

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A service of confirmation and reception CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"A welcoming, compassionate and healing community in Christ"

> Sunday April 21, 2024 10:15am

Our vision at Christ Episcopal Church is to be ambassadors of Reconciliation in Christ, living lives of Love and Grace! 2 Corinthians 5:11-20

H-blue hymnal BCP- book of common prayer (red book)

WLP- green hymnal

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (H 525)



OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 413)

The people standing, the Bishop says

- Bishop Alleluia. Christ is risen. \bigstar
- *People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

SALUTATION FOR BAPTISM (BCP p. 413)

- *Bishop* There is one Body and one Spirit;
- *People* There is one hope in God's call to us;
- Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
- *People* One God and Father of all.





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 413)

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

⁵The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;

it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures * and leads me beside still waters.

³He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴Though 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.

⁵You 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.

⁶Surely 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.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

A Reading from the First letter of John.

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods

and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN Celtic Alleluia



GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

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

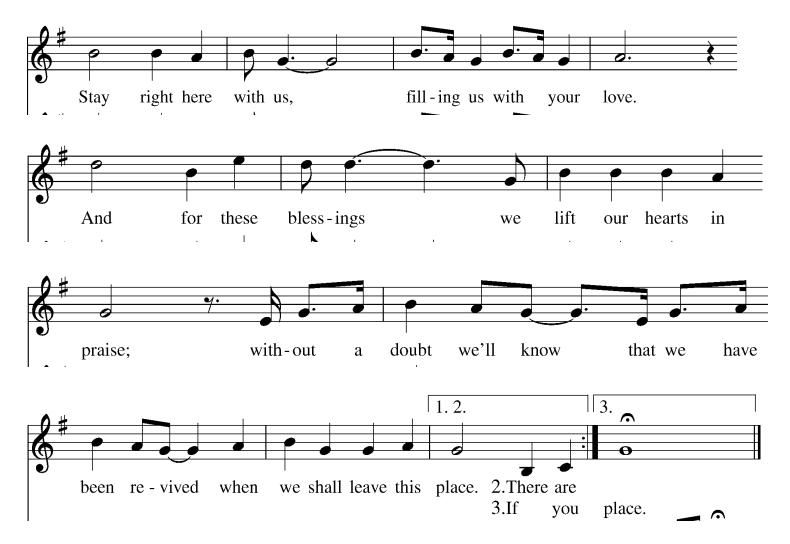
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

PriestThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

SEQUENCE HYMN Celtic Alleluia





PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES PRESENTATION (BCP p. 415)

BishopThe Candidate(s) will now be presented.PresentersI present Katina Williams, Malik Mitchell, Adrian
Gonzalez and Angel Gonzalez for Confirmation.

Presenters I present Melissa Bravo, Marcos Gonzalez and Anthony Pisculli to be received into this Communion.

EXAMINATION (BCP p. 415)

BishopDo you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?CandidateI do.BishopDo you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?CandidateI do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in their life in Christ?

People We will.

The Bishop then says these or similar words

Let us join with *those* who are committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT (BCP p. 416) Bishop Do you believe in God the Father? People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? People 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. Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? People I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection \mathbf{H} of the body, and the life everlasting. Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers? People

I will, with God's help.

Bishop

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People

I will, with God's help.

Bishop

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? *People*

I will, with God's help.

Bishop

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? *People*

I will, with God's help.

Bishop

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People

I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES (BCP p. 417)

The bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Priest	Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Priest	Open <i>their hearts</i> to your grace and truth.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Priest	Fill them with your holy and life-giving spirit.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Priest	Keep <i>them</i> in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Priest	Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Priest	Send them into the world in witness to your love.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
Priest	Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People	Lord, hear our prayer.
A period	of silence follows

A period of silence follows.

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*As the candidate is coming forward a line or two from their own creed will be shared. These creeds were lifted before us at the iconfirm service last night.

LAYING ON OF HANDS (BCP p. 418)

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servants with your Holy Spirit; empower *him/her* for your service; and sustain *him/her* all the days of *his/her* life. *Amen*.

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. *Amen*.

The Bishop concludes with this prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over *these* your *servants*; let your Holy Spirit ever be with *them*; and so lead *them* in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that *they* may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

THE PEACE (BCP p. 419)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. People: And also with you,

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 343)

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BLESSINGS

CHOIR OFFERTORY Because of Love – Nix and Martin During this time the gifts are brought forward, and a collection is taken. **OFFERTORY HYMN (H 178)**

(R) Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Verse

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior **(R)**



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 361)

The Lord be with you. Celebrant

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

- We lift them up unto the Lord. People
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Celebrant
- People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

