

January 14, 2024

Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Holy Eucharist Rite II

10:00 a.m.

Whether you are new or returning, welcome to Christ Church this morning! We are glad that you are with us, wherever you are on your spiritual journey. We invite you to participate fully in our worship and we hope that you will be enriched and refreshed through this experience.

*As used in this bulletin, hymn numbers refer to [The Hymnal 1982](#) found in the pew rack in front of you, and BCP refers to the red [Book of Common Prayer](#) also found in the pew rack. **All congregational responses to be read in unison are boldfaced.** And if you need anything, please see an usher in the back of the church. Welcome!*

10AM Holy Eucharist with hymns, soloist, choir, & organ music.

The Rev. Peter Sipple presiding.

Coffee Hour: After-Church Gathering in the Parish Hall~All Welcome!

PSALM PRELUDE: **Set 2 #II**

H. Howells

“Yea, the darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear as the day: the darkness and light to Thee are both alike” Ps. 139:11

OPENING HYMN: #126 The people who in darkness walked

Dundee

**The people who in darkness walked have seen a glorious light;
on them broke forth the heavenly dawn who dwelt in death and night.**

**To hail thy rising, Sun of life, the gathering nations come,
joyous as when reapers bear their harvest treasures home.**

**To us the promised Child is born, to us the Son is given;
him shall the tribes of earth obey, and all the hosts of heaven.**

**His name shall be the Prince of Peace for evermore adored,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor, the Mighty God and Lord.**

**His power increasing still shall spread, his reign no end shall know;
justice shall guard his throne above, and peace abound below.**

OPEN ACCLAMATION

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

People: **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, p. 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may

perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your hold Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: #S-278 Glory to God

Matthias

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord, God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Prayed together

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Word of God

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

A reading from the First Book of Samuel

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore

Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

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

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

BCP, p. 794-795

29 Domine, probasti

prayed responsively

1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

**2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

**4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.**

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

**12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

**14 My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.**

15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.

**16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!**

17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

A reading from Paul's' first letter to the Corinthians

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #656 Blessed are the pure in heart

Franconia

**Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.**

**The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us, our pattern and our King;**

**he to the lowly soul will still himself impart
and for his dwelling and his throne will choose the pure in heart.**

**Lord, we thy presence seek; may ours this blessing be;
give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple fit for thee.**

THE GOSPEL John 1:43-51

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John

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

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Rev. Peter Sipple

NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 358

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Form III

BCP, p.387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

We pray for the people and clergy of St. James', Danbury; Saint Luke's and St. Paul's, Darien; Immanuel St. James, Derby; and for The Anglican Church of Chile.

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

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for our presiding bishop Michael, our bishop Jeffrey and Laura, and all bishops, priests and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Remembering all peacemakers and peacekeepers, especially those serving in places torn by warfare, terror and gun violence:

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Remembering our call to be good stewards of your Creation: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on them and on all those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially for Peggy VanPatten, Jennifer Huebner, Janet Couture, Paul, Abby Levitt, Dan Reynolds, Greg Ormer, Chloe N., Evelyn, Henry, Jamie, Josh L, Cynthia D, Brennie, Ken G, for the safety of the children and families of St. Luke's Church & School in Haiti, and for all others for whom we pray, either silently or aloud;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We pray for all who have died;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We offer our thanksgivings for this day, this place, for all the gifts to keep our neighbors warm, and for all who have made this celebration possible.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **People: And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETINGS

The Holy Communion

THE OFFERTORY

[Click here to give online](#)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Jesus, joy of loving hearts
Ward

B.A.

THE DOXOLOGY: #380 v. 3 only *Old 100th*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP, p. 367

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glorify in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

THE SANCTUS S-128 Holy, Holy, Holy

**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 give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you,
O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this
bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [] and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP

pg. 364

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

BCP

pg. 364

FRACTION ANTHEM: #S155 Christ our Passover

G.

Near

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gifts of God, for the People of God.

Invitation to Spiritual Communion**

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who have witnessed these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord, Amen.

COMMUNION SOLO: *Du Bist, bei mir*

J. S.

Bach

Leila Mustakos – soprano

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:

BCP,

p. 365

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.

AN EPIPHANY BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: #542 Christ is the world's true light

St.

Joan

**Christ is the world's true light, its Captain of salvation,
the Daystar clear and bright of every land and nation; new life, new hope awakes,
for all who owns his sway: freedom her bondage breaks, and night is turned to day.**

**In Christ all races meet, their ancient feuds forgetting, the whole round world
complete, from sunrise to its setting: when Christ is throned as Lord, all shall
forsake their fear, to plough-share beat the sword, to pruning hook the spear.**

**One Lord, in one great name unite us all who own thee; cast out our pride and
shame that hinder to enthrone thee; the world has waited long, has traveled long in
pain; to heal its ancient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.**

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Prelude on Dundee

C. H. H.

Parry

Participating In Today's Worship:

The Rev. Peter Sipple, Presider

Mark Sullivan, Music Director

Leila Mustakos

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Laura Raymond, 1st Reading & Psalm

