

336-227-4251 | INFO@HC-B.ORG | 320 EAST DAVIS ST. (27215) | PO BOX 1336 (27216) | BURLINGTON, NC

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
HOLY COMFORTER

FIFTH SUNDAY

IN



Lent

MARCH 17, 2024

8:15AM | 10:30AM | HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS

Please complete the information card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the ushers.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF HOLY COMFORTER

Though very diverse politically and socially, care for each other and care deeply for how our faith is manifested in the community. We believe all people are equal in God's hand. Our nurturing congregation has an appreciation for diverse perspectives and opinions. We grow through a continually evolving and questioning discussion regarding our faith, God, and society. We welcome all, without reservation, into our Christian body to be part of a loving and sharing family.

WE CARE

Please call the church office at (336) 227-4251 if you or someone you know needs visitation, prayers or other assistance because of illness or inability to attend worship service.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

To worship God, revealed to us as Creator, as Jesus the Christ, and as the Holy Spirit, and experience God's presence within the church family, nurturing each other through a comprehensive parish program while affirming each other's individual ministries and responding to Jesus' continuing call to minister to others.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN | 495

Hail, thou once despised Jesus



1 Hail, thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, thou Gal - i -
2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, all our sins on
3 Je - sus, hail! en - throned in glo - ry, there for ev - er
*4 Wor - ship, hon - or, power, and bless - ing thou art wor - thy



le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us;
thee were laid: by al - might - y love a - noint - ed,
to a - bide; all the heaven - ly hosts a - dore thee,
to re - ceive; high - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing,



thou didst free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, thou u - ni - ver - sal
thou hast full a - tone - ment made. All thy peo - ple are for -
seat - ed at thy Fa - ther's side. There for sin - ners thou art
right it is for us to give. Help, ye bright an - gel - ic



Sa - vior, bear - er of our sin and shame! By thy mer - it
giv - en through the vir - tue of thy blood: o - pened is the
plead - ing: there thou dost our place pre - pare; ev - er for us
spi - rits, all your no - blest an - thems raise; help to sing our



we find fa - vor: life is giv - en through thy Name
gate of hea - ven, re - con - ciled are we with God.
in - ter - ced - ing, till in glo - ry we ap - pear.
Sa - vior's mer - its, help to chant Em - man - uel's praise!

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Officiant

Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People

His mercy endureth for ever.

Here what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

The Deacon or Celebrant then says
Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

CONFESSION

Minister and People

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

KYRIE | S-91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Officiant
People

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

COLLECT

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO FOLLOW THE CRUCIFER TO GODLY PLAY IN THE CHILDREN'S CHAPEL.

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 51:1-13

Miserere mei, Deus

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

- 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

SEQUENCE HYMN | 439

What wondrous love is this



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

The Officiant reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People *Glory be to thee, O Christ.*

THE GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

SERMON

The Rev. Melanie Barbarito

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 326

Officiant and People

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.

Reader

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world. Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers **[especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Sam and Jennifer, our Bishops]**, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land **[especially Joseph, our President, Roy our Governor, and James our Mayor]**, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor **[see prayer list]** all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear **[especially _____]**, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of **[_____ and of]** all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

A TRANSITION PRAYER FOR HOLY COMFORTER

Ever-present God,

You call us on a journey to a place we do not know.

We are not where we started.

We have not reached our destination.

We are not sure where we are or who we are.

Transition is not a comfortable place.

May we continue to remind ourselves of the wonderful resources of this Church Sanctuary and a warm and welcoming congregation.

Be among us, we pray.

Calm our fears, save us from discouragement.

Encourage us to care for one another.

And help us to stay on course.

Open our hearts to your guidance so that our journey toward calling a new Rector continues as a journey of trust, and faith and love. **Amen**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

BCP 332

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP 376

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Wash Me Thoroughly

S.S. Wesley

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness,
and forgive me all my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults,
and my sin is ever before me.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharist Prayer II

BCP 340

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest faces them and sings or says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

