

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026, 10am

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two



PRELUDE - *Sheep May Safely Graze*

J.S. Bach, arr. by Jack Schrader

ENTRANCE HYMN *Jesus, our mighty Lord (Monk's Gate)*

(H 478)



1 Je - sus, our might - y Lord, our strength in sad - ness, —
2 Good shep-herd of your sheep, your own de - fend - ing, —
3 Glo - rious their life who sing, with glad thanks-giv - ing, —



the Fa - ther's con - quering Word, true source of glad - ness; —
in love your chil - dren keep to life un - end - ing. —
true hymns to Christ the King in all their liv - ing: —



your Name we glo - ri - fy, O Je - sus, throned on high;
You are your - self the Way: lead us then day by day
all who con - fess his Name, come then with hearts a - flame;



you gave your - self to die for our sal - va - tion.
in your own steps, we pray, O Lord most ho - ly.
the God of peace ac - claim as Lord and Sa - vior.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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. **Amen.**

GLORIA S 280 *Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Powell)*



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



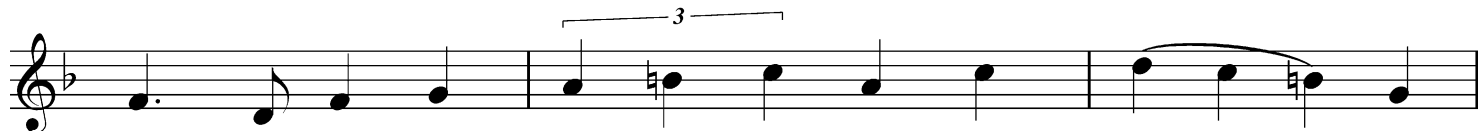
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



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.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

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.***

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the

temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

³He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴Though 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.

⁵You 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.

⁶Surely 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.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son.

And to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now,

And will be for ever. A-men.

THE EPISTLE: 1 Peter 2:19-25

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter.

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure

when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

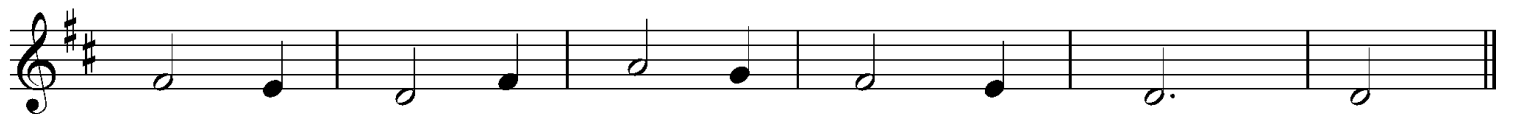
SEQUENCE HYMN *The King of love my shepherd is (St. Columba)* (H 645)



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

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

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

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON – The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly

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

Celebrant

Gathered in the care of the good shepherd and guardian of our souls, let us pray to God who knows our every need.

For the holy churches in every place, and for the unity of all.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For this holy assembly and for all who gather in faith, hope, and love.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For all illumined by the light of Christ.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Frank and Scott, our bishops; Kevin, Walter, Marcia and Bob, our priests, and Nancy, Stella and Patricia, our deacons; In the Anglican prayer cycle we pray for the Church of Nigeria. In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for our Grovetown Episcopal-Lutheran Mission, and our ecumenical partners in the Roman churches in Cuthbert and Donalsonville—St. Luke's and the Church of the Incarnation. In our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic, we pray for Christ the Liberator in Hato Mayor. For all bishops, presbyters, deacons, and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For Donald our President, the Congress and the Courts; Brian our Governor; members of the Valdosta City Council and the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners; and for those serving in the Armed Forces. For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For Gayle Adams, Bruce Beal, Ron Bezona, Don Brugel, Mark Chamberlain, Coby Corbett, “Red” Dawson, Rhett Dawson, John Duke, Bob Elder, Mackey Foster, Jim Hill, Guerry Jameson, Brittany Kirkland, David Lemburg, Dennis Marks, Rusty McCall, Alice Pendleton, Johnny Price, Rocky, Pat Sanders, Fego Seward, Peggy Seward, Bo Smith, Jane Stanaland, Meade Wilson, Terry Windell. For all those in danger and need, the sick and the suffering, the strayed and the lost. For those who walk in death’s dark valley.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For Elise Sandbach and all those celebrating birthdays this week; and for those celebrating anniversaries. For ourselves, our families, and those we love.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

