



**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 — 8:30 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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO HOLY SCRIPTURE

Prelude

Jeux d'eau

Maurice Ravel

Welcome and Announcements

Processional Hymn

Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth

H 598

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.**

Antiphon

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1	Wor - thy	is	Christ,	the	Lamb	who	was	slain,	whose
2	Pow - er,	rich - es,	wis - dom,	and	strength,	and			
3	Sing	with	all	the	peo - ple	of	God,	and	
4	Bless - ing,	hon - or,	glo - ry,	and	might	be	to		
5	For	the	Lamb	who	was	slain	has	be -	

1	blood	set	us	free	to	be	peo - ple	of	God.	[Ant.]
2	hon - or,	and	bless - ing,	and	glo - ry	are	his.	[Ant.]		
3	join	in	the	hymn	of	all	cre - a -	tion.	[Ant.]	
4	God	and	the	Lamb	for	ev - er.	A -	men.	[Ant.]	
5	goun	his	reign.	Al - le - lu	-	ia!	[Ant.]			

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.**

The Holy Gospel *Standing***John 15:1-8**

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**

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 *Stand or kneel*

Intercessions for the Christian People

Let us join through prayer with everything that lives. Let us acknowledge to God the one life we share, saying: O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.

O God, your Holy Spirit is alive in all the earth. Your Spirit that moved and shaped land and sea, trees and beasts still moves and shapes us into creation. Through Christ we know your one Holy Spirit, for you are God of all. That all the world may know your Spirit, we pray: **O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.**

Open your world before our eyes, so that we see far and near. Show us newly what lives around us, over and behind and within. Give us the mind of Christ. **O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.**

Bring us to one another, that we may hear and understand each other. Bring trust and sympathy between the peoples of the world. Make all nations one household with many rooms. **O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.**

Heal us who are sick. Cheer us who are guilty. Love us who are alone. Join us who are distant. Call all the world to yourself. **O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.**

Enliven the church with the Spirit of Christ. Through us give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our many gifts one offering for the world. **O God, who makes us one, hear our prayer.**

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

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.

O God, keep our minds inside your love, for we are many parts and need to be one. We beg for this unity which only your Spirit can give, through Christ our Lord. **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

Lord, I want to be a Christian
Joyful Voices

arr. Edward C. Deas

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 B

BCP 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. 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 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 129

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

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

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,

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 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.**

The Lord's Prayer 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

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant 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.

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.

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.**

Recessional Hymn

We know that Christ is raised

H 296

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 von Beethoven

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SERVING US TODAY

Verger: Hal Stirling

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

Lector: Barbara Rice

Lector / Eucharistic Minister: Amanda Norwood

Intercessor/Eucharistic Minister: Randy Bogle

Acolytes: Baker Hudson, Nora Carpenter

Greeter: Rodney Hayes and Jane Broaddus

Usher: Kathleen Meyer

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Marks, 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](#))