

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 27, 2025 (10 am)

*The Rt. Reverend Anne B. Jolly, Bishop of Ohio
The Reverend Dr. Robin Woodberry
James W. Shiell, Director of Music
Paul W. Keriotis, Director of Spiritual Formation*

Prelude

AT THE PROCESSION TO THE ALTAR

The People stand for the Processional Hymn and remain standing through the Collect of the Day

Processional Hymn no. 494 Crown him with many crowns – (*Diademata*)

Opening Acclamation

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

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity

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.**

Song of Praise No. S280 **Glory to God** *setting: Robert Powell*

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray together.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE WORK

The First Reading: Acts 5: 27-32

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

PSALM: Psalm 150 (Said)

Remain seated.

¹Hallelujah!
Praise God in his holy temple; *
 praise him in the firmament of his power.
²Praise him for his mighty acts; *
 praise him for his excellent greatness.
³Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
 praise him with lyre and harp.
⁴Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
 praise him with strings and pipe.
⁵Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
 praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
⁶Let everything that has breath *
 praise the LORD.
Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

A Reading from the Revelation of John.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

Sequence Hymn No.209 We Walk by faith, and not by sight– *St. Botolph*

The Gospel: John 20:19-31

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Canon Audra Abt

The Nicene Creed

All stand

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.***

Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel

On this day of rejoicing, we pray for the life of the church, the world and all people in any need.

A brief silence

You give life to your church by joining the baptized of all generations to the body of Christ. Bless all here today as we proclaim the one whose death and resurrection makes us one in you. We pray.

Raise us and bless us, O God.

You give life to the creation by renewing the earth in every season. Curb our exploitation of natural resources, and cause us to preserve the health of plant and animal habitats. We pray.

Raise us and bless us, O God.

You give life to the world by laying a cornerstone among the nations. Rebuild the powers and principalities around us in ways that protect the vulnerable and raise up the lowly. We pray.

Raise us and bless us, O God.

You give life in places of chaos. Bring an end to the wars in Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine. Heal the sick, soothe the suffering and bless the dying. Restore peace and rebuild this land, O God. We Pray.

Raise us and bless us, O God.

You give life to those in need by the anointing of your Holy Spirit. Comfort those who suffer, encourage those who care for the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and wipe away the tears of all who mourn. Especially... We pray.

Raise us and bless us, O God.

You give life to this community of faith by infusing us with love for one another. Inspire us to reach out to our neighbors in meaningful ways and bring the joys of community to a wider family of people. We pray.

Raise us and bless us, O God.

You give life to your saints by setting a banquet table of rich food. Feed us with the bread of life and bring us with all your saints to the feast that has no end. We pray.

Raise us and bless us, O God.

Celebrant: Mighty God, in whom we know the power of redemption, you stand among us in the shadows of our time. As we move through every sorrow and trial of this life, uphold us with knowledge of the final morning when, in the glorious presence of your risen Son, we will share in his resurrection, redeemed and restored to the fullness of life and forever freed to be your people. ***Amen***

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Celebrant: 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. ***Amen.***

The Peace

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

Welcome and Announcements

THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Offertory Sentence: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem: Hymn of Promise – arr. Natalie Sleeth

Offertory Response: Praise God from whom all blessings flow – *Lasst uns Erfreuen*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Great Thanksgiving: Enriching Our Worship – Prayer 3

Celebrant God 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.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;

And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus S-125 – Holy, holy, holy

setting: Richard Proulx

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: “Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for 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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S-155

Alleluia! Christ our Passover

setting: Gerald Near

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Celebrant: Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not altogether in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

The Distribution

All are welcome and invited to the altar rail for communion. If you need communion brought to your pew, please inform an usher. You may eat the bread and take a sip from the common cup, or you can dip the bread into the common cup. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please cross your arms on your chest.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Easter 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 blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn no. 193 That Easter day with joy was bright – *Puer nobis*

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Assisting with our Worship at 10 am:

The Parish Choir

Jeannine Morris – Organist

MacKenzie Pinto – Choir Director

Laurie Jones – Accompanist

Kevin Knowlton – Lector & Fred Schweitzer – Chalice Bearer/Lector

Faith Scarmuzzi – Chalice Bearer/Prayers of the People

Carson Buydos – Greeters

Carol Senne & Becky Watts – Altar Guild

Don Senne & Steve Watts – Ushers

Deb Murphy & Don Scarmuzzi – Audio/Visual

ALL are invited! ALL are welcome! ALL the time!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH! We are happy to have you worship with us today! If you are a visitor or would like to know more about the life, work, and ministry of Christ Church, please fill out a "Connect Card" in the pew rack. You can drop the completed card in the offering plate or give it to a member of our staff, an usher, or a Vestry member following the service. We are glad you are here!

TODAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST The Scouts are holding a Pancake Breakfast in the Parish today from 9a-1p. Please help support our Scouts!

TODAY WE WELCOME CANON AUDRA ABT! She will lead us in a time of formation. She wants to celebrate our strengths, gather meaningful stories, and explore challenges and opportunities that we, as a diocese, can address together.

Coming up in our Southeast Mission Area: Diocesan Mission Immersion Week ~ April 27 – May 4. Canon Audra Abt will spend the week in our Mission Area visiting each faith community to become immersed in our mission and ministry. The week will culminate in the Big Southeast Mission Area Gathering, where we hope to have 5 or more folks from each congregation come together with our mission area dean to worship, fellowship, learn from one another, and explore opportunities for collaboration. Cost is free, we just ask that you register to help us plan for lunch and snacks.