Remembering the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who soothes our head with oil and fills our cup with wine. Hear the prayers we offer for every need, and revive us with your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalms 50:14

OFFERTORY – *The Lord is My Shepherd*

by Howard Goodall

DOXOLOGY

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

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

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

SANCTUS *S 129 Holy, holy, holy (Powell) (BCP p. 373)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven 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.

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.

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.

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

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.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with Blessed Joseph, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and Blessed Anna, our Patron, 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. **AMEN**

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,

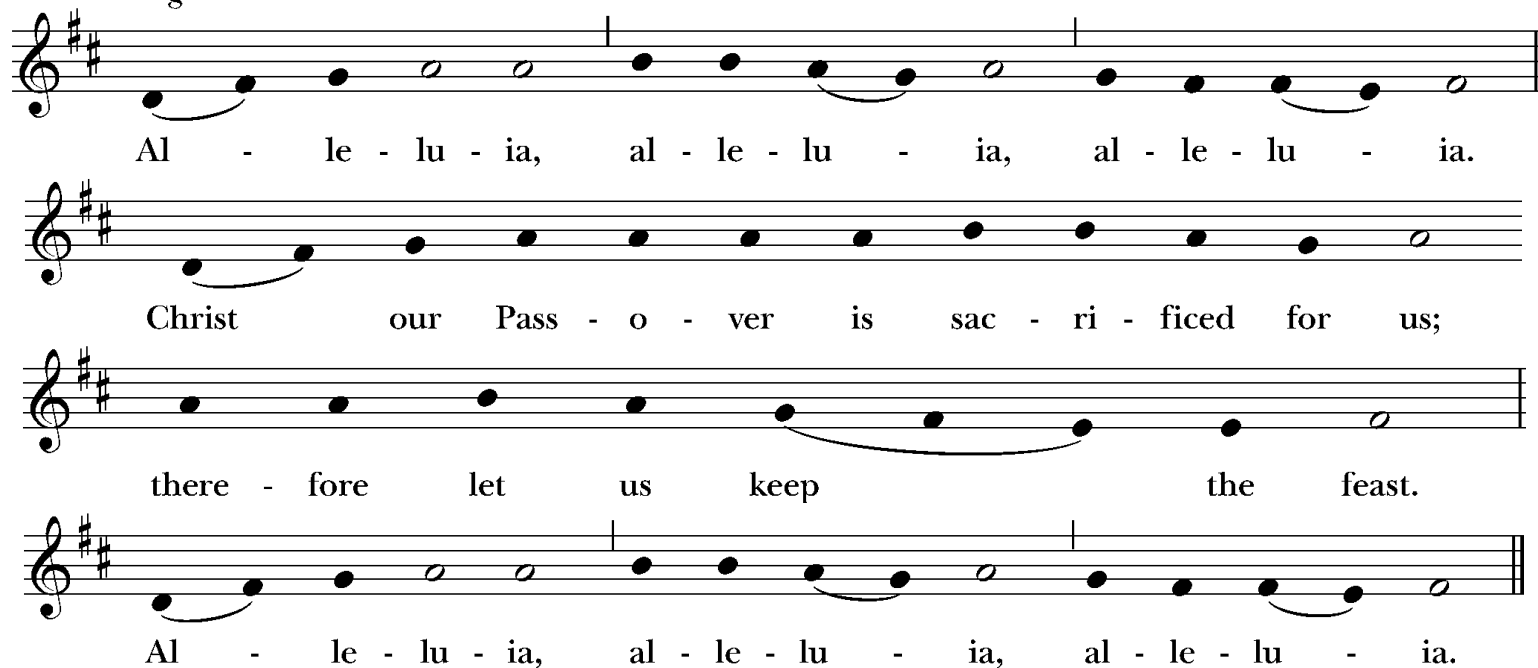
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 154 Christ our Passover (Hurd) (BCP p. 364)

This setting is not used in Lent.



