

Saint Christopher's Episcopal Church

6320 Hanover Ave.
Springfield, VA 22150
703-451-1088
www.saintchristophers.net



Our Vision:

To Know Christ
To Love Christ
To Serve Christ in Others

**The Last Sunday after Pentecost; Christ the King
UTO Ingathering Sunday
Liturgy of the Word, Rite II**

November 22, 2020

Prelude: My Lord, what a mornin

Spiritual

Liturgy of the Word

Opening hymn: 494 Crown Him with many crowns

Opening Acclamation

Pg. 355

The Word of God

Pg. 355

Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: And Blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever! Amen!

Officiant: Let us pray.

People: 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 to God

Pg. 356

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Collect of Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 100

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn: 388 O worship the King

The Gospel

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 5:31-46

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it

to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ*

The Homily – The Rev. Carey Connors

A short silence will follow the homily.

The Nicene Creed

Pg. 358

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 Form 4

Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We especially pray for our Michael Presiding Bishop, Susan, Jennifer and Porter our Bishops. For Carey, our Priest-in-Charge, Joe our Music Minister, for our Vestry, for Meredith our Videographer, and for Mike our Pastoral Assistant this week; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

I ask your prayers for Donald our President and Ralph our Governor. And all the leaders of our nation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Remembering the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

I ask your prayers for Travis, Greta, Mae, Cathy Branch, Catherine Foley, Joe Bush, Jim Foster, Beatrice, Joan Snyder, Arrison, Linda, John, Valerie, Eric, Addie Dunlap, Katie Alleman, Betty Carper, Virginia Clark, Ruth Ritt, Elaine Apostles, Marion Evans, Ginny and Fred Berg, Ruth York, Marguerite Wagner, Priscilla Greene, Ted Woodcock, Elaine Sevy, John Wells, and L. B. Berg, and for all those working on the front lines during this pandemic.

(At this time we invite you to add your own petitions in the Zoom chat.)

Silence

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Officiant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin

Pg. 360

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

All:

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.

The Officiant: 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 Lord's Prayer

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 Blessing

Following the Blessing, the people respond **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: 495 Hail the once despised

The Peace

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements

Dismissal

Postlude: I love thee, my Lord!

George Shearing

IN THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays: Jennifer Guernsey, Ginny Brown, Rowen Pa, Chriss Foster, Megan Proctor, Charlotte Chandler, John Mayo, Deb Kim, Richard Downie, Barbara Christy, Richard Sellers, Melissa Gorham, Priscilla Greene, Steven Greene, David Johnson, Simone Pa, Sue Horita, Creighton Dunlap, Nathan Bollinger, Marguerite Wagner, Jane Hinson, Sandy Price, and Ross Branstetter.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Celebrant | The Rev. Carey Connors |
| Zoom Producer | Chris Erbe |
| Videographer | David Kirk |
| Lectors: | Mary Andrews (L1) Jim Hertsch (L2) |
| Prayer Intercessor | Meredith Maple |
| Congregational Responder | Pam Branstetter |
| VPOW | Deb Kim |
| P.A.T Minister | Mike Snyder |

The Chapel Prayer Team is available for prayer, you may email Jeff Baldwin at baldw004j@yahoo.com

LISTED BELOW ARE WAYS TO DONATE AND KEEP UP WITH PLEDGES

1. Mail in checks to St. Christopher's at 6320 Hanover Ave, Springfield VA 22150
2. Set up electronic bill pay through your bank. You only need the Church's name and address.
3. Set up a bank to bank transfer. Contact the St. C's Treasurer if you want to do this.
4. Via PayPal - Per instructions already published. This is a no fee service, but donations will be delayed getting to the church for up to 45 days.

Thank you for your generosity and keeping up with your pledge. If you have other questions, please email Debbie Frear at StChristophersTreasurer@gmail.com. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



From your Stewardship Committee: Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed so far to St. Christopher's Annual Pledge Campaign. Your pledge means more than ever to the vestry and to the church as we press forward. If you have not yet submitted your pledge, it's never too late, and if you've never pledged, please consider doing so. Keep the good works of this faith community going and thank you for all the gifts you bring to St.

