

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 14, 2021, 10 AM

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO OUR ONLINE & OUTDOOR EUCHARIST SERVICE!

The entire service is printed below;
you'll need no books or other materials to follow along.

The Priest or Leader will say the items in regular type.
You are invited to say aloud the items printed in boldface.

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

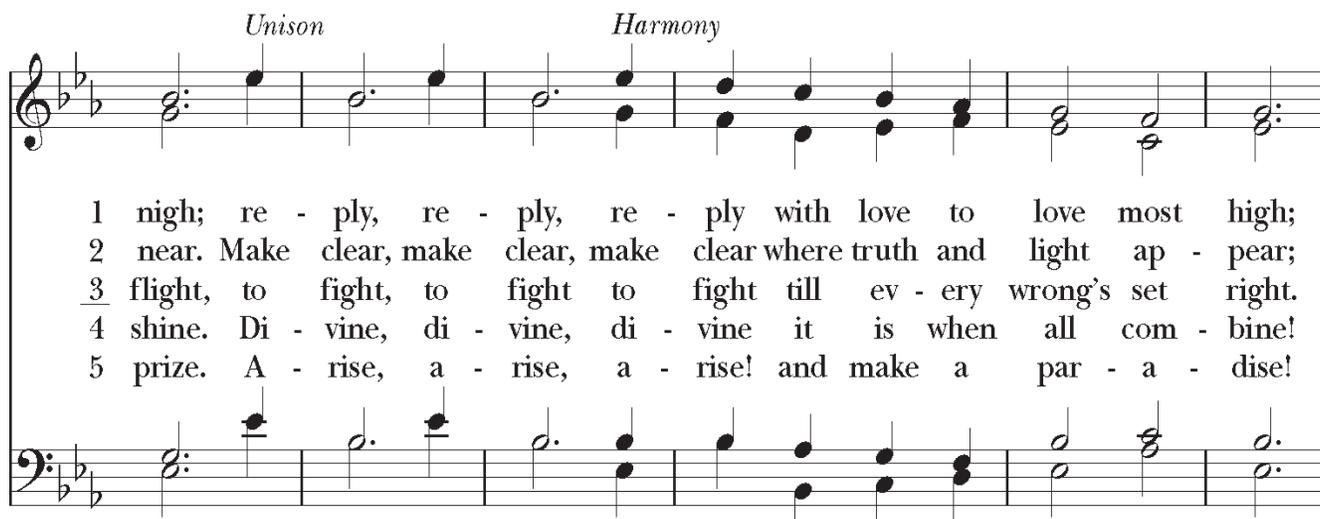
THE HYMNAL 1982 #145

1 Now quit your care and anx - ious fear and wor - ry; for
2 To bow the head in sack - cloth and in ash - es, or
3 For is not this the fast that I have cho - sen? (The
4 For right - eous - ness and peace will show their fac - es to
5 Then shall your light break forth as doth the morn - ing; your

1 schemes are vain and fret - ting brings no gain. Lent calls to
2 rend the soul, such grief is not Lent's goal; but to be
3 pro - phet spoke) To shat - ter ev - ery yoke, of wick - ed -
4 those who feed the hun - gry in their need, and wrongs re -
5 health shall spring, the friends you make shall bring God's glo - ry

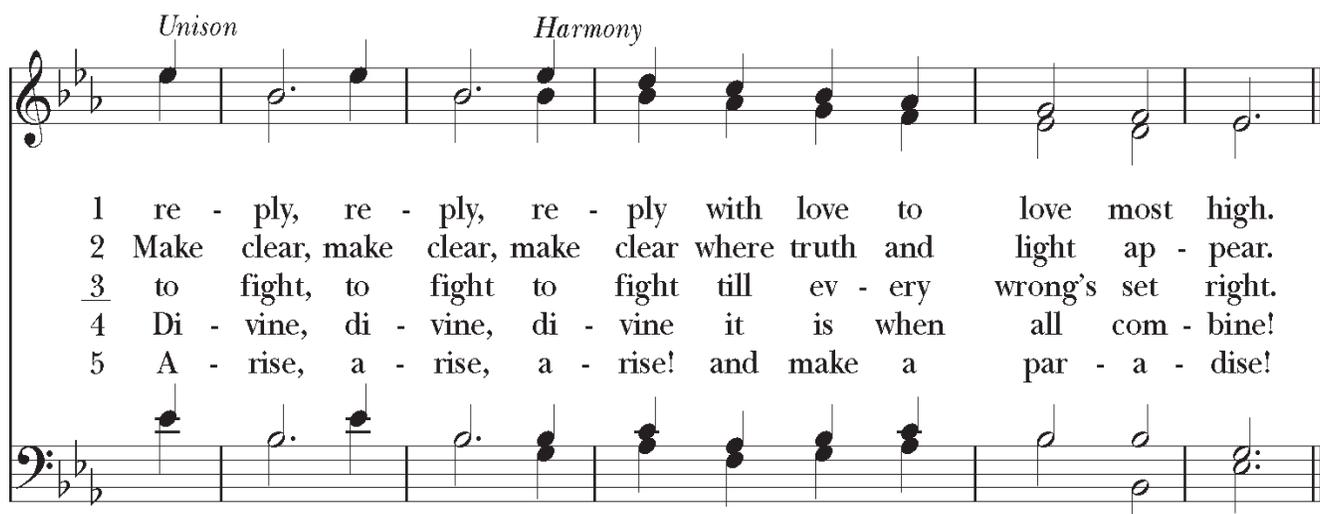
1 prayer, to trust and ded - i - ca - tion; God brings new beau - ty
2 led to where God's glo - ry flash - es, his beau - ty to come
3 ness the griev - ous bands to loos - en, op - pres - sion put to
4 dress, who build the old waste plac - es, and in the dark - ness
5 bright, your way through life a - dorn - ing; and love shall be the

