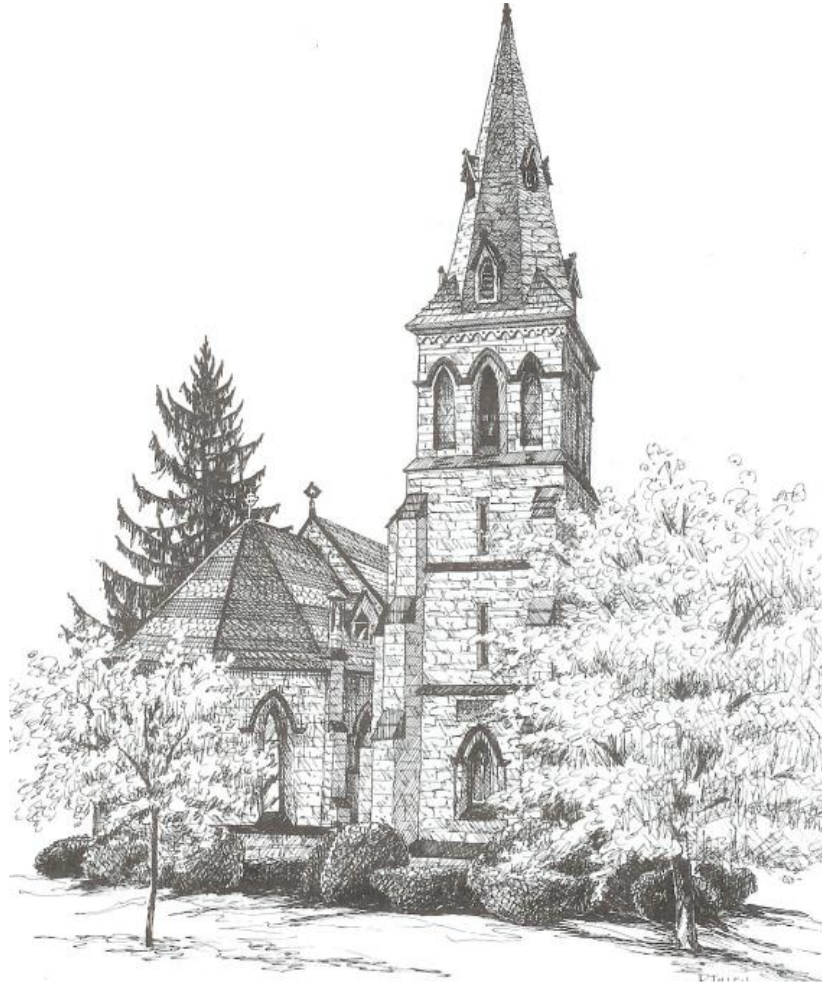


Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 21, 2024
Holy Eucharist, Rite II



Binghamton's First Church

Christ Episcopal Church welcomes all to our compassionate, diverse congregation as we strive to know God more deeply through worship, service, and fellowship.

Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, there is a place for you here.

The Vestry Greeter and Ushers are available to orient you to the building and assist you; please let them know what you need.

We invite everyone to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Great Hall following the service.

Receiving communion is an act of deep reverence and joy; we ask that pets not be brought to the altar rail.

Please let the usher know that you would like to receive communion, and it will be brought to you at your seat.

Welcome

Voluntary

Please stand, as you are able, for the Opening Hymn

Opening Hymn 518

Christ is made the sure foundation

Westminster Abbey

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Gloria S278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y 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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated for the hearing of God's Word.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is `the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone. There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Acts 4:5-12

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 sung as Hymn 664

My shepherd will supply my need

Resignation

A Reading from the First Letter of John

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

1 John 3:16-24

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 478

Jesus, our mighty Lord

Monk's Gate

The Gospel

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

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

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

John 10:11-18

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Richard Schaal

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 Leader and People pray responsively

Celebrant Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Celebrant Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Celebrant We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Celebrant We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Celebrant Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Celebrant Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Celebrant Give to the departed eternal rest.
People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Celebrant We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Celebrant Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Christ Church

Gracious God, as we envision a new era at Christ Church, we recall your deep compassion, unfailing presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the rich history, resources, talents, and faith with which you have blessed us. Guide us to be honest in our self-reflection and open in our discernment; inspire us to be tireless in our commitment, imaginative about our future, and ever daring in our faith; continue to raise up leaders among us; and fill us with hope as we seek your will for our parish, rejoicing with you as we serve others and proclaim your love. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion; those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the clergy know. If you need to receive communion seated in the pew, due to mobility or dog, please let the ushers know.

Offertory Anthem

You Hear the Lambs a-Cryin' *trad. African American*
You hear the lambs a'cryin' O Shepherd, feed my sheep. My Savior spoke these words so sweet, sayin', "Peter, if you love me, feed my sheep." O Lord, I love thee, thou dost know; O give me grace to love thee more. O wasn't that an awful shame? He hung three hours in mortal pain.

Presentation Hymn 343

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

St. Agnes

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 2

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.**

Celebrant We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a shepherd cares for its sheep, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Sanctus S128

Celebrant and People

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven 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 people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with Mary the God Bearer, St, Ann and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant and People

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Fraction Anthem S154

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn

A Song to the Lamb

Richard Fabian (b. 1942)

Splendor and honor and kingly power are yours by right, O Lord our God. For you created everything that is, and by your will they were created and have their being; And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, for with your blood you have redeemed for God, From every family, language, people, and nations, a kingdom of priests to serve our God. And so, to him who sits upon the throne, and to Christ the Lamb, Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, for ever and for evermore.

Post Communion Prayer

The congregation stands

Celebrant Let us pray,

Celebrant and People

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

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his grace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Processional Hymn 304

I come with joy to meet my Lord

Land of Rest

The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Voluntary

Trumpet Tune

Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

The flowers on the altar are given to the honor and glory of God by the Alford family in loving memory of Michael Alford.