Page Pelphrey, 2nd Reading

Susan Leonard, Prayers of the People & Communion Prayer

Page Pelphrey, Chalice Bearer

Kay Claiborn, Usher

Diane Pierpont, Altar Guild

Julie Gibson & Gene Bishop, Counters

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*The Altar Flowers are given today in loving memory of
James R. Simpson and Maxine Lythe Simpson
This Week at CEC, including upcoming events*

- **Welcome Banner:** You may have noticed the colorful new *Welcome Banner* in front of the church. A big thanks to Elizabeth Oshana for her graphic design expertise in creating the banner.
- **Choir Rehearsal** -Every Thursday at 7pm
- **Music Meditations** - Every Friday at 12-12:30 pm: Come quiet your mind and feed your spirit with lovely organ music played by Mark Sullivan!
- **Bible Study** – Every Monday at 5 pm with Cecelia Bellomy Parker
- **Last Week: Angels Under the Balcony, Mitten Tree, Guilford Heating Assistance Program:** A sure sign of Advent is the appearance of "**Angels under the Balcony**" and the "**Mitten Tree**"! The paper angels are reminders for donations to the Town's Heating Assistance Program. Please also consider helping to decorate the **Mitten Tree**, with yes, mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, socks, toiletries, and candies to be shared with the Chapel-on-the-Green congregation in New Haven.
- **Ongoing: Socks & Underwear:** The ECW continues to accept donations for new socks and underwear for the homeless. All sizes needed for men, women and children. If you'd like to contribute you can drop your donation off in the Parish Hall.
- **Sunday School Update:** No Sunday School this weekend
 - Save the Date - 1/21: Escape Room event for middle and high school students at 1 PM following the church service.
- **Parish Coffee Hour Updates:**
 - *Immediately following coffee hour, stay and enjoy the enriching atmosphere led by Charlotte Evans in the writing group.*

- 1/21: Host: Donna Tafel
- 1/28: Seeking a Host
 - *Right after coffee hour, join Susan Leonard as she leads the Wardens Roundtable – learn more about our parish groups where you may feel moved to sign up for Choir, Altar Guild, Hospitality, or Men's Group. Pastoral Care may be your calling.*

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES to CONNECT

- **Coffee Hour** - *From Donna Tafel:*

Assistance needed for coffee hour sign-up! Coffee hour is a wonderful time to connect with church friends. Susan Leonard and I will ensure the coffee is prepared and started before the service, and we'll provide the cream. Simply bring a sweet treat or two to share and consider inviting a friend to join us in crafting a welcoming community experience every Sunday. Please contact me at 860-604-7624 or email donna.tafel@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you.

- **Newcomers:** If you are visiting Christ Church for the first time (or perhaps have been coming regularly) please fill out the Welcome form in the pew holder. We would also ask that you sign the guest book in the rear of the church before you leave.

- **Altar Flowers:** If you would like to offer flowers on a Sunday in memory or in honor of someone, please contact the church office. You may purchase & bring them, have a local florist deliver, or offer flowers from your garden.

- **Home Communion:** We realize that not all of our church family is able to attend worship services in person. If you or someone you know would like to receive communion where you live, please contact the church office at 203-453-2279. Rev. Mary Anne will gladly bring communion to you.

- **Change for Charity:** You may now notice the big Blue Ball jar in the back of the church. We all have that bowl at home where we dump our loose change. It never gets spent or banked. Why not empty your change into that Ball jar where the money can be put to good use for the charities we all support? We will use those coins to help out our favorite charities!

- **Food Bank:** Many thanks for your continued support. Gift cards to Big Y or Stop & Shop are needed to help feed those in need here in our own community. They can be dropped off at the Rectory Office or you can write a check to CEC with a note on the memo line: "Food Bank." The Guilford Food Bank currently is in need of tea, crackers, canned fruit (no added sugar), canned chicken, hot chocolate, 100% fruit juice, gluten free products, laundry detergent, dish detergent, paper towels, shampoo.
- **Postcards:** There are some lovely already-stamped postcards in the back of the church and also on the shelf at the Front Door of the Rectory. The idea for these postcards is to send a note to someone you are thinking about, praying for, and just want to say hello and "I'm thinking about you". Please take 1, 2, or 22 and share some love with others!

Whether you're new to Christ Episcopal Church or you've been coming a long time,

WE WANT TO CONNECT WITH YOU! *Just scan the QR code with your phone's camera, click on the link, and complete our quick and easy Parish Connect Form.*

You can also fill out a hard copy on the table in the back of the church.



If you would like to make an offering to Christ Episcopal Church, please scan this QR code with your smartphone for a link to our online giving. *All donations in support of the church mission are appreciated.* You can also go online and give at:

www.christchurchguilford.org/stewardship-and-giving

Christ Episcopal Church, on the Guilford Green since 1744

Our Mission Statement: To welcome all, to provide hope, and express gratitude for God's love and creation, while nurturing our community and celebrating our faith.