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.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

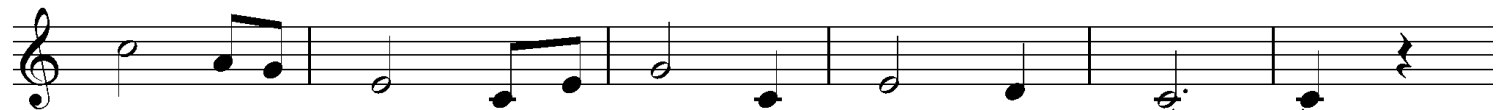
COMMUNION HYMN *My Shepherd will supply my need (Resignation)* (H 664)



1 My Shep - herd will sup - ply my need, Je - ho - vah
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres - ence
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me



is his Name; _____ in pas - tures fresh he
 is my stay; _____ one word of thy sup -
 all my days; _____ oh, may thy house be



makes me feed be - side the liv - ing stream.____
 port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.____
 mine a - bode and all my work be praise.____



He brings my wan - dering spi - rit back when I for -
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my
 There would I find a sett - led rest, while o - thers



sake his ways, _____ and leads me, for his
 ta - ble spread; _____ my cup with bless - ings
 go and come; _____ no more a stran - ger



mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.____
 o - ver - flows, thy oil a - noints my head.____
 or a guest, but like a child at home.____

COMMUNION HYMN *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless (St. Agnes)* (H 343)

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen
 2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy
 3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not
 4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the
 word of grace, in strength of which we
 then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
 and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
 trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
 us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
 heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

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 EASTER BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Before the Lord's eternal throne (Winchester New)* (H 391)

1 Be - fore the Lord's e - ter - nal throne, ye
2 His sov - ereign Power with - out our aid formed
3 We are his peo - ple, we his care, our
4 We'll crowd thy gates with thank - ful songs, high
5 Wide as the world is thy com - mand, vast

1 na - tions, bow with sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is
2 us of clay and gave us breath; and when like wan - dering
3 souls, and all our mor - tal frame: what last - ing hon - ors
4 as the heavens our voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten
5 as e - ter - ni - ty thy love; firm as a rock thy

1 God a - lone; he can cre - ate, and he des - troy.
2 sheep we strayed, he saved us from the power of death.
3 shall we rear, al - mighty Ma - ker, to thy Name?
4 thou - sand tongues, shall fill thy courts with sound - ing praise.
5 truth must stand, when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE - *Introduction and Fugue on a Theme* by Handel by Alexandre Guilmant

*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for
the new ministry between
Christ Church and The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly.*

Serving Today

Eucharistic Ministers: Phyllis Holland, Mark Henderson, Mike Tanner

Lectors: Phyllis Holland, John McRae, Pat Denmark

Acolytes: Blake Yarbrough, Elizabeth Hood, Jennifer Hood

Altar Guild: Debi Saeger, Julia Ariail, Lucy Tomberlin, B.J. Mistick

Ushers: Eric Nielsen, Bart Cherry, Delrick Bradley

Audio/Visual Crew: Julius Ariail, Ken Rumstay, Larry Wisenbaker

Coffee Hour Hosts – Bonnie Hanson, Phyllis Holland, Elise Sandbach,
Chris Roan, Melissa Carter

Upcoming Events



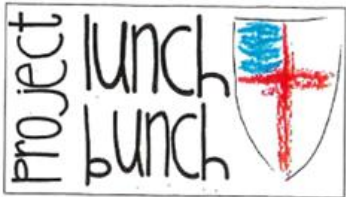
CLASSIC CAR SHOW Saturday, May 2, 10am – 1pm at Christ Church. Come enjoy music, food, and door prizes. Sponsored by the South Georgia Classic Car Club. Our EYCers will be selling hotdogs.