Unison *Harmony*



1 nigh; re - ply, re - ply, re - ply with love to love most high;
 2 near. Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap - pear;
 3 flight, to fight, to fight to fight till ev - ery wrong's set right.
 4 shine. Di - vine, di - vine, di - vine it is when all com - bine!
 5 prize. A - rise, a - rise, a - rise! and make a par - a - dise!

Unison *Harmony*



1 re - ply, re - ply, re - ply with love to love most high.
 2 Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light ap - pear.
 3 to fight, to fight to fight till ev - ery wrong's set right.
 4 Di - vine, di - vine, di - vine it is when all com - bine!
 5 A - rise, a - rise, a - rise! and make a par - a - dise!

Words: Percy Dearmer (1867-1936), alt. Copyright ©1964, Oxford University Press. Music: *Quittez, Pasteurs*, French carol; harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700000. All rights reserved

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People: His mercy endures for ever.

Presider: 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.

All: Amen.

KYRIE

Presider: Holy God,
 Holy and Mighty,
 Holy Immortal One,

People: Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

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.

All: Amen.

The People are seated for the lessons.

A READING FROM NUMBERS

21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

At the conclusion of the reading,

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.

18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.

19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.

20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.

21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.

22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

A READING FROM EPHESIANS

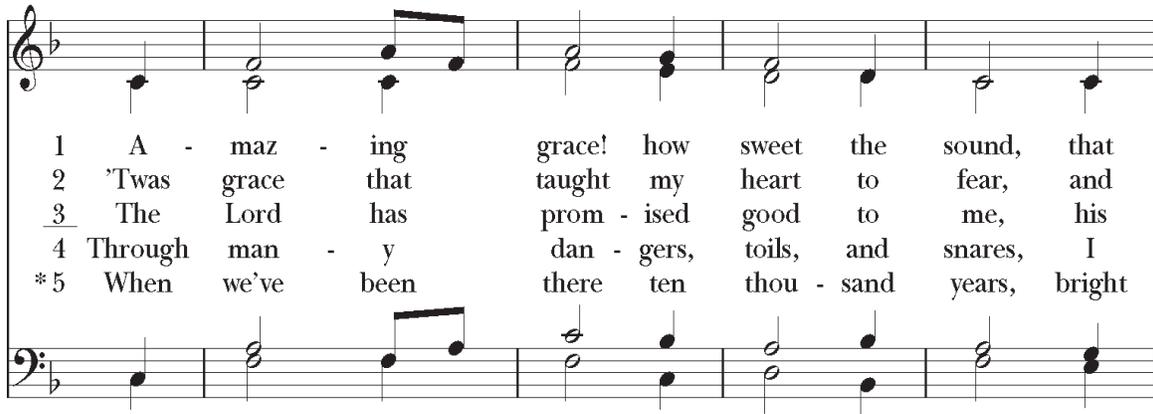
2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

