



*The Resurrection of Jesus by Nikola Sarić*

Easter Sunday, Holy Eucharist Rite II  
*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*  
*April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026*  
*9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.*

**Welcome to St. Christopher's.** If you are new and would like to connect more with the congregation, including receiving our weekly email news, please fill out a visitor card on the podium in the back of the sanctuary and leave it on the podium. **Children.** We love children at St. Christopher's and want them to have a positive experience today. There are activity bags to fill in the narthex/lobby area to help engage them in the pew. The nursery and bathrooms with changing tables are located by following the hallway on your right when you leave the sanctuary. There is also a soft space with toys and audio of the service in the library just outside the sanctuary. On a non-holiday Sunday, we have a staffed nursery available for babies through 3 year-olds, and Children's Chapel for PK to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade during the worship service.

## Announcements

### Holy Humor Sunday – April 12<sup>th</sup>

On the Sunday after Easter, our tradition at St. Chris is to celebrate Holy Humor Sunday. After the season of Lent and a meaningful Holy Week, we lean into our playful side together while still worshipping together. Holy Humor Sunday is a great opportunity to experience what we mean when we say we are a playful and prayerful community.

### Centered in Christ: Sundays April 12<sup>th</sup> – May 17<sup>th</sup>

This spring, we are excited to launch **Centered in Christ**, our annual Adult Formation series designed to introduce participants to the foundational elements of Episcopal theology and tradition. Together, we will explore core themes of our faith—including the **Incarnation, Salvation, Scripture, Worship,** and **Sacramental Living**—and consider how these shape our lives as followers of Jesus in the Episcopal Church.

Whether you're simply curious about what it means to be an Episcopalian or have been one your entire life, this series offers an engaging opportunity to deepen your understanding and strengthen your spiritual life.

**Centered in Christ** will begin on **Sunday, April 12**, and will meet for six weeks, concluding on **May 17**. You do not need to attend all sessions, and they will be recorded for those who miss. Please register in the weekly news or by emailing the Rev. Spencer Ruark so that we know how many to anticipate.

### **Upcoming Ways to Connect and Serve:**

Connect with monthly Men's 4C's Group: Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, *Upland Brewing, Clay Terrace*

Connect at monthly Women's LIFT Group: Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, *Upland Brewing Clay Terrace*

Serve with Carmel Backsack Packing: Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11 – 11:30am, *Parish Hall*

Serve with St. Chris Crops this Spring & Summer – email Rev. Spencer at [sruark@stchrisccarmel.org](mailto:sruark@stchrisccarmel.org)

To sign up for our weekly Wednesday email newsletter, email Sarah at [office@stchrisccarmel.org](mailto:office@stchrisccarmel.org).

**St. Christopher's is a reverently prayerful and playful community  
inviting all to embrace God's expansive love.**

You are invited to join the congregation in reading anything that is **bold** aloud.  
Anytime you see a ✦ in the booklet, you are invited to mark yourself with a sign of the cross.

Prelude

Rondeau

Jean-Joseph Mouret

Processional

Jesus Christ is risen today

Hymnal 207

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Easter Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

Glory to God

Hymnal S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Lesson

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."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Children are invited forward to place a flower on the cross.*

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the  
 ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give  
 Praise to his Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.  
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.  
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

*Repeat Refrain*

He is the King of cre - a - tion.  
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -  
 Now we shall live for ev - er.  
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

Second Lesson

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

*The day of resurrection!*

Hymnal 210



1. The day of re - sur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right  
3. Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,



the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of re - sur - rec - tion light;  
the round world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;



From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,  
and, lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear so calm and plain  
let all things seen and un - seen their notes to - geth - er blend,



our Christ hath brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠✠✠ according to Matthew.

**Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Cara Spaccarelli, Rector

The Nicene Creed (*in unison*)

**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

*New Zealand Prayer Book*

God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving. We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and to be loved. Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbors and our community, loving others as he loves us.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble. Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of this land. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. Give wisdom to those in authority among us and to all leaders of the nations.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

We pray for your Church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and his kingdom. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and witness in the world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ, and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom.

God of love, **grant our prayer.**

Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your people. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Celebrant concludes with a Collect.*

### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### Offertory

#### Anthem

*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain*

R.S. Thatcher

*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God hath brought His Israel into joy from sadness; 'Tis the Spring of Souls today, Christ hath burst His prison, and from three days sleep in death as a Sun hath risen.*

*Now the Queen of seasons, bright With the day of splendour,--Alleluia! With the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;--Alleluia! Comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection--Alleluia—welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' Resurrection.--Alleluia!*

*Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal, hold Thee as a mortal; But today amidst the twelve Thou didst stand, bestowing that Thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.*

*When the ushers bring the offertory forward, the congregation stands to sing.*

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.

### Eucharistic 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 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

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.