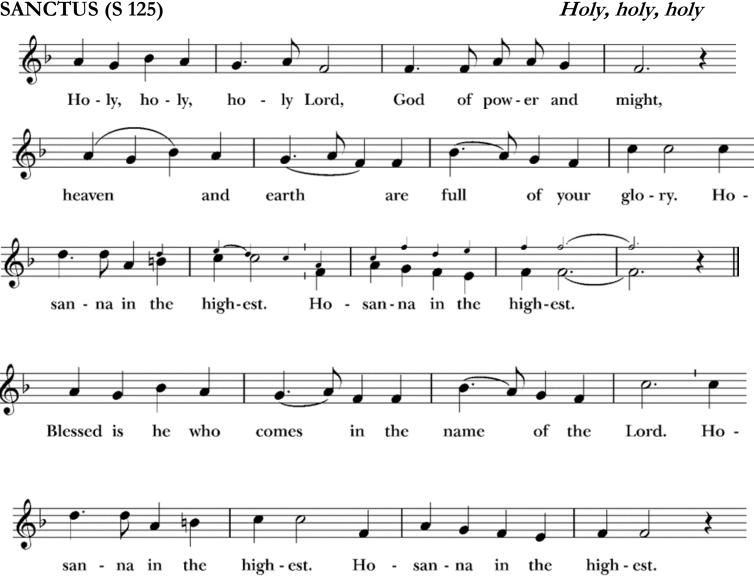
PROPER PREFACE

(BCP p. 361)

It is right, and a good and joyful thing ...

... 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:

SANCTUS (S 125)



WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 362)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself ...

... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

EPICLESIS (BCP p. 363)

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption.... 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 LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

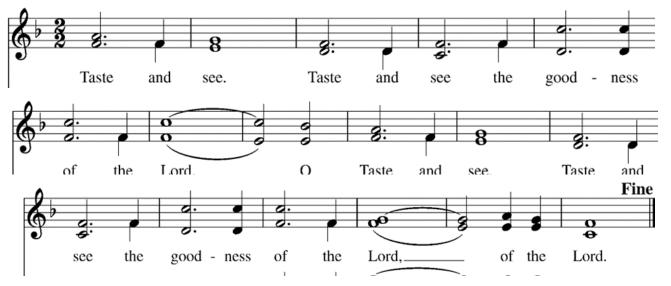
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM (LEVAS 154)

Taste and See (refrain only)



INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

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.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

You may be seated until you come forward to receive. When you receive the consecrated bread, you consume it and then move to the cup of consecrated wine. The cup is for drinking, and for those who choose to "intinct" or touch the tip of their bread to the wine. You may also choose to receive Communion in only one kind. If you would like a blessing, come forward and cross your hands over your heart to indicate you would like to be blessed. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words: The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

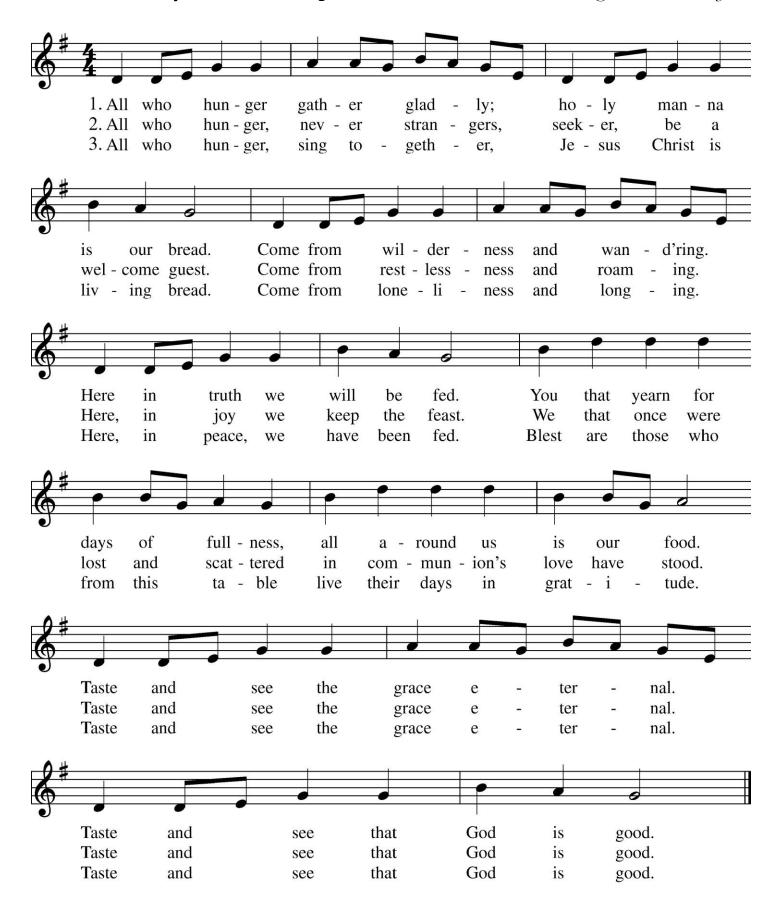


COMMUNION HYMN (H 174)



Communion Hymn 2 WLP 761 p.1

All Who Hunger Gather Gladly



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

EPISCOPAL BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, \bigstar and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.



