



The First Sunday in Lent
Holy Eucharist Rite II
March 9, 2025
10:00 A.M.

Welcome to St. Christopher's. We are glad that you are here. If you are new and would like to connect more with the congregation, please fill out a visitor card on the podium in the back of the sanctuary and leave it there.

Children: At St. Christopher's, we believe that the presence of children is a gift. Relax. Let your children be children. They are welcome as they are, just as you are welcome as you are. To support your family's experience in worship today, there are materials in the lobby area to help engage children in the pew. We also have a staffed nursery available for ages 0-3, children's chapel for PK-2nd grade (they leave about ten minutes into the service and return at the peace), and a soft space with toys and audio of the service in the library just outside the sanctuary. After the services on most Sundays, there are classes for 3rd-5th graders and 6th-9th graders on the second floor until noon. Ask an usher for directions.

Seasonal Service Changes: In Lent and Advent, we sing more parts of the service together and have communion at the altar rail as a way of recognizing this special season of reflection. We have also replaced the Doxology with a verse of *Come thou fount of every blessing*, the hymn theme for the *Wandering Heart* series.

Wandering Heart Series: At St. Christopher's this Lent we are following the Wandering Heart series in the sermons, children's chapel, artwork and meditations on the bulletin boards outside the kitchen, and the Lenten daily devotional cards. From the series' materials:

“Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God. When you look closely at Peter's story, you find Jesus at each step along the way – offering him abundance, catching him when he begins to sink, challenging him when he stands in the way, washing his feet, predicting his betrayal, and offering him agape love. This Lent, we're joining Peter in figuring out faith. We're not idolizing or vilifying him; instead, we're hoping to wander alongside him, open to what we might learn about Jesus (and ourselves) by stepping in his shoes.”

Wherever your heart is wandering this day, may the Spirit of God meet you here.

Prelude

Sarabande from French Suite No. 5

J.S. Bach

Processional

Hold us in your mercy

Cantor *All*
Hold us in your mer - cy. **Hold us in your mer - cy.**

Cantor *All* *(repeat)*
Hold us in your mer - cy. **Hold us in your mer - cy.**

Maker's love poured out from heaven,

All
Hold us in your mer - cy.

Mercy's word made flesh among us,

All
Hold us in your mer - cy.

Born as one of homeless pilgrims,
hold us in your mercy.

Sent to bring the poor good news,
hold us in your mercy.

You who shared the sinner's table,
hold us in your mercy.

You who cleansed the leper's flesh,
hold us in your mercy.

You who shared our life and labor,
hold us in your mercy.

You who chose to walk our roads,
hold us in your mercy.

You who silence raging demons,
hold us in your mercy.

You who bid the storm be silent,
hold us in your mercy.

You whose cross has gone before us,
hold us in your mercy.

You who bear our cross with us,
hold us in your mercy.

Innocent, you faced the guilty;
hold us in your mercy.

One in death with us for ever;
hold us in your mercy.

Come and break the chains that bind us;
hold us in your mercy.

Free us from addiction's prison;
hold us in your mercy.

Break the power of the darkness;
hold us in your mercy.

Let us rise to life with you;
hold us in your mercy.

Cantor *All*

Hold us in your mer - cy. **Hold us in your mer - cy.**

Cantor *All* *(repeat)*

Hold us in your mer - cy. **Hold us in your mer - cy.**

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People

God's mercy en - dures for ev - er.

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mer - cy,

Christ, have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Procession to Children's Chapel (for children PK to 2nd grade, returning at Peace)

First Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-10, sung by the choir

BCP 614

Gradual *Create in me a clean heart (sung three times)*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God; Cre -
ate in me a clean heart, O God; Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God; and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. (Cre-)

The Holy Gospel

Luke 5:1-11

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were

beginning to break. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Cara Spaccarelli

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

(black book with cross)

The Prayers of the People, Form VI

BCP 392

The Confession and Absolution

BCP 393

The Peace

Announcements and Blessings of Birthdays, Anniversaries and Travels

Offertory Anthem

Hide not thou thy face from us

Richard Farrant

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord
And cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure;
For we confess our sins unto thee
And hide not our unrighteousness
For thy mercy's sake
Deliver us from all our sins

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.

The Celebrant continues until

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

The Celebrant continues until

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.**

Fraction Anthem



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Communion of the People:

At the direction of the ushers, you are invited to the altar rail to receive communion or a blessing. If you need a gluten-free wafer, you may request one of the bread-bearer.