The Big Southeast Mission Area Gathering
Saturday, May 3, 2025
9:00 AM – 2:30 PM
At St. James Episcopal Church, Boardman
(7640 Glenwood Ave, Boardman, OH 44512)

Please RSVP by calling the Church Office at 330-372-4998.

LAY PREACHER COLLEGE

Our Lay Preacher College is offering upcoming training and continuing education sessions for those interested in lay preaching or renewing their annual license. "The Role of the Preacher," a required continuing education class for license renewal, will be offered on **May 31**, September 20, and October 18. For those discerning a call to lay preaching, the required introductory course will take place on **May 30-31** at Bellwether Farm. Registration is now open for all sessions on our [website](#). If you are interested in more information, please see Mother Robin.

COFFEE HOUR is immediately following the 10 am worship service. Light refreshments are served. Please consider staying after worship for this opportunity of fellowship! If you would like to host a Coffee Hour, please contact the Church Office at 330-372-4998, or see Linda Day.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR CHILDREN is held each week during 10 am worship service. We use the Montessori-based curriculum, Godly Play. Interested children (K-5) are welcomed to join in the procession. Children return to the Sanctuary during The Peace so they may join their families for Holy Eucharist. Adults are needed to assist. If interested, please see Paul Keriotis.

THE PARISH CHOIR REHEARSALS are on Thursdays at 7pm in the choir room. New members are always welcome!

THE WEEKLY WORKINGS AT CHRIST CHURCH

Monday, Apr 28	Boy Scouts 5 pm Office Open 9 am – 2 pm	Parish Hall
Tuesday, Apr.29	AA Meeting 6 pm Office Open 9 am – 2 pm Linda to deliver food/clothes to Lincoln 10 am	Parish Hall
Wednesday, Apr. 30	Growing Deeper Study & Eucharist 10 am Deadline to submit Bulletin Announcements 12 pm Office Open 9 am – 2 pm	Chapel Office
Thursday, May 1	Cub Scouts 5 pm Parish Choir Rehearsal - 7 pm Office Open 9 am – 2 pm	Parish Hall Choir Room
Friday, May 2	Office Closed	
Saturday, May 3	Office Closed	
Sunday, May 4	Holy Eucharist Worship 08:00 am Holy Eucharist Worship 10:00 am Office Closed	Chapel Sanctuary



Become a Member of Our Church Family

We are excited to invite anyone who is interested in becoming a member of our church to take the next step in your faith journey with us! Whether you're new to the area, have been visiting for a while, or are seeking a new church home, we welcome you to join our vibrant and supportive community.

Why Become a Member?

As a member of our church, you'll:

- Be part of a loving and growing community of believers.
- Have the opportunity to deepen your faith through worship, prayer, and service.

- Take part in the life and mission of the church, including ministries and activities for all ages.
- Receive spiritual guidance and support from our priest and leaders.

How to Become a Member:

If you're interested or would like more information, please call the Church Office at 330-372-4998 or simply show up to the orientation. We look forward to welcoming you into our church family!

CONFIRMATION: What Is Confirmation in the Episcopal Church?

Confirmation is a sacramental rite in which individuals make a mature, public affirmation of their faith and commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.

It is an important step in one's spiritual journey—often following a period of preparation and learning about the Christian faith, the Episcopal tradition, and what it means to live out that faith in everyday life.

Confirmation is open to youth and adults who are ready to take this next step in their faith. Interested in learning more or joining the next confirmation class? Please call the Church Office at 330-372-4998, or see the Spiritual Formation Director, Paul Keriotis. Information about classes will be forthcoming.



Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Church Events!

We have some exciting events coming up, and we need your help to make them a success! If you have a heart for serving others and a desire to contribute to our community, we invite you to volunteer for the following opportunities:

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

VBS is just around the corner, and we're looking for passionate volunteers to help with teaching, crafts, snacks, and games. This is a wonderful opportunity to impact children's lives and share the love of Christ in a fun and engaging way.

How You Can Help

If you're interested in volunteering for any of these events or would like more information, please contact the Church Office at 330-372-4998 and leave your information, or see Paul Keriotis.

Together, we can make these events meaningful and impactful for our community!



April Birthdays

- 1st- Amy Panagis
- 8th- Joe Gladd
- 8th- Tess Crofford
- 9th- Dr. Lee Snelson
- 13th- Kevin Knowlton
- 21st- Sandee Skovran
- 21st- Alyssa Cleland





CALLING ALL KIDS!!! 😊 Hey there, amazing community! Are you aware of a young adventurer who could totally thrive at summer camp? 🎉 Well, guess what? We believe that every kid deserves this stellar experience, and we're here to make sure finances don't hold anyone back!



Christ Episcopal Church is willing to offer support through scholarships to assist with deposits and even registration costs if needed – because this camp is just that important! 🌈 If you want to learn more about how to get your young one in on this incredible journey, don't hesitate to give our awesome Spiritual Formation Director, Paul, a shout at 404-883-9202! 📞 Camp information is listed below. Let's come together and make this summer unforgettable for every child! ☀️

COMING SOON!!!!

“Get In Where You Fit In: Monday Ministry Moments”

Starting Monday, May 5th, Mother Robin will launch an inspiring new series focusing on different aspects of ministry and service. This series is designed to educate, inform, and encourage each of us to discover where we best fit in the work of the Church and will be published in the weekly Worship Bulletin.

We all have gifts, talents, and abilities that can be used for the glory of God and the building up of the Church. Whether your passion lies in teaching, serving, hospitality, or beyond—there is a place for you!

Let's commit to stepping out of the pews and into purpose, because in this body, there are no “Pew Members.” Everyone has something valuable to offer.

Come ready to explore, be inspired, and take your next step in service!