



CHRIST
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Laetare Sunday

Holy Eucharist Rite I and II

March 15, 2026

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Abbreviations

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Red Book)

H = Hymnal 1982 (Blue Book)

LEVAS = Lift Every Voice and Sing (Red and Black Book)

WLP = Wonder, Love, and Praise (Green Book)



*Please remember to silence your cellphones.
Thank you!*

Prayer Before Worship (BCP, 833)

O Almighty God, *who pourest* out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to *thee*, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship *thee* in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

Announcements

The Word of God

A Penitential Order.....	BCP 319
Decalogue	BCP 317
Trisagion.....	BCP 324
Collect of the Day.....	Insert
First Reading	1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23.....	Insert
Second Reading.....	Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel.....	John 9:1-41
Homily.....	Fr. Daniel
The Nicene Creed.....	BCP 327
Prayers of the People	BCP 328
Peace.....	BCP 332

The Holy Communion

Offertory

Presentation of Gifts and Doxology

Great Thanksgiving: Prayer I.....	BCP 333
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The Lord's Prayer	BCP 336
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All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion.

Please tell an Usher if you want Communion brought to you.

Post Communion Prayer	BCP 339
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St. Francis Prayer	BCP 833
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Solemn Prayer over the People

Dismissal	BCP 339
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THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Announcements / Prelude

The Word of God

Opening Hymn	H 143
A Penitential Order.....	BCP 351
Decalogue	BCP 350
Trisagion.....	S-102
Collect of the Day.....	Insert
First Reading	1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23.....	Insert
Second Reading.....	Ephesians 5:8-14
Sequence	H 567
Gospel.....	John 9:1-41
Homily.....	Fr. Daniel
The Nicene Creed.....	BCP 358
Prayers of the People (Form V)	BCP 389
Peace.....	BCP 360

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem	<i>Kyrie Gregorianus</i> ⁴
Presentation of Gifts	Hymnal 380, v. 3
Great Thanksgiving: Prayer A.....	BCP 361
Holy, Holy, Holy (<i>Sanctus</i>).....	S-129
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Breaking of Bread.....	S-161
Communion	W 773, LEVAS 145, LEVAS 183
<i>All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion.</i>	
<i>Please tell an Usher if you want Communion brought to you.</i>	
Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 365
St. Francis Prayer	BCP 833
Solemn Prayer over the People	
Processional into World	H 493
Dismissal	BCP 366
Postlude	

The Collect of the Day

Rite I

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Rite II

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the First Book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of

his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. (16:1-13)

People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

*Pause at the * and silently say the name Jesus before continuing to the next line.*

The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for
his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the

shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort
me.

You spread a table before me in the

presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall

follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of

the LORD for ever.

A Reading from the letter to the Ephesians

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” (5:8-14)

People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether

he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are

not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.” (9:1-41)

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

All Baptized Christians are welcome to come to the altar rail and receive Holy Communion. All are welcome to come to the altar rail and receive a blessing.

Spiritual Communion for those Unable to Receive

For those watching the service on YouTube, the following prayer may be said during communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. *Amen.*

Prayer After Worship (BCP, 834)

Grant, we beseech *thee*, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through *thy* grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of *thy* Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Serving Today

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rev. Daniel Johnson, O.P.A.
<i>Pianist/Organist</i>	Hannah Massey
<i>Lectors</i>	Rosanne Desmone (8:00) John Symonds (OT) (10:30) Linda Rooney (E) (10:30)
<i>Litanist</i>	Joseph L. Ilk (8:00) Allen Bareford (10:30)
<i>Crucifer/Acolyte/Chalice</i>	Joseph L. Ilk (8:00)
<i>Crucifer/Chalice</i>	Geoff Pomroy (10:30)
<i>Acolyte/Chalice</i>	Logan Johnson (10:30)
<i>Ushers</i>	Steve Smith (8:00) Michelle Ruth & Joseph L. Ilk 0:30 Girls Scouts (10:30)
<i>Streaming</i>	Jerry Stockli (10:30)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Williams Team

Additional Liturgies

Weekday Eucharist – Wednesday
12:00 pm Celtic Eucharist (Church)

Online Services

Tuesday through Friday
8:30 am Morning Prayer (Zoom)
5:00 pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)

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Announcements

Welcome to Christ Church! We are glad to have you worshipping with us today. If you would like to be added to our email list, if you have a prayer request, or if you would like to speak with the priest, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.