FEAST OF THE ASCENSION Celebrate with us on Thursday, May 14 at 6pm beginning with Holy Eucharist, followed by a potluck meal. Please sign up in the parish hall.



BURIAL PLANS Planning one's own Burial service is a holy and uplifting opportunity. It is also a gift you can provide for your loved ones. Christ Church has planning booklets available for you to complete which will be filed in the church office until needed. Pick one up in the parish hall or narthex, complete it and return it to the church office. If you believe you already have a plan on file, please contact the church office to verify. (229) 242-5115



LUNCH BUNCH: 2 Saturdays per month. Help make sack lunches for approximately 100 children in need of meals. It is an assembly line process that only takes about one hour of your time. All are invited to participate - just show up on Saturday. Upcoming Dates: May 9th and May 30th.



Stitches of Love The 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 4p in parish hall.



ALTAR FLOWERS Providing flowers for the Altar is a terrific way to honor loved ones. A sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

Save the Date! Plan to join us at 6:30pm on Saturday, July 31st for a "Seminarman Send-off" at the home of Bobby & Nikki Yarbrough. More details to come.



Grace Café **COLLEGE
MINISTRY**

MONTHLY GRACE CAFÉ FOOD/SUPPLIES DRIVE. The café food pantry is requesting for **May**: Canned Goods – soups, ravioli, tuna, vegetables, etc. A donation basket has been placed in the parish hall for your convenience. Thank you for your generous support of our College Ministry!

College Ministry Dinner and Gathering Nights for April & May

April 30, 7pm – Dinner: Authentic Mexican Meal

May 7 – Movie Marathon

May 9 – VSU Graduation

CONGRATUALIONS GRADUATES! Help us congratulate Grace Café Interns,

Madison Edmondson (Dec. 2025) – Early Childhood Education

Blaise Njoku (May 2026) – Nursing

Sole Meighan (May 2026) – Computer Information Systems

BOBBY YARBROUGH SHORT VIDEO Grace Café Intern, Javan Flowers has created a short video “Starring” Bobby Yarbrough. The video was a class assignment as part of his senior class requirements. Javan will earn his BFA in Mass Media Communications in December. Check out the promotional poster in the parish hall.

Upcoming Children and Youth Events

YOUTH SUNDAY is May 3!



*****MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!*** - Vacation Bible School, June 1-4, 9am-Noon** This year's theme is Illumination Station – “*Shining a Light on Who Jesus Really Is*”. Registration is open for signing your children up, or for VOLUNTEERING! See Kylee Creasy for more information.

****** Help will be needed in the nursery during June and July. If you would like to help, email the church office. (office@christchurchvaldosta.org) ******

Youth Weekly Compline

Where: Zoom

When: Every Wednesday evening @ 9pm

Who: 6 – 12 grade youth



Scan to Join Compline

Summer Camp @ Honey Creek

High School (9th – 12th grade) – June 7-13

St. Peter (6th – 8th grade) – June 14-20

Sts. Joseph & Mary (3rd – 5th grade) – June 21-27

For more info – Contact Karen Bell at karenmackenziebell@gmail.com



Mission Statement:

As followers of Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we share God's love, grace and mercy through worship, prayer and service, respecting the dignity of all.

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

The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly, Rector

The Rev'd Nancy Sartin, Deacon

Bobby Yarbrough, Sr. Warden

Ed Mistick, Jr. Warden

Molly Stevenson, Interim Administrative Assistant

Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

Krystle Black, Treasurer

Jeri-Lyn Flowers, Director of College Ministry

Elise Sandbach, Director of Preschool & PMO

Kylee Creasy, Children's Ministries Leader

Ellie Copeland & Katie Wisenbaker, Youth Ministers (EYC)

Issa Young, Choir Director

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Director of Music

Nancy Lutsko, Verger

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.

Mailing address: 1521 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31602

Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

e-mail address: Church Office - office@christchurchvaldosta.org

Church website: www.christchurchvaldosta.org

Phone: 229-242-5115

Bookkeeper: 229-242-0616

PASTORAL CARE

Bobby Yarbrough – 229-560-0439



Scan to Donate