Christopher's! Click here to Pledge for 2020: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Can-you-believe-it-s-been-a-year-.html?soid=1120193928135&aid=c32amWmgxNg>

Did you know? Regathering as we can, safely distanced, and outside, is something the worship team continues to work on. This week a small group of folks marked the Hanover parking lot with paint - creating a nine-foot-wide aisle for entering and leaving the space, an area for an altar and designating squares for distanced seating. We will continue to map out the flow and hope to have some warmer days this winter when we can offer small group worship outside. Stay tuned!

Sunday, November 22, 2020 is United Thank Offering (UTO) Ingathering

The UTO Annual Ingathering is November 22. This year, since we're not worshipping in person, we're not collecting the blue boxes, so please donate using the procedures for regular donations, detailed in the Bulletin, and indicate it's for UTO. This year 100% of what is collected will be given to support Episcopal/Anglican ministries directly responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. The 2019 ingathering total was \$1,535,740.55, which reflects an increase of more than \$200,000! Since 1889, UTO has awarded 5,296 grants for a total of \$138,629,911.07.



UTO is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through United Thank Offering, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion in the developing world. Each diocese is allowed one domestic and one overseas grant. To visit the UTO website, click here: <https://episcopalchurch.org/united-thank-offering>



Mark your calendar for our virtual **Thanksgiving Day Service**, Rite I Morning Prayer with music by Joe Gabaslki. The service will be pre-recorded with the link to be shared with all next week.



Advent Wreath Making Our Episcopal tradition gives us some rich ways to live our faith at home and there has never been a time when finding ways to live our faith at home has mattered more. Advent wreaths made of live greens with four candles- one for each week of the season are a simple and beautiful way to bring the light of this season into our homes. Each evening we light that week's candle and say the accompanying prayer marking the journey toward Christ's birth. Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

November 29, the first day of Advent and the first day of the Church's new year, you can come and make a wreath. Tables with supplies will be set around the Hanover Ave parking lot for safe and socially distanced wreath building. **Donations of clippings of greens are Needed- boxwood, yew, holly and others. Small leaves work best, and your pruning's will become something beautiful! Call the church office to say you will donate a bag or more by Saturday, November 28.**

Sign up here to join in the fun from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ehf2o7a4354d64c9&oseq=&c=&ch=>

A \$5.00 donation to cover the cost of the candles is requested with thanks to the St. Christopher's Flower Guild for donations of other supplies and volunteers.



Outreach Committee Meeting Report: The SCC Outreach Committee met October 29th via Zoom. Mother Carey opened with a prayer and followed that with her outreach experience. In her previous position, she was outreach director at St. George’s in Fredericksburg and has worked in Africa and with programs at the United Nations. She will provide an article about her experiences in a future newsletter. The committee heard reports from several project leaders, including the following:

- Budget – The parish budget provides \$3,000 to the outreach committee for distributions, the committee voted to distribute the funds as follows: \$500 each to Lynnbrook, Crestwood, Garfield Elementary School PTAs. The Committee voted to send to ECHO, FACETS, and Episcopal Relief and Development (The National Church’s helping program) \$500 each.

- School Back Pack and Physical Programs – Lynn Knox reported that this program was not held in August due to the pandemic. She had asked parishioners to provide school supplies to ECHO this year.
- Hypothermia Prevention Program – Katy Dunlap says this program will not likely happen at churches but may be held at one place with churches providing meals and other services. When a final decision will be made, it will be reported in the newsletter.
- ECHO Food – Richard Sellers reported we have provided over 300 bags of food to ECHO since May via donations of over \$4,000. Additional donations continue to be made and are encouraged to be made to the parish.
- FACET Meals – Janet Bush reported that SCC is providing meals to FACETS Clients on the fourth Thursday of every other month. She says there are between 150-170 meals provided each night. This program is funded by the Linda Meagher Fund—a perpetual, dedicated fund in the parish treasury for this program.
- ECHO Vegetable Garden – Marifran Bustion reported that we have harvested and delivered over 400 pounds of vegetables. She has also planted fall crops of broccoli, Brussels sprouts.
- Crestwood Elementary Food Back Pack Program – Richard Sellers reported that he is unsure how we can deliver food to the school for distribution and will contact the schools to see what assistance is needed.
- ECHO Toy Drive – Richard Sellers and Mike Snyder reported that ECHO will accept toys this year on December 5 for children in need during the holidays. A plan has been developed (please see the ECHO Toy Drive/Living Nativity article elsewhere in this article).
- UTO Ingathering – The committee approved November 22 as the UTO Ingathering date. Please send your donations to SCC via mail and mark them for UTO. See article in the newsletter.

