



CHRIST CHURCH  
AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA  
FOUNDED 1715, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA

Our Vision: To be a church that loves the way God Loves

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024 — 11:00 am

*Book of Common (BCP) and Hymnal pages are listed on the right. BCP: Book of Common Prayer (black),  
S or H: Hymnal 1982 (blue), WLP: Wonder, Love, and Praise (green), L: Lift Every Voice (red)*

The 11 a.m. service is livestreamed on our YouTube channel:

[www.youtube.com/c/ChristChurchNewBern](http://www.youtube.com/c/ChristChurchNewBern)

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO HOLY SCRIPTURE

Prelude

Jeux d'eau

Maurice Ravel

Welcome and Announcements

Processional Hymn

This joyful Eastertide

H 192

*Celebrant*

Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

BCP 355

*People*

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

*Celebrant*

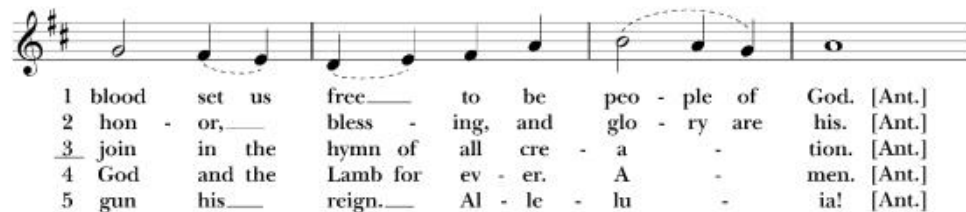
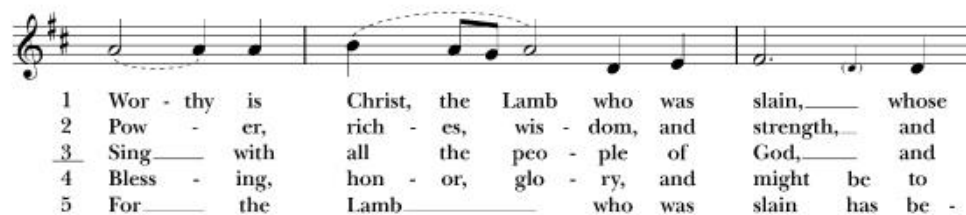
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

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

This is the feast of victory for our God

H 417



*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

### **Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please sit for the reading of the scriptures.*

### **The First Lesson**

**Acts 8:26-40**

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*

he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;

my descendants shall serve him; \*

they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*

the saving deeds that he has done.

### The Second Lesson

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### Sequence Hymn

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

H 487

### The Holy Gospel *Standing*

John 16:1-8

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Children's Homily**

The Rev. Suzanne Hood

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Suzanne Hood

**The Nicene Creed** *All stand*

BCP 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.**

**Prayers of the People Form VI** *Stand or kneel*

BCP 392

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Rob our own Bishop, and all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

Hear us Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, especially Jim Banks, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

We remember St. Mark's, Roxobel; and St. Stephen's, Goldsboro, in this week's Diocesan Cycle of Prayer. The flowers behind the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the wedding of Elizabeth Klein and Yener Kutluay; and for the birthdays of Jackie Ward, Suzanne Hood, and Kip Peregoy, by David and Priscilla Miller.

God of all humanity, now more than ever we pray to you for peace and justice in the world you have created. For the people of Israel and Palestine, for the Sudanese people, for Ukraine, and all the places where war and conflict are present. We pray for peace in our land, too, that words and actions by those in authority will bring hope and healing to those who need it most, and that we may show your glory by loving our neighbors as you love us. **Amen.**

*We omit the confession during the season of Easter as a reminder of Jesus' triumph over the grave and the unmerited grace given to us by God through Jesus.*

**The Peace** *All stand.*

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

*People* **And also with you.**

**Offertory Sentence**

*Thank you for your ongoing support of Christ Church. You can visit <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/give> to make a contribution. You can also text the word FUNDS to 833.233.8760 or mail a check to PO Box 1246, New Bern, NC 28563.*

**Music at the Offertory**

**Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring**

**J.S. Bach**

*Parish Choir*

### **Receiving Communion and One-On-One Prayer**

Christ welcomes all to communion. Those Baptized in any Christian tradition are encouraged to receive communion. • Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips. • If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. Use the small individual cups at the lower station if you wish to dip your wafer. • Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available at the lower station. • Respond to communion by saying "Amen." • If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. • Baptism is offered several times yearly; speak to a priest to learn more. • If you wish to pray one-on-one with a Prayer Minister, go to the Chapel after receiving communion or a blessing. • Prayer ministers hold all requests in absolute confidence.