*(You may kneel, sit, or stand as you prefer)*

*The Celebrant continues until*

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

BCP 364

Fraction

BCP 364

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Communion of the People:

*At the direction of the ushers, you are invited to come forward to receive communion or a blessing. For a blessing, place your hands crossed on your chest as you come to the bread-bearer. Gluten-free wafers available upon request.*

*There are two chalices at each communion station. You may go directly to your preferred chalice after receiving the bread. The first chalice is wine, and you are invited to drink from it. The chalice bearer will serve you, and you can assist by guiding the chalice to your mouth. The second chalice is grape juice, and you are invited to dip the host in it. You may decline both chalices as receiving the host is considered full participation in communion. Please note that the first chalice is only for drinking, and the second chalice is only for dipping.*

Communion Anthem

*Now the green blade rises*

arr. Donald McCullough

1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the  
 \*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of  
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that  
 4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -  
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the

1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:  
 3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
 4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:  
 5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:

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

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

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

*Alleluia, He is Risen*

The image shows a musical score for a piano accompaniment of the Alleluia. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system contains five measures of music with the following lyrics: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - Christ is ri - sen, al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ri - sen, al - le - lu - ia! Christ is'. The second system contains four measures of music with the following lyrics: 'lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ri - sen, al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ri - sen, al - le - lu - ia!'. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Postcommunion Prayer

**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.**

Blessing

Go out into the world as the people of God in this place,  
and may the God ✠ who raised Jesus from the dead grant you grace,  
the Son who gave his life for you give you peace,  
and the Spirit who is with you day by day,  
inspire you to greater service both now and forever more. Amen

1 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with  
 2 Come, ye sad and fear - ful - heart - ed, with glad smile and  
 \*3 Come, with high and ho - ly hymn - ing, hail our Lord's tri -  
 4 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened

joy - ful voice: he has burst his three days' pris - on;  
 ra - diant brow! Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed;  
 um - phant day; not one dark - some cloud is dim - ming  
 hea - ven's gate: we are free from sin's dark pris - on,

let the whole wide earth re - joice: death is con - quered,  
 Je - sus' woes are o - ver now, and the pas - sion  
 yon - der glo - rious morn - ing ray, break - ing o'er the  
 ris - en to a ho - lier state; and a bright - er

we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.  
 that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.  
 pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.  
 Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

Dismissal

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

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

Postlude

*Toccata from Symphonie No. 5*

Charles-Marie Widor

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**PRAISE GOD FOR THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

**9am Worship**

Celebrant The Rev. Spencer Ruark  
Preacher The Rev. Cara Spaccarelli  
Intercessor Anne O'Leary  
Lectors Dana Patterson  
Ushers John Bergin, Kate Ciravolo, Scott  
Whitaker, & Tricia Seitz  
Greeters Anastasia Volk-Maroney & Marty  
Torrance  
Altar Guild Members of the Altar Guild  
Flower Team Members of the Flower Team  
Musicians St. Christopher's Choir, Robert  
Richter; Brass ensemble:  
Kent Hickey, Ben Maynard,  
Tommy Neidecker, Lucas  
Norrington  
Acolytes Aden Lawyer, Maggie & Oliver  
Gropp

**11am Worship**

Celebrant The Rev. Cara Spaccarelli  
Assisting The Rev. Spencer Ruark  
Intercessor Deb Carpenter  
Lectors Linda Henke  
Ushers Stephanie & Jim Tidd, Fred &  
Jacquie Winters  
Greeters Kitty Hartstick & Polly  
Harrington  
Altar Guild Members of the Altar Guild  
Flower Team Members of the Flower Team  
Musicians St. Christopher's Choir, Robert  
Richter; Brass ensemble:  
Kent Hickey, Ben Maynard,  
Tommy Neidecker, Lucas  
Norrington  
Acolytes Corgan Sprunger, Chloe Sprunger,  
& Gracie Wiegmann

## **The sanctuary is adorned with flowers today**

### In Loving Memory of

- ❖ Robert & Ellen Barmore, Dave Thornton, and Tony Schmid, given by Matt & Allison Barmore
- ❖ Marlo, given by Margo & Greg Blatz
- ❖ Virginia & George Goupil, given by Mike Goupil
- ❖ Nancy Jewel Green, given by Dana Green
- ❖ Newt & Donna Judy, given by Tim & Diana Frederick
- ❖ Marion “Marty” Harpold, given by Gail Harpold
- ❖ Linda Ann Holland, given by Mike & Nancy Holland
- ❖ Becky Judd and Randy Judd, given by Russell & Sherri Judd
- ❖ Fr. Wright Johnson and Mary Lou Davis, given by Anne & Mark O’Leary
- ❖ Karen Kelshaw Poyser, given by Tom Poyser
- ❖ John S. Rosebrough, given by Mary Rosebrough
- ❖ Dave & Jean Stelsel, and Ray & Ann Voelker, given by Dave & Connie Stelsel
- ❖ Gay Miller, given by Pete & Laurie Tinsley
- ❖ Richard E. Willis, given by Deb and Doug Vine
- ❖ Thomas Castle, given by Katie Castle-Ward and Philip Ward
- ❖ Dave Warnock, Connie Hansen, and Eugene Cozzarin, given by Mark & Judy Warnock
- ❖ Jeff Weir, given by Natalie Weir
- ❖ Clyde Whitaker, Jr., given by Scott and Kay Whitaker
- ❖ Francie Wolos, given by Jeffrey Wolos

### In Gratitude for

- ❖ Wonderful family and friends, given by Kay & Jerry Gable
- ❖ Family and friends, given by Barbara Needleman
- ❖ The blessings of family and friends and in honor of John Wyandt and Charlie Walker, given by the Walker family
- ❖ Friendships formed over the years, given by Mark & Judy Warnock
- ❖ Family and friends – those with us and those gone before us, given by Martha & Rob Weissert and Annie Weissert-Cole & Ben Cole
- ❖ Brody and Everett Williams, given by Alex & Justin Williams
- ❖ Our family and friends, given by Fred & Jacquie Winters