RECESSIONAL HYMN (WLP 751)

Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit



DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Please join us downstairs for a potluck luncheon following Mass Today's Liturgy Participants:

Preacher and Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols, Bishop of the Diocese of Bethlehem
Bishop's Chaplin: The Rev. Dominic Lorenzetti
Verger: Cynthia Leenerts
Lectors: Patti Alleger | Carl Ausfahl
Altar Server/Crucifer: Adrian Gonzalez
Thurifer: Anthony Pisculli
Music Director: Bethann Kratzer
Counters: Bob Nelson | Martha Linne
Chalice Bearer: Leigh Smith

The 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 The Rev. Dominic Lorenzetti, Assisting Pastoral Care Minister

Christ Episcopal Church

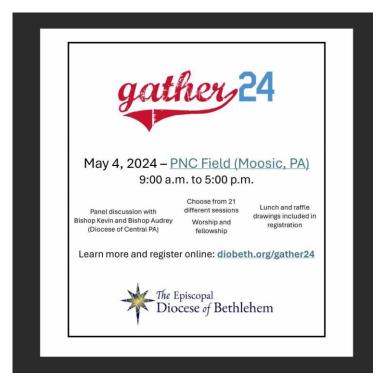
205 North Seventh St. Stroudsburg, Pa 18360 Office Hours: 10am-2pm | Tuesday through Friday (570) 421-7481 Joyce Onsted, Administrative Assistant email: <u>christchurchsburg@gmail.com</u> website:www.christchurchstroudsburg.net

WESTRY

Senior Warden – Carl Ausfahl Jr. Warden – Kevin Casey Clerk of Vestry – Jan Selving Myra Bailey, Cynthia Leenerts, Debby Campbell, Kevin Furst, Rob Ceci and Louise Daleigh

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Christ Church Announcements



Gather 24 – May 4, 2024

All are invited to attend this fun and interactive day of formation and fellowship. There are 21 sessions to choose from at Gather 24. Just a few are: Ask the Bishop, Celtic Spirituality, DOK Information

Session, How does Church work, Life in the Age -Being Honest about Heaven and Hell and many others. Visit the web page to register – using this QR code or this site:



https://diobeth.org/gather24.The day includes lunch, hearing from Bishops, worship, and lots more. The \$25 registration fee helps offset the event site cost, meals and snacks, prizes, and other event costs (scholarships are available for those with need).

Gather is the Diocese of Bethlehem's annual formation event. *Gather 24* is Saturday, **May 4**, **2024**, at PNC Field (just south of Scranton), home of the <u>RailRiders</u>.

Save The Dates

-May 2nd: Interfaith Day of Prayer We are gathering at 6pm on Courthouse Square

-May 12th: Interfaith Scripture Reasonig Session Here at Christ Church 2:30-4pm



CEC Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry operates every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 10:00am – 12:00pm. If you would like to volunteer for either our early (8:00am) or late shift (10:30am) please contact Debby Campbell at debbycampbellnyc@aol.com subject line, Christ Church. Check-in starts at 8:00am.

Folks relax and wait in the sanctuary until called to go down and shop. Volunteers are asked to come in shifts 8-10:30 and 10-12:30pm.

Note that parking is on the street or located behind 624 Sarah St. only.

Daughters of the King (DOK)

DOK continue to immerse prospective Daughters in learning and discernment for installation to the Order. It's not too late to join! Let any Daughter know that you are interested: Maggie, Rose, Patti, Jan, Cynthia, Mo. Crawford. Sharon, Louise, Colleen. Our Video/Bible Study of "The Chosen" has begun. Please get in touch with Maggie Ziegler for more details if you are interested in attending at: <u>ssmoke 2000@yahoo.com</u>.

Saturday Monthly Mass Schedule

1st Celtic

2nd Contemplative Spoken

3rd Healing Evening Prayer with Benediction

4th Sung Rite II

Sunday Mass Schedule

8am Contemplative Spoken

10:15am Sung

*Note beginning June 2nd Sunday summer schedule is one 9:15am Mass until Sept.



Those interested in helping to organize a small reception after the Community Pride Mass please reach out to Fr. Bruce asap.



Ascension Day Mass May 9th Time: 7pm Locatior: Trihity Episcopal Mt. Pocono Pa oint service with Christ Episcopal Church Stroudsburg Pa.

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ (also called the Solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus Christ, Ascension Day, Ascension Thursday, or sometimes Holy Thursday) commemorates the Christian belief of the bodily Ascension of Jesus into Heaven.

Ascension Day Mass Time: 7pm Location: Trinity Mt. Pocono Preacher: Fr. Bruce+, Celebrant: Fr. Bill+ **Upcoming Collections:**

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May-June: Vacation Bible School

Theme: Suba diving into friendship with God

Like last year our donation wall be up soon. Please check out the website to volunteer and reg. the kids. August 4-8th 5pm-8pm

May- August: Back-2-school supplies

This year we will be creating a amazon and other store wish list for you to purchase and it will ship right to the church. Back-2-School Festival will be August 17th in the church Parking lot.

Volunteers Needed:

-Second Sunday of the Month Volunteers for Coffee hour needed. (groups or individuals) Sign up at the bottom of the steps before the fellowship hall.

-Vestry is currently looking for folks with organizational skills who might feel called to lead a fundraiser this year or the future. If you would like to put your name into the hat please speak with Senior Warden, Carl, or any vestry member before May 15th.

-More Volunteer opportunities coming soon.