There are options for how to participate in the chalice. The first chalice offered is wine to drink, and the second chalice is grape juice to dip the host in. The first chalice will be offered to those who have already consumed the host; if you prefer the second chalice, simply hold on to your host, and the second chalice will be offered for you to intinct (dip). You also may decline both chalices as receiving the host is considered full participation in communion.

For a blessing, place your hands crossed on your chest as the bread-bearer and chalice-bearer come to you.

Prayer Partners: Most Sundays prayer partners are available by the lectern in the back of the sanctuary during communion to offer prayer for you or someone/ something on your heart today.

Communion Music

*Open my heart
Lord who throughout these forty days*

Ana Hernández
Hymnal 142

Stay with me

Taizé

Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and
pray, watch and pray.

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 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.

(When Lay Eucharistic Visitor is present we pray)

In the name of this congregation, we send you out bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Blessing (adapted from the *Wandering Heart* series by *A Sanctified Art*)

Beloved wanderer,
as you leave this place,
may you carry your heart on your sleeve.
May you look for God in every face.
May you find the courage to get out of the boat,
to run to the tomb,
and to speak of your faith.
And when the world falls apart,
may you hear God's voice deep within,
saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid."
You are called. You are blessed.
Go now in the peace of God the Creator,
Jesus the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit the Sanctifier. Amen.

Recessional Hymn *The glory of these forty days (vv. 1-4)* Hymnal 143

Dismissal BCP 366

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary *Fugue from Symphony No. 4* C.M. Widor

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Praise God for those Who Serve Today

Celebrant	The Rev. Cara Spaccarelli
Assisting Priest	The Rev. Spencer Ruark
Seminarian	Karla Henderson
Lector/Intercessor	Mary Torrance & Daniel Livarchik
Chalice Bearers	Dana & Kevin Patterson
Ushers	Barbara Litkowski & Richard Gibson
Greeters	Annie Weissert-Cole & Margaret Baranowski
Altar Guild	Sara Kirkwood, Kit Russell, Mary Kirby, and Cindy McCabe
Musicians	St. Christopher's Choir
Acolytes	Sadie Wacker, Maggie & Oliver Gropp
Children's Chapel	Charlotte Moser, Gracie Weigmann, & Chris Jacobs

Prayer List: Mitch and Sue Thompson-Mitchell, Dorothy Wyandt, Muriel Whiting, Neil Daniels, Jonathan Veigle, Rich Taylor, and Sonya Yoder-Beery. *Ongoing:* Rae Ellen DeLance, Cheryl Young, Betty Belshaw, Jane Martenson, Susan McBeath, Jean Smith, and Shirley Young. *Rest of the Soul:* Tom Zmak.

WELCOME TO ST. CHRISTOPHER'S

Wherever you come from
Whether you are young or old
Whether you are single, married, or widowed
Whatever you can offer in time, talent, and treasure
Whatever gender or sexual identity you express
However your brain or body functions
However you vote and whoever you cheer for
Wherever you are on your faith journey
Join us in embracing God's expansive love

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 9th

8:00am Worship Service
10:00am Worship and Children's Chapel
11:00am 3rd-5th Grade Formation, *Choir Rm*
11:00am Youth Formation, *Youth Lounge*
3:30pm Confirmation Meeting, *Youth Area*

Monday, March 10th

6:30pm 4C's Men's Group, *Upland Brewery*

Tuesday, March 11th

11:00am Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
3:30pm Friendship Bible Study, *Conf. Rm.*
6:30pm Armchair Theologians, *Choir Rm.*
7:00pm Becoming Beloved, *Parish Hall*

Wednesday, March 12th

10:00am Women's Book Study, *Chapel*

Thursday, March 13th

7:30am Men's Book Study, *Zoom*
6:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, March 15th

2:00pm North End Bingo, *Parish Hall*

Sunday, March 16th

Mary Rigg Snack Bags and Pansy Orders Due
8:00am Worship Service
10:00am Worship and Children's Chapel
11:00am 3rd-5th Grade Formation, *Choir Rm*
11:00am Youth Formation, *Youth Lounge*
11:00am Young Families Gathering, *Parish Hall*
3:30pm Confirmation Meeting, *Youth Area*

Church Office Open Tuesday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Want to know more about what's happening at St. Christopher's?
This QR code will take you to the Wednesday Weekly News.