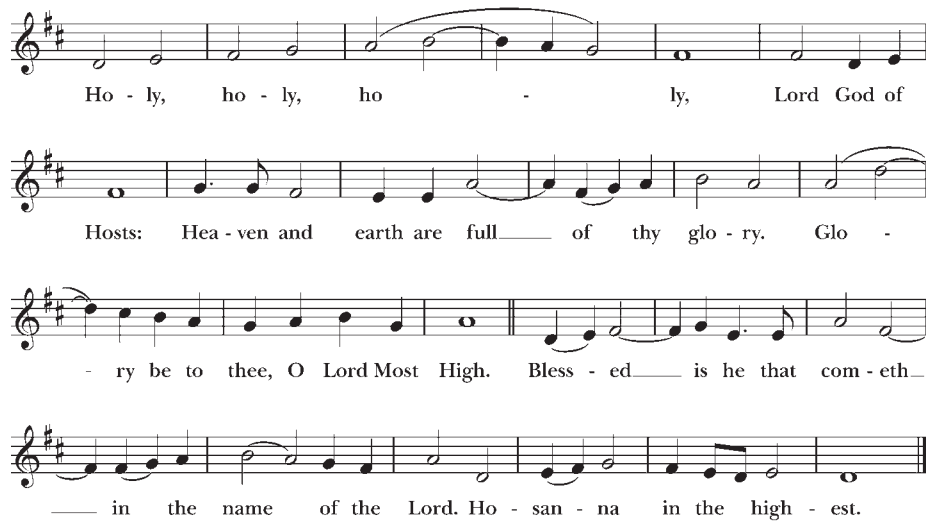
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS | S-114



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Here may be added

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand. Then the Celebrant continues.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or 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.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

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

Officiant and People

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

BCP 364

The Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept
The choir will immediately sing the fraction anthem.

FRACTION ANTHEM | S-158

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

Facing the people, the Officiant says the following Invitation.
The Gifts of God for you, who are also gifts of God.

Persons wanting a blessing instead of receiving bread or wine at the Altar may cross their arms over their chest.

COMMUNION HYMNS

442 | In the cross of Christ I glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing o'er the
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de - ceive, and
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and love up -
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the cross are
* 5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing o'er the



1 wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred
2 fears an - noy, nev - er shall the cross for -
3 on my way, from the cross the ra - diance
4 sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that knows no
5 wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred



1 sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
2 sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.
3 stream - ing adds new lus - ter to the day.
4 mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
5 sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

1 Morn - ing glo - ry, star - lit sky, soar - ing
 2 O - pen are the gifts of God, gifts of
 3 Love that gives, gives ev - er more, gives with
 4 Drained is love in mak - ing full, bound in
 5 There - fore he who shows us God help - less
 6 Here is God: no mon - arch he, throned in

1 mu - sic, schol - ar's truth, flight of swal - lows, au - tumn
 2 love to mind and sense; hid - den is love's a - go -
 3 zeal, with ea - ger hands, spares not, keeps not, all out -
 4 set - ting o - thers free, poor in mak - ing man - y
 5 hangs up - on the tree; and the nails and crown of
 6 eas - y state to reign; here is God, whose arms of

1 leaves, mem - ory's trea - sure, grace of youth:
 2 ny, love's en - deav - or, love's ex - pense.
 3 pours, ven - tures all, its all ex - pends.
 4 rich, weak in giv - ing power to be.
 5 thorns tell of what God's love must be.
 6 love ach - ing, spent, the world sus - tain.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 339

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

For those attending remotely.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

SOLEMN PRAYER

The Celebrant says

Bow down before the Lord

The people kneel and the Celebrant says the following prayers:

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL | 473


Lift high the cross

(Recessional lyrics on next page)

DISMISSAL


POSTLUDE

Descant



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

Refrain




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



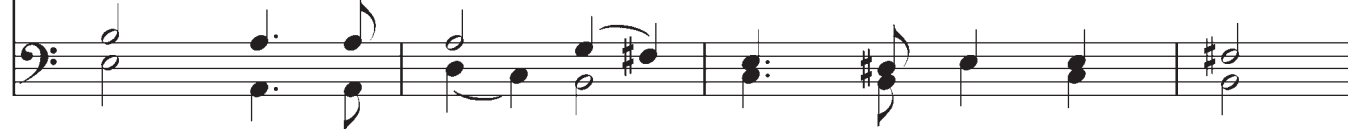
till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.




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.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar greenery today is given to the Glory of God by the Swanner family in memory of Jim Kerr.

COMMITMENT TO MINISTRY

MARCH 3 SERVICE COUNT 8:15AM **13** | 10AM **103** | REMOTE **63**

COMMITMENT TO FAITHFULNESS

MONDAY MARCH 4 - SUNDAY MARCH 10

GENERAL FUND	\$ 335.00
PLEGGED	\$ 8,352.00
OTHER	\$ 770.84
TOTAL	\$ 9,457.84

OFFICIANT

The Melanie Barbarito

LAY MINISTERS

VERGER

Steven Swanner

ORGANIST

Christin Baker

USHERS

8:15am - Ron Driscoll
10:30am - Steve & Nancy Slott

READERS

8:15am - Linda Buff
10:30am - Colleen Stevens, Paige Ysteboe

ACOLYTES

8:15am - Elizabeth Hansen
10:30am - Chaliceist - Paige Ysteboe, Martha Stewart
Crucifer - Max Fitzpatrick
Left Torch Bearer - Sam Fitzpatrick
Right Torch Bearer - Abigail Fitzpatrick
Gospel Bearer - Micah Ash

