

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PEW PULSE



THE HOLY NAME

JANUARY 1, 2023, 9 AM

ORDER OF SERVICE

HOLY EUCHARIST

*PLEASE STAND +STAND OR KNEEL
BCP - BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
Collect for Purity	
*Hymn of Praise	BCP 356
*Collect of the Day	
First Reading	Numbers 6:22-27
The Psalm	Psalm 8
Second Reading	Galatians 4:4-7
*The Gospel	Luke 2:15-21
The Homily	The Rev. Jerry Lasley
*The Nicene Creed	BCP 358
+The Prayers of the People, Form VI	BCP 392
+Confession & Absolution	BCP 360
*The Peace	
+Eucharistic Prayer A	BCP 361
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Distribution of Holy Communion	
*Post Communion Prayer	BCP 365
*Blessing & Dismissal	

SERVING TODAY

Lector: Flo Gjerstad

Greeters: Mary Van Duyne & Becky Stermer

Altar Guild: Louise McAra

SERVING NEXT WEEK, JANUARY 8

Lector: Dave & Melissa Butler (8 am)

Frank Burger (10:15 am)

Greeters: Dale & Sharon Rice (8 am)

Paul & Jerri Bassett (10:15 am)

Altar Guild: Cindy Donner

The Annual Meeting of St. Christopher's will take place Sunday, January 29th following the 9 am Holy Eucharist Service (please note that there is only one service that Sunday).

If you are in charge of an area of St. Christopher's life, please plan to have a report regarding 2022 to Jerry or Angela in the church office by January 4, 2023 for inclusion in the Annual Meeting booklet.

VOLUNTARY

The Old Year is Past – J. S. Bach

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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

S-278

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

NUMBERS 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

THE PSALM

(SPOKEN) PSALM 8

1 O Lord our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

2 Out of the mouths of infants and children *
your majesty is praised above the heavens.

- 3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, *
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, *
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
- 5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? *
the son of man that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; *
you adorn him with glory and honor;
- 7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; *
you put all things under his feet:
- 8 All sheep and oxen, *
even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, *
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O Lord our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

THE SECOND READING

GALATIANS 4:4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

How Sweet the name of Jesus Sounds – H-644

The People stand as they are able for the Gospel,

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 2:15-21

The Gospeler introduces the Gospel and the People respond,

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Leader: Sisters and brothers, let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. With humble hearts let us say to the Lord, “Lord Jesus, *we bow our hearts at your name.*”

Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless your Church. Inspire us by the Holy Spirit to confess you as Lord over all we are, all we do, and all we hope to do.

Silence.

Lord Jesus,

People: We bow our hearts at your name.

Leader: Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless the people of the world. May the whole world experience your peace.

Silence.

Lord Jesus,

People: We bow our hearts at your name.

Leader: Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless our planet. Make us faithful stewards of all the works of your fingers. Forgive us when we fail to respect your creatures: the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea.

Silence.

Lord Jesus,

People: We bow our hearts at your name.

Leader: Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless our city and our region. Give us renewed hope and purpose as we begin this new year.

Silence.

Lord Jesus,

People: We bow our hearts at your name.

Leader: Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless the sick and the lonely and all those in great need. Make your face to shine on them and be gracious to them. We especially pray for Martin, John, Laura, Sarah, Sue, Mary Jane, Ron, Evelyn, Peggy, Larry, Tammie, Cheryl, Mario, Myrtle, and Gwen.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions and thanksgivings, followed by silence.

Lord Jesus,

People: We bow our hearts at your name.

Leader: Jesus, we exalt your name in all the world! Bless the dying and the dead. We praise you, that through your death on the cross, you have earned for us everlasting life.

Silence.

Lord Jesus,

People: We bow our hearts at your name.

The Priest adds a concluding Collect.

All: Amen

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

THE HOMILY

THE REV. JERRY LASLEY

THE NICENE CREED

**All: 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.

All stand or kneel as they are able.

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.

All: And also with you.

Priest: But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:14, 15*

The Offertory Plates will be passed at this time.

OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

All Glory be to God on High – Andreas Nikolaus Vetter

**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.**

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

All stand or kneel as they are able.

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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

SANCTUS

S-128

Priest: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,

he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

Priest: When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**All: We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Priest: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Michael, our Presiding Bishop and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember Rachel, Christina, Rosemarie, Jacob, George, Jack, Don, Mary and the Family of Kim.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Christopher and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

S-165

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 single line in the middle aisle beginning with the front rows and working back as space allows. Please make sure to stay at least six feet away from anyone not in your household and keep your mask on.

The Priest will distribute Communion wafers. Please keep your mask on as you approach then process to the left or right depending on where you are sitting. Please wait until you are far from the Priest and others before carefully removing your masks to partake of Communion. Please replace your mask as quickly as you are able.

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY

All Glory be to God on High – Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

COMMUNION HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh H-324

All stand as they are able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: 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 Presider blesses the People, and the People respond,

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

All Praise to Thee, For Thou, O King Divine – H-477

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in C Major – Dietrich Buxtehude

THIS WEEK:

Men's Group

Men: We have formed a new Men's Club that will meet once a month for breakfast on a Saturday morning to share fellowship. The next men's breakfast will be on Saturday, January 14th at 9 am. Location to be determined. Reservations are highly recommended. Please email or call Jerry to make your reservation.

Ladies' Luncheon

The next Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 11th at Noon. We will be meeting at Sophia's in Grand Blanc. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the kiosk or contact Louise McAra at (810) 287-4334 no later than January 4, 2023 as we need to give a head count to the restaurant. Please note that going forward the Ladies' Luncheons will be held the second Wednesday of the month so mark your calendars!

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH LEADERSHIP

THE RT. REV. PRINCE G. SINGH, BISHOP PROVISIONAL | THE REVEREND JERRY LASLEY, RECTOR

THE REVEREND DR. MICHAEL CARR, PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

THE REVEREND ELIZABETH MORRIS DOWNIE, ASSISTANT EMERITUS

NADA RADAKOVICH, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC | ANGELA ZINSLI, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

JEFFREY WALKER, ORGANIST | JOEL STOEKLIN, SEXTON

VESTRY 2022

FRANK BURGER, SENIOR WARDEN | STEVE HUBER, JUNIOR WARDEN

BILL THEWALT, CLERK | DALE RICE & JANE BREWER, CO-TREASURER

KEN DUCK (2023) | KAY VAN NATTA (2023)

FLO GJERSTAD (2024) | ELLEN SAFLEY (2025)

COLLEEN SHRANK (2025)

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