If you would like to **donate to Christ Church electronically**, please scan the QR Code above with your phone's camera to access our giving page. You can also Text CCSPOTSY to 73256 to donate or go to our website, <https://www.christchurchspotsy.com/give>.

Irish or not, **St. Patrick's Day** is the one day you can slip the yoke of Lent and party! The ECM will be serving shepherd's pie with a wee glass of Guinness Stout in ASH from 5:30 to 7:30 this Tuesday, March 17th. All are welcome, especially those with a hint of green about them!

We're going back to Shrine Mont for our Parish Retreat May 29th through May 31st, 2026. To reserve your spot, please email Denise Symonds at secretary@christchurchspotsy.com. **There are only 10 spaces left!** The **per-person cost** for a single occupancy room is \$260.00. The **per-person cost** for a double-occupancy room is \$200.00. Payment in full needs to be made by April 12, 2026. You can make a check out to Christ Church and list Shrine Mont 2026 in the memo line OR you can pay online by going to www.christchurchspotsy.com/give/. Hope to see you in Orkney Springs!

Who's ready for some baseball? We are going to see the Fred Nats play Delmarva Shorebirds on Friday, April 17th. Game time is 6:35pm; gates open at 5:35pm. Tickets are just \$42 per person. An all-you-can-eat-buffet with water, lemonade and iced tea is included in the price of your ticket We have reserved 40 tickets on the 3rd base side of the park as well as the 3rd base Sky Porch hospitality suite. To reserve your ticket(s), please email Connie Hockaday at treasurer@christchurchspotsy.com. Payment needs to be received by April 3rd.

As people of prayer, we ask your prayers for Carter, Clark, Margaret, May & Valerie; Nancy, Roy & James; **Phil**, Raj, Natacia, **Suzie**, Rolanda (Roe) Alderman, Jocelyn Bergman, Lewis Bourne, Viola Bradshaw, Clark Burrell, **Shauna Cooley**, Levi Cross, Alan Demascus, Liz DiRusso, Bill Duncan, Perry Duvall, Greyson Earnest, Donna Ellyson, Elizabeth "BG" Erb, Steve Faber, Calib Garland, Jane George, Nikki Green, Margaret Hafer, Christian Hall, Susan Hall, Michelle Hammerle, Dana Houck, Edd Houck, Oliver Jones, Donna Kenkel, Lois Kenkel, Larry Klipp, John Lentine, Craig Linton, Patty Lucado, Emily McNeill, **Arabella Markel**, John & Carol Marsland, Hank Mausolf, Betsy Menin, Frank Miller Jr., Frank Miller Sr., Cheryl Miranda, Lucille Mothershead, Glen Mountney, Joy Newlin, Joe Norris, Ed O'Conner, Judi O'Neill, Loretta & Roy Perry, Keith Peters, **Cindy Rooney**, **Nancy Rooney**, Janet Shipp, David Sindt, Thom Smelter, Jan Smith, Katrina & Caleb Smith, Barbara Spiers, Ann & Ron Tebbutt, Jay Thomas, Sue Ann Thomas, Lirael & The Velvareth Family, Heather Wells, Nancy White, Werner Wieland, Charles Wolfe, Elizabeth Womble, Elaine Wyant. (New names added are bolded.)

If you would like to have your name or somebody else's name added to our published Prayer List, please contact our secretary, Denise, at secretary@christchurchspotsy.com; for our unpublished Prayer Wheel, please contact Judi O'Neill at 14jilpong@gmail.com.

Serving next Sunday, March 22

<i>Lectors</i>	Steve Smith (8:00) Roy Smith (OT) (10:30) Stephanie Smith (E) (10:30)
<i>Crucifer/Acolyte/Chalice</i>	Scott Boyd (8:00)
<i>Crucifer/Chalice</i>	Bruce Adkins (10:30)
<i>Acolyte/Chalice</i>	Penny Knepp (10:30)
<i>Ushers</i>	Joseph L. Ilk (8:00) Michelle Ruth & Bruce Bowen (10:30)
<i>Streaming</i>	Susan Midland (10:30)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	O'Neill Team

¹ *Kyrie Gregorianus* by Michael Scott