

Easter Day

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

April 5, 2026 at 8 & 10 a.m.

Welcome to Christ Church!

This faith community has worshiped on the Guilford Green since 1744; and it is continually made new by the Spirit and those who gather here. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your spiritual journey, it's an honor to worship with you. Your presence is a blessing. May this gathering be a blessing to you.



Bathrooms, the nursery, and coffee hour (following the service) are in the Parish Hall next door. If needed, an usher will be glad to help you find your way there.

Prelude Easter Chorales

J. S. Bach

The Word of God

Hymn #210 The day of resurrection!

Ellacombe

Sung by all, standing as able. Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982, unless noted.

Opening Acclamation

Prayer Book, p. 355

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Collect for Purity

Prayer Book, p. 355

All: **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 holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Song of Praise S-280 Glory to God in the highest

R. Powell

Sung by all, standing as able.

The Collect of the Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 *Confitemini Domino*

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

2 **Let Israel now proclaim, ***
"His mercy endures for ever."

14 The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

15 **There is a sound of exultation and victory ***
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.

18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.

20 "This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD 's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #178 Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia #1

Sung by all, standing as able.

The Gospel

John 20:1-18

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

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

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to

Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Michael Sweeney

The Nicene Creed

The people stand as able.

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 Nicene Creed is a confession of faith from the 4th century that affirms the two great mysteries of Christian faith: that ultimate reality (God) is a community of love (the Trinity) and that God joins us in our life and suffering (the Incarnation of Jesus). We say it in unity with followers of Jesus around the world and across the ages.

Prayers of the People: Form III
The people remain standing.

Prayer Book, p. 387

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

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People: **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

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

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

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

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

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

The people may add their own prayers and petitions. The Presider adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

You are invited to greet your neighbors in the name of the Lord, then all are seated.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion



The Offertory

Gifts can be made in the offering plate or using the QR code. Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory anthem Come, Let us with our Lord arise

R. J. Powell

Presentation Hymn

Sung by all, standing as you are able.



All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to thee, who dead a - gain dost live; to



God the Fa - ther e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

Presider: All things come of thee, O Lord.
People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer A
The people remain standing.

Prayer Book, p. 361

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Presider: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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 Holy, holy, holy

R. Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people remain standing as the Presider continues:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.**

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

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S-155 Christ our Passover

G. Near

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Invitation to Communion

Following the invitation, the people are seated.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Behold what you are; become what you receive.

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 *Et exultavit*

J. S. Bach

Leila Mustakos, soprano

Hymn #339 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

Schmücke dich

Sung by all, seated.

Postcommunion Prayer

Enriching Our Worship, p. 69

The people kneel as able.

Presider: Let us pray.

All: **God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn #207 Jesus Christ is risen today

Easter Hymn

Sung by all, standing as you are able.

The Dismissal

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Postlude Toccata (from Symphony IV)

C.-M. Widor

Coffee hour follows the service in the Parish Hall. As you depart during the postlude, you are welcome to greet your neighbors, being mindful of those praying or listening to the music.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Wednesday, 12:00-12:30 p.m. – Service of Holy Eucharist

Thursday, 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Mental Health & Policing: A Community Conversation

Friday, 12:00-12:30 p.m. – Music meditation in the church

Friday, 12:30-1:30 p.m. – Bible study in the Guild Room

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – Service of Holy Eucharist (*Sunday school & Nursery in lower level*)

Mental Health & Policing: A Community Conversation – April 9, 6:30-8 p.m.

A 25-minute cut of Jenifer McShane's 2019 feature documentary *Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops* will be followed by a panel discussion with Officer Ernest Stevens ("Ernie") and Officer Michael Fumiatti, who lives in Guilford and serves in New Haven. Officers Stevens and Fumiatti are both advocates for CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) programs which aim to improve the outcomes of encounters between law enforcement and people experiencing mental illness and homelessness. This event is suggested for ages 15+.

SERVING AT 8 A.M.

Presider: The Rev. Cathi Bencken
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Dr. Drew Collins
Preacher: The Rev. Michael Sweeney
Music Director: Mark Sullivan
Altar Guild: Diane Pierpont
Usher: Chris Klots

Crucifer: Tyler Regnier
1st Reading: Rob Hutchison
2nd Reading: Susan Leonard
Prayers: Tyler Regnier
Chalice Bearers: Pat Daunic
& Diane Pierpont

SERVING AT 10 A.M.