Hymn at the Presentation

At the Lamb's high feast we sing

H 174 v. 4

Easter triumph, Easter joy, these alone do sin destroy  
From sin's power do thou set free souls newborn, O Lord in thee.  
Hymns of glory, songs of praise, Father, unto thee we raise:  
risen Lord, all praise to thee with the Spirit ever be.

**THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE**  
HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer, Prayer C

BCP 369

Sanctus

S 129

*The Celebrant continues*

Invitation to Communion

*We welcome to communion all who have been baptized in any Christian tradition. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available at the lower communion station.*

Communion Hymn

Lift every voice and sing

L 1

Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitor *Standing*

*Celebrant*

We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.

*People*

**Take these holy gifts of our Lord's Body and Blood and go forth in the name of Christ Church. May those to whom you go experience with us the majesty and mystery of His presence through the sharing of the bread and wine.**

*All*

**We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

Post Communion Prayer *Standing or kneeling*

BCP 366

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

**The Blessing** *Standing*

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, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**The Dismissal**

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

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

**Postlude**

“Waldstein” Sonata, 3rd movement (excerpt)

Ludwig van Beethoven

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**SERVING US TODAY**

**Video Coordinator:** Nykira Williams **Verger:** Hal Stirling

**Altar Guild:** Becky Kafer, Ginger Gunsten, Leigh Crawford, Ann Bustard, Debi Miller, Lindy Emory

**Lector:** David Super **Lector/Eucharistic Minister:** Bob Emory

**Intercessor/Eucharistic Minister:** Kahni Miller

**Eucharistic Minister:** Elizabeth Livingston

**Greeters:** Michele and Peter Mnatzakanian **Ushers:** Pam and Rick Miller

**Acolytes:** Kate Buhrmaster, Ada Ruth Canady

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** St. Mark’s, Roxobel; St. Stephen’s, Goldsboro

**CHRIST CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF**

**Rector:** The Rev. H. Paul Canady III **Associate Rector:** The Rev. Suzanne Hood

**Deacon:** The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby **Director of Music:** Jacqueline Nappi

**Director of Church Life:** Jimi Paderick **Director of Growing in Grace:** Debbie Fodrie

**Financial Coordinator:** Cindy Tripp **Communications Coordinator:** Betsy Downard

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Sarah Risty-Davis

**Sunday School Coordinator:** Liz Coble **EYC Coordinator:** Sydney Kitchen

**Nursery Staff:** Heidi Powell, Alex Linton **Custodial Services:** Terry Pitner

**CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY**

**Term - 2024:** Tony Embrey, Phyllis Fox (*Senior Warden*), Rebecca Buchanan Leahy, Susan Moffat-Thomas

**Term - 2025:** Randy Bogle (*Junior Warden*), Stephanie Bratton, Holly Craighead, Kim Huddle (*Clerk*)

**Term - 2026:** Laura Overman, Elmer Praul, Wayne Rowe, Graham Underhill

**CONTACT US****Christ Church**

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**MISSION**

The mission of Christ Episcopal Church is to welcome and inspire all people to faith, hope and spiritual growth through worship, Christian fellowship, and service to one another and to the community beyond.



Please Note: You will notice that not all weekly church events are listed here. If there are no changes to your regularly scheduled event, it might not appear below. The entire calendar can be viewed online at <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/calendar> and in the Sunday morning email. Signs with the complete calendar are posted on the kiosk in the Reception Area and the bulletin board across from the Library. Daily calendar signs are posted on the church's exterior doors.

## **CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH**

### **Sunday, April 28**

- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Ann Bustard Scholarship Committee Meeting (2nd Floor Conference Room)
- 9:45 am: Sunday School for All Ages
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))
- 2:30 pm: Classical Sounds Evolved Concert (Nave)
- 6 pm: Camp Trinity / Camp Hope Pre-Camp Meeting and Dinner (Harrison Center)

### **Tuesday, April 30**

- 7 am: Al-Anon Meeting (2nd Floor Living Room)
- 8:30 am: Eucharist (Chapel)
- 5 pm: Committee / Commission Leadership Meeting (Parish House)
- 6:30 pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)

### **Wednesday, May 1**

- 6:15 pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)

### **Friday, May 3**

*Heritage Homes Tour*

### **Saturday, May 4**

*Heritage Homes Tour*

- 9 am: Christ Church Spring Arts and Crafts Market (Church Grounds)
- 9 am: ECW Geranium Sale (Church Grounds)

### **Sunday, May 5**

*Birthday and Anniversary Sunday*

*GIG Volunteer Recognition*

- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:45 am: Camp Hope Card Party (Parish House)
- 9:45 am: Sunday School for All Ages
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))