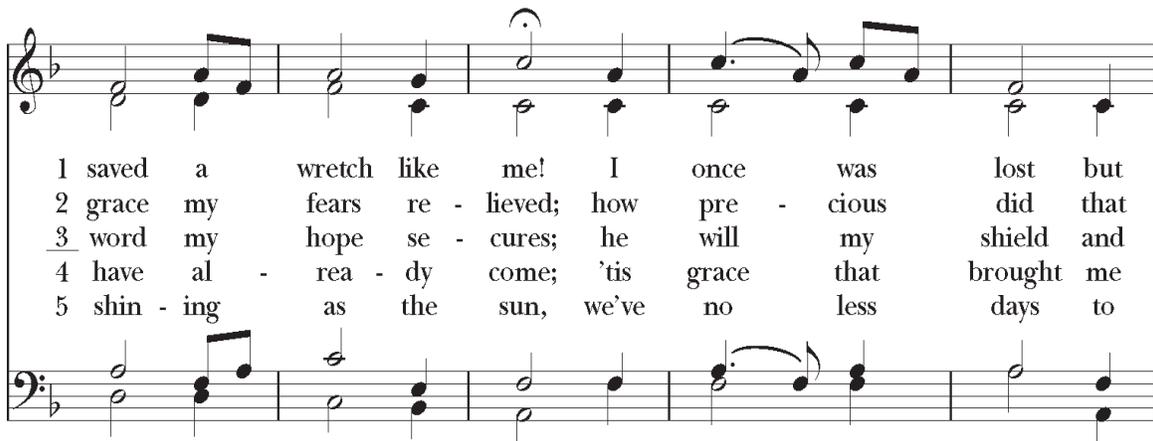
At the conclusion of the reading,

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

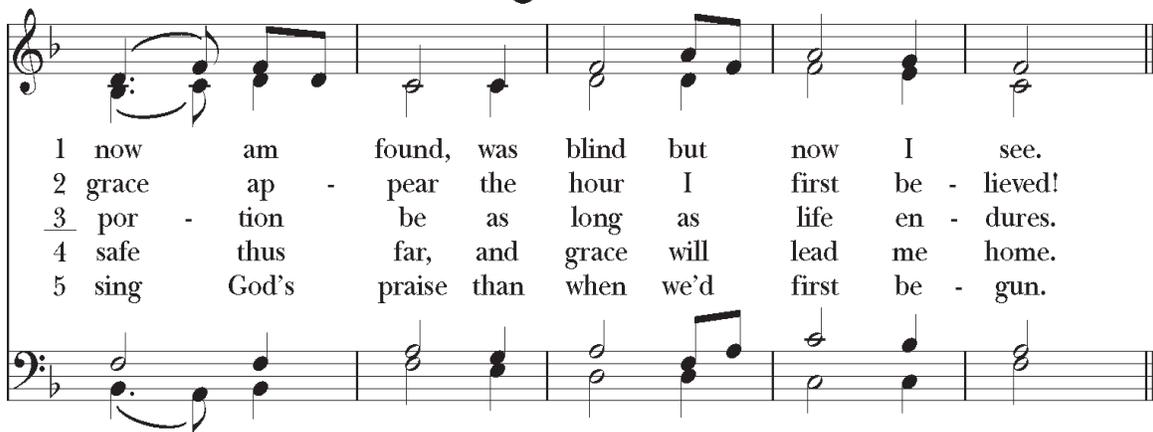
People: Thanks be to God.



1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 *5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, John Rees (19th cent.) Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919) Copyright ©1974 by Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700000. All rights reserved

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 3:14-21

The Priest introduces the Gospel and the people respond,

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

At the conclusion of the Gospel,

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

At the invitation of the preacher, the People are seated.

THE HOMILY

THE REV. JERRY LASLEY

All stand as they are able and say together,

THE NICENE CREED

**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

The People stand as they are able during the prayers. The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop(s) _____; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.
Silence.

Leader: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.
Silence.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.
Silence.

Leader: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.
Silence.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the departed [especially _____].
Pray for those who have died.
Silence.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
Silence.

Leader: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.
Silence.

The Priest adds a concluding Collect.

All: Amen.

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: Amen.

Priest: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them,

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Priest: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Priest: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: And now, 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

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Priest: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Priest: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray.

All: **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.**

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the People, and the People respond,

People: **Amen.**

All join in singing

CLOSING HYMN

THE HYMNAL 1982 #473

Descant
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain
 the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912); alt. Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956) Music: *Crucifer*, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947);
 Words, Music: Copyright © by permission of Hymns Ancient & Modern Ltd.; desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.
 All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700000. All rights reserved

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

All are invited to share in this sacred meal. This offering of the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ is for you, a precious child of God.

At this time, if you are joining us in-person, please carefully form a line of cars to “drive-thru” and receive your communion bread only from the Priest. Please wear a mask as you accept communion.

9020 South Saginaw Road, Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439
810.694.3600 | www.stchrisgrandblanc.org



Like us on Facebook: St. Christophers Episcopal Church
or www.facebook.com/stchrisgb

Weekly Worship:

Sundays 10 am on Facebook & In-Person Outdoors

Thursdays 5:30 pm on Facebook

“IF IT IS NOT ABOUT LOVE, IT IS NOT ABOUT GOD” - PRESIDING BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY

THE PEOPLE OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY:
PRAISING GOD THROUGH CHRIST, LOVING GOD'S PEOPLE, AND LEARNING TO SERVE.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP

The Right Reverend Gladstone Adams, Assisting Bishop

The Reverend Canon Michael P. Spencer, Priest Associate

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr, Priest in Residence | The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie, Assistant Emeritus

Nada Radakovich, Director of Music | Elizabeth Sailus, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Greg Hassold, Parish Organist | Joel Stoeklin, Sexton

THE 2020 VESTRY OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

Jane Brewer, 2022 Senior Warden (seniorwarden@stcgb.org)

Steve Huber, 2024 Junior Warden (juniorwarden@stcgb.org)

Kay Van Natta, 2023 Clerk (clerk@stcgb.org)

Bobbie Walton Treasurer (treasurer@stcgb.org)

Ken Duck, 2023 (ken@stcgb.org)

Dawn Rutherford, 2022 (dawn@stcgb.org)

Flo Gjerstad, 2024 (flo@stcgb.org)

Rebecca Stermer, 2022 (rebecca@stcgb.org)

Caroline James, 2023 (caroline@stcgb.org)