

about to happen. Please respect the wishes of those who come early for worship by staying as quiet as you can. Thank you, grace and peace.

Christ Episcopal Church



March 5, 2025
Noon and 6p

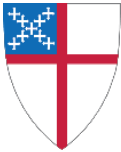
Scan to donate



It is appropriate for Christ Church's families and friends, to arrive at church early so we can calm down, be silent, and pray in preparation for the sacred acts that are



Welcome to Christ Church!



March 5, 2025

Ash Wednesday

Eucharist, Rite II

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude - <i>A Lenten Suite, I. Solemn Prelude</i> (6p only)	by Charles Callahan
Opening Hymn – <i>Lord Who Throughout these Forty Days</i> (6p only)	Hymn 142
Opening Salutation	BCP 355
The Collect of the Day	BCP 264
The Lessons	(See Insert)
The Gospel Hymn – <i>Eternal Lord of Love</i> (6p only)	Hymn 149
The Sermon	The Rev. Walter Hobgood
The Invitation for the Observance of a Holy Lent	BCP 264
The Imposition of Ashes	BCP 265
Psalm 51	BCP 266
The Litany of Penitence	BCP 267
The Peace	BCP 360
The Offertory – <i>Steal Away</i> (6p only)	trad. Spiritual
Holy Communion (Eucharistic Prayer A)	BCP 361
Communion Hymn – <i>Just as I am, without One Plea</i> (6p only)	Hymn 693
<i>Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel</i> (6p only)	Hymn 574
Sanctus	Hymnal S-124
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP 364
Fraction Anthem	Hymnal S-164
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 365
The Blessing	
Recessional Hymn – <i>The Glory of These Forty Days</i> (6p only)	Hymn 143
Dismissal	BCP 366

The Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Lesson:

Isaiah 58:1-12

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.³“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Psalm: 103:8-14

BCP p. 733

¹ **Bless the Lord, O my soul, ***
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

² **Bless the Lord, O my soul, ***
and forget not all his benefits.

³ **He forgives all your sins ***
and heals all your infirmities;

⁴ **He redeems your life from the grave ***
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

⁵ **He satisfies you with good things, ***
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **The Lord executes righteousness ***
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

⁷ **He made his ways known to Moses ***
and his works to the children of Israel.]

⁸ **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, ***
slow to anger and of great kindness.

⁹ **He will not always accuse us, ***
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

¹⁰ **He has not dealt with us according to our sins, ***
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

¹¹ **For as the heavens are high above the earth, ***
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

¹² **As far as the east is from the west, ***
so far has he removed our sins from us.

¹³ **As a father cares for his children, ***
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

¹⁴ **For he himself knows whereof we are made; ***
he remembers that we are but dust.

[¹⁵ **Our days are like the grass; ***
we flourish like a flower of the field;

¹⁶ **When the wind goes over it, it is gone, ***
and its place shall know it no more.

¹⁷ **But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever**
on those who fear him, *

and his righteousness on children's children;
¹⁸ **On those who keep his covenant ***

and remember his commandments and do them.
¹⁹ **The Lord has set his throne in heaven, ***

and his kingship has dominion over all.
²⁰ **Bless the Lord, you angels of his,**

you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.

²¹ **Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, ***
you ministers of his who do his will.

²² **Bless the Lord, all you works of his,**
in all places of his dominion; *
bless the Lord, O my soul.

²⁰We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, “At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel:

Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Remember in Your Prayers: : Mimi Allen, Bryan Allman, Alexis Carr, Michael Curry, Lisa Day, Irene Dodd, Anita Ebersole, Jackie Elam, Harriet Flowers, Sammy Greneker, Louise Harden, Gail & Walter Hobgood, Sallie Honeycutt, Peter Ingeman, Julie Jackson, Kerri Kent, Jason LaFleur, Leigh Long, Dennis Marks, Doug Mayer, Katherine Mayer, Phy Owens, Cindy Moses, David Parker, Morris Phillips, Johnny Price, Sally Querin, Richard Rigby, Rocky, Barbara Shirley, James Smith, Teresa Stevens, Gary Thomas, Julie Van Ham, Hal & Michelle Weidman

Why do we observe Lent?

We use the 40 days of Lent to remember Jesus’ time in the wilderness, and to perhaps follow his example of taking the time to be apart – apart from the distractions and temptations of this world. Apart from those things that keep us from hearing God. That’s a difficult task today, where we are inundated by those distractions 24/7.

Lent is a quiet and solemn time in our church. On Ash Wednesday, we are “invited to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.” (BCP Pg. 265) On Sundays in Lent, we change the order of the service and even which Rite we use – at least at the 10 o’clock service, where we will be using Rite I which uses “the language and piety of the Elizabethan era and the first BCP”. On the first Sunday of Lent, following the processional hymn, we begin the service with The Great Litany, used as early as the fifth century in Rome. (The litany was the first English language rite that was prepared by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556), first published in 1544.) (<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/rite-1-rite-2/>). On the subsequent Sundays in Lent, we begin the service with the Decalogue (The Ten Commandments) and A Penitential Order.

As we enter this time set apart, I invite you to think about and take steps to spend some extra time apart from what distracts you and be still and listen to how God may be calling you into a deeper relationship with Him – preparing for and looking forward to the Feast of the Resurrection and the Good News “He is Risen!”

Peace be with you!

Molly

Mailing address: 1521 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31602
Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM – 2 PM
e-mail address: Church Office - office@christchurchvaldosta.org
Church website: www.christchurchvaldosta.org
Phone: 229-242-5115 **FAX: 229-242-5115**

The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia
All Christ Church Families & Friends are Ministers.

Nancy Sartin, Deacon

Peggy Baer, Administrative Assistant

Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

Michelle Weidman, Director of Christian Education

Jeri-Lyn Flowers, Director of College Ministry

Elise Sandbach, Director of Preschool & PMO

Ellie Copleman & Katie Wisenbaker, Youth Ministers (EYC)

Issa Young, Choir Director

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist

Nancy Lutsko, Verger

VESTRY: Cliff Baker, John Hiers, Phyllis Holland, Steve Honeycutt,

Becky Meadors, Ed Mistick, Molly Stevenson, Jeani Synyard,

Mike Tanner, Patricia Tyson, Larry Wisenbaker,

Bobby Yarbrough, and Father Hal Weidman



Regular Church Services

Sunday	8:00a	Eucharist Rite I
	9:00a	Nursery
	9:15a	Christian Education (Adult)
	9:45a	Children's Education
	10:00a	Eucharist - Rite II
	11:15a	Coffee Hour – Parish Hall
	6:00p	Vespers (1 st & 3 rd – Sanctuary) (2 nd , 4 th and 5 th – Zoom)

The 10:00 service is livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook

www.facebook.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA

www.youtube.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA

The church office is located at 103 East College Street.