The committee is extremely appreciative of the donations and volunteer assistance in these programs. Without you, these programs would not exist. There is a special need during the pandemic with food, and we are still accepting donations for ECHO Foods and FACETS Feeding. Please mail to SCC and mark in the memo are what program you designate your gift to.

Thank you to all the project leaders for their diligence and leadership!

In Peace,

Richard Sellers,
Outreach Committee Chair

ECHO Christmas Toy Drive/Living Nativity, Sunday, December 5th

Our friends at ECHO are again taking donations of toys for local families in need this year. St. Christopher's will be collecting new, unwrapped toys, though not exactly as usual. This year we're combining the annual toy collection with the Living Nativity in the Hanover Ave. parking lot on Saturday, December 5 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. We'll also place a bin by the front door of the Church after Thanksgiving and through the morning of Sunday, December 6, the Feast Day of St. Nicholas. Or, as usual, money can be donated for the purchase of Discovery Toys. You can mail a check (6320 Hanover Ave., Springfield, VA. 22150) payable to St. Christopher's with ECHO Toy Drive in the memo line or use our PayPal account. Thank you for your giving spirit. Mike Snyder

In ECHO News:

- ECHO Yard Sale 2020 is open from November 19, 2020 - December 11, 2020 during Open Hours, 9:30am – 12:30pm. Yard Sales are by appointment only. Volunteers are needed to host the yard sales. Please contact Yardsale2020@gmail.com for links to sign up. Thank you.
- ECHO Holiday Food Please help ECHO help our less fortunate neighbors this holiday season. Thanks for your generosity as well as for all the work you do for ECHO throughout the year. Maureen Doherty.

2020 GIFT CARD SUGGESTED GUIDELINES:

- 1 Person \$25
- 2 People \$35
- 3 People \$40
- 4 People \$50
- 5 People \$60

SUGGESTED MENU:

Please use these items is a guide, feel free to create your own menu. Roasting Pan - Many of our families do not have large enough pans to accommodate a turkey.

- Turkey or Chicken (Many of our clients are not familiar with turkey, so a large chicken or two might make them more comfortable)
- Eggs
- Butter or Margarine
- Rolls
- Stuffing (boxed or cubes to make their own)
- Cranberry Sauce
- Applesauce
- Jello
- Canned vegetables, (such as, corn, green beans, black beans)
- Pie or Pie crust
- Canned Pumpkin
- Fresh Produce, (such as carrots, celery, onions, broccoli, cauliflower,
- apples, oranges)
- Milk

- ECHO's Holiday Gift Store will be open this year, but due **to the pandemic**, you can drop toys off on Saturday, December 5 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at St. Christopher's ECHO Toy Drive/Living Nativity Drive Thru or purchase toys on the [ECHO Holiday Wishlist on Amazon.com](#).
-

This Week at St. Christopher's

Monday, November 23

Tuesday, November 24

- 7:00 p.m. Rain Makeup for Compline & Conversation with Rev. Carey
-

Wednesday, November 25

- 7:00 p.m. Online Compline with Meredith Maple
- Zoom links will be sent out that day and posted on Facebook! Please join us!

Thursday, November 26 – Thanksgiving Day

- Online Thanksgiving Service (Virtual Link to be shared)
- The Parish Office is closed
-

Friday, November 27

- The Parish Office is closed
-

Saturday, November 28

- The 226th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, Online
-

Sunday, November 29 – The First Sunday of Advent

- 10:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word/Rite II
 - 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Advent Wreath Making/Hanover Parking Lot
- Click here to sign up for the event:

<http://www.saintchristophers.net/Events/EventView.asp?EventID=86331>