration form. Sunday school starts at 10AM.

ADULT FORUM Adult Forum at 9:10am Sundays.



Interested in receiving the sacrament of Holy Baptism?

Please reach out to the office. @ 570-421-7481 by March 26th at the latest. Holy Baptism will be

administered April 8th at our Easter Vigil. For confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Faith, please contact Father Bruce. Classes will begin this fall; we need to know your interest to coordinate the Bishop's schedule.

Donations and Community Collections

The Food Pantry is open from 10-12 pm to the public every 1st and 3rd Saturday. We are asking that volunteers be there by 9:30 am.

Meals on Wheels of Monroe County has experienced an almost 30% increase in clients and **pets**. There are now 75 clients and 111 pets in the program. As a result, supplies are running low and they need help. Adult, dry dog food (For Medium and Small Dogs), wet dog food and dry cat food are needed. **Please leave your donations in the**

narthex.

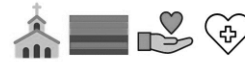




Jenny Collier requests assistance for a family that lost everything in a recent fire. Right now she is looking for clothing for one girl, adult size L shirts, pants size 17, shoe size 8 and her grandfather, size small. Speak with Jenny; she will pick up your donations left in the last pew in the church.



Electronic Guestbook



MISSION: A WELCOMING, COMPASSIONATE AND HEALING COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

Tell us more!



To our visitors: please feel free to sign our electronic guestbook!



Interested in learning more about Christ Church's Youth Programs?