VESTRY COUNTERS

Joanne McClusky, Pat House

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Bea Swajkoski, Mary Carol Adams

FLOWER GUILD

Janie Sellers, Ren Bryan

ALTAR GUILD

Shara Partin, Verne Booker, Ren Bryan,
Connie Griner, Mary Telander, Marilyn Tyler

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Joanne McClusky, Paula Boyd, Rene Burgess,
Sarah Moore, Jane Romer

The journey through Lent into Easter is a journey with Jesus. We are baptized into his life, self-giving, and death; then, we rise in hope to life transformed. This Lent, communities are invited to walk with Jesus in his Way of Love and into the experience of transformed life. Together, we will reflect anew on the loving actions of God as recounted in the Easter Vigil readings. Together, we will walk through the depths of salvation history into the fullness of redemption. Throughout Lent, come along with us as we explore Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent, produced by Hillary Raining and Jenifer Gamber. You can find resources mentioned below at iam.ec/lifetransformed or by scanning the QR code to the right.

Sunday, March 17 - Today's Practice: Watch the Rev. Dr. Hillary Raining's video at iam.ec/lifetransformed for Week 5. The topic is based on the practice "Rest" and is titled, "The Valley of Dry Bones". **Read:** Ezekiel 37:1-14

Monday, March 18 - Today's Prompt: When you reflect on financial giving, are your palms open? **Read:** "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through waterless regions looking for a resting place, but it finds none. Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' When it returns, it finds it empty, swept, and put in order." – Matthew 12:43-44

Tuesday, March 19 - Today's Prompt: Who might you have a conversation with to learn about God? **Read:** "Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path." – Psalm 119:105

Wednesday, March 20 - Today's Prompt: What are you thankful for? **Read:** "For we are aliens and transients before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope." – 1 Chronicles 29:15

Thursday, March 21 - Today's Prompt: Where do you see the seven practices of the Way of Love in this story? **Read:** "Finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down on the stretcher through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus." – Luke 5:19

Friday, March 22 - Today's Prompt: How do your creative outlets impact on taking rest? **Read:** Genesis 1:1-24

Saturday, March 23 - Today's Prompt: Practice lectio divina with this scripture: **Read:** "But when he came to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate." – Luke 15:17-24

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CONTACTS

BISHOP DIOCESAN

The Rt. Rev. Sam Rodman | sam.rodman@episdionc.org

ASST. BISHOP **The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson** | jennifer.brookedavidson@episdionc.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Christin Baker | cbaker@hc-b.org

SEXTON

Kelvin Bradsher | gareth.bradsher@yahoo.com

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Julia Buffington | jbuffington@hc-b.org

NURSERY STAFF

Jan Kelly | jankelly159@gmail.com

NURSERY STAFF

EmmaLee Murphy | emma.murph26@icloud.com

NEWLIN PARTNERSHIP ADMIN. DIRECTOR **Mindy Robinson** | newlinpartnership@gmail.com

ASSISTANT FOR YOUTH & FAMILY PROJECTS **Jocelyn Safrit** | safritr@bellsouth.net

VERGER

Steven Swanner | jsswanner@gmail.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Cat Sykes | csykes@hc-b.org

RECTOR EMERITUS

The Rev. David R. Williams | david@davidrwilliams.org

VESTRY CONTACTS

PASTORAL CARE

Derek Bates | dbates@myhst.com

JUNIOR WARDEN

George Blaisdell | gblaisdell13@gmail.com

PERSONNEL

Pat House | phousenc@gmail.com

FINANCE

Sid Little | dslittle48@gmail.com

PARISH LIFE

Joanne McClusky | jmccclusky@triad.rr.com

STEWARDSHIP

Max Newbauer | maxnewbauer@yahoo.com

JUNIOR WARDEN ASSISTANT

Gary Schilke | schilkesue@twc.com

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

Alex Stevens | alexanderforreststevens@gmail.com

CLERK

Julie Swanner | julieswanner@yahoo.com

SENIOR WARDEN

Mark Thomas | mdthomas6@hotmail.com

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Carol Thornell | cthornell2001@yahoo.com

WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Diana Wallace | wallaced2000@yahoo.com

WAYS TO CONNECT

OFFICE PHONE

(336) 227-4251

WEBSITE

www.hc-b.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday | 8am-2:30pm - Friday | 8am-12pm

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