Presider: The Rev. Michael Sweeney
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Cathi Bencken
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Dr. Drew Collins
Music Director: Mark Sullivan
Altar Guild: Jennifer Huebner
Ushers: Carol Iovanna, Sandi Linton,
Mardee Moore, Diana Stovall

Acolytes: Aleah LaFata, Austin LaFata,
Lucas Malton, James Oshana,
Sarah Oshana, Emmett Sweeney
1st Reading: Kate Haggans
2nd Reading: Leland Hubbard
Prayers: Laura Raymond
Chalice Bearers: Annie Rae, Tyler Regnier,
& Chris Robinson

LIFE AT CHRIST CHURCH

Children & Youth

Sunday school for children ages 3+ meets at 10 a.m. most Sunday mornings from September-June. Childcare is available during the 10 a.m. service for children under 3.

Guilford Food Bank

Please remember that we are always collecting non-perishable food for the Guilford Food Bank. There is a donation box set up at the back of the church.

Music

The choir is open to all and rehearses on Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. To learn more about music at Christ Church, contact Mark Sullivan at music@christchurchguilford.org.

Prayer Shawls & Home Communion

If you or someone you know would like to receive communion at home or would appreciate a prayer shawl knit with love by parishioners, please contact the office.

Weekly E-mail

You can sign up to receive our weekly e-mail newsletter on our website, or by calling the office or filling out a welcome card in your pew.

Easter flowers given by:

Lori Allen
 Phil & Alicia Bacon
 The Rev. Cathi Bencken
 The Brunetti Family
 David & Diane Burke
 Peter & Sam Burrow
 Joe D'Agostino & Lynn Griffin
 Gerard & Vivika DeNegre
 The Dwyer Family
 Katherine Frydenborg
 Kathleen Frye
 Leland & Madeline Hubbard
 Carol & Jude Iovanna
 Alicia Jeppesen
 Gabrielle Johnson
 Diane Link
 Sandi Linton
 Jen McShane
 Jean Meiselman
 Mardee Moore
 Allen & Sarah Oshana
 The Powell/Hutchinson Family
 Annie Rae
 Max & Vicky Reeve
 Ed & Winnie Seibert
 Susan Shackford
 Marilyn Truglio-Kirwin
 Jean Valentine
 Nina Wemyss
 Paul & Rhoda Whitman
 Margaret Zambarano

In honor and/or memory of:

Dick Allen, Ann Weir, William Weir
 Their children and grandchildren
 The Rev. Dr. Charles Bencken
 Fritz & Marge Brunetti, Herb & Edith Neily, Jean N. Thompson, Carol Horton, Walter Horton
 In Thanksgiving to God
 Rula Burrow
 For all God's work
 Dorothy & Hans Hansen and Rita & Mark DeNegre
 James & Cynthia Dwyer, James & Margaret Dwyer, Lucy & Hartwell Baxter, Raymond & Muriel Small, Ruth & Edward Bishop, Sr. & Jr.
 The Marquardt and Frydenborg Families
 Her beloved sisters and brother: Kimberly, Melinda, Colleen and Christopher
 Phyllis & Michael Iaquinto, Mabel & Samuel Hubbard, Kenneth Hubbard, Eleanor & Michael Cappiello, Helen & Lawrence Scovill
 Shirley & Paul Chacho and Ruby Iovanna
 Lindsay Jeppesen
 Bill & Joye Pregnall, Marshall Pregnall, Peter Johnson, Mark Sullivan and the choir
 Kenneth M. Link, Sr., the Link and Cook loved ones, Palmer & Miller McLackland, Malcolm Swanson, Rory Mikos, Dylan Joseph Link, the U.S. Air Force Military Police
 Paul M. Linton, loving husband & father
 Her husband, Peter Marks
 The Goddard and Meiselman Family
 David J. Moore & Jerry MacKenty
 U. S. Servicemembers lost in Epic Fury
 Preston Power, Patricia & Richard Friese, Susan Friese, Dorothy & Harold Hutchison
 Jim Rae
 All of their family
 Winifred & Louis Rouillion, Polly R. Pitman, John Boyer, Gertrude & Walter Seibert, Barbara W. Seibert and Scott E. Seibert
 All of her family
 Her departed family and friends
 Her family
 Christian Wemyss and Jerry Murphy
 Their eight wonderful grandchildren
 Charles and Erla Buckley

