



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Eleven o'clock



People who shut their eyes to reality simply invite their own destruction, and anyone who insists on remaining in a state of innocence long after that innocence is dead turns himself into a monster.

-James Baldwin

•Please turn silence electronic devices.

*=Congregation standing

ENTRANCE

PRELUDE Passacaglia on the Chorale, "Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee"

Max Drischner

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: God leads us through our Lenten journey
towards the promise of **new life**.

People: We see the path ahead of us and hear God's voice calling.

Minister: God takes that which falls and raises it to bear **much fruit**.

People: We see **Christ lifted high and alive in our lives**.

Minister: God draws all people into grace, mercy, and **love**.

People: We see and worship **God who gives us salvation**.

*HYMN Bless Now, O God the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Minister: Let us pray to God who makes **us new**,
confessing our sins to the One of **everlasting mercy**.

**People: Redeeming God, we confess that we have
not loved you with our whole heart,
and have not loved our neighbors as we ought.
You have invited us to live in harmony and peace,
yet we stray down paths of violence, war, and indifference.
Forgive us and fix our eyes on you so that we
may follow the path Christ paved.**

Silent Prayer



1. Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2. O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3. Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4. Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends may see you face to face.

Minister: Friends, by the faith of Christ, your sins **are forgiven**.

People: We delight in the joy of our salvation. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

1. I want Je - sus to walk with me. (walk with me)
 2. In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me)
 3. When I'm trou - bled, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me)

I want Je - sus to walk with me. (walk with me)
 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me)
 When I'm trou - bled, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me)

All a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 When my heart is al - most break - ing,
 When my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. (walk with me)

Words: Afro-American spiritual
 Music: Afro-American spiritual, adpt William F. Smith, 1996

SOJOURNER

*THE PEACE

Children are invited to Sunday School on the 3rd floor; nursery care on the 5th floor

MINISTRY UPDATES

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(in unison)*
 Jackie DeGroat

You speak to us, O God, with words of transformation that can create a whole new world. As we meditate on your message today, fill us with your spirit and fix our eyes on you. Amen.

A READING FROM 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.**

ANTHEM

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

Dan Forrest

Let us ever walk with Jesus,
follow his example pure,
flee the world which would deceive us
and to sin our souls allure.
Ever in his footsteps treading,
body here, yet soul above,
full of faith and hope and love,
let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me;
Savior, lead; I follow thee.

Let us also die with Jesus;
his death from the second death,
from our soul’s destruction, frees us,
quickens us with life’s glad breath.
Let us mortify, while living,
flesh and blood and die to sin,
and the grave that shuts us in
shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here I die to thee,
there to live eternally.

Let us gladly live with Jesus;
since he’s risen from the dead,
death and grave must soon release us.
Jesus, thou art now our head.
We are truly thine own members,
where thou livest, there live we;
take and own us constantly,
faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.
Jesus, here I live to thee,
also there eternally.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO 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**.

Minister: The Word of **the Lord**.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*HYMN

There in God’s Garden

1 There in God’s gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, “Our Sav - ior!”
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f’ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it,
 hear what the Voice says, “Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing.”

5 This is my ending,
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav’n is singing,
 “Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!”
 Amen! My Master!

Words: Király Irme von Pécselyi, c. 1590-c.1640; tr. Erik Routley, 1917-1982
 Music: K. Lee Scott, b.1950

SHADES MOUNTAIN

RESPONDING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*in unison*)

**Take our gifts, O God, like grains of wheat planted
in the soil. Grow what we give into the fruit of
new life for this world that you see and love. Amen.**

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

(Please place your gift in the offering receptacle as it is passed. Alternatively, you may make your offering via your smartphone by texting "CCNYC" to 77977 to give.)

OFFERING ANTHEM

Wondrous Love

Southern Folk Hymn
arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, O my soul!
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I AM,"
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: We set our sight on you, **O God.**

People: **Show us your grace, goodness, and love.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

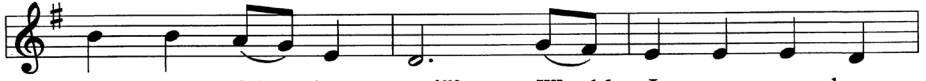
GOING FORTH

*HYMN

Would I Have Answered



1. Would I have an - swered when you called, "Come,
 2. Would I have fol - lowed where you led through
 3. Would I have matched my step with yours when
 4. O Christ, I can - not search my heart through



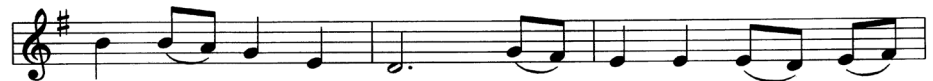
fol - low, fol - low me!?"? Would I at once have
 an - cient Gal - i - lee, on roads un - known, by
 crowds cried, "Cru - ci - fy!" when on a rock - y
 all its tan - gled ways, nor can I with a



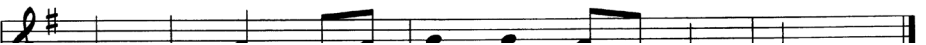
left be - hind both work and fam - i -
 ways un - tried, be - yond se - cu - ri -
 hill I saw a cross a - gainst the
 cer - tain mind my stead - fast - ness ap -



ly? Or would the old, fa - mil - iar round have
 ty? Or would I soon have hur - ried back where
 sky? Or would I too have slipped a - way and
 praise. I on - ly pray that when you call, "Come,



held me by its claim and kept the spark with -
 home and com - fort drew, where truth you taught would
 left you there a - lone, a dy - ing king with
 fol - low, fol - low me!" you'll give me strength be -



Words: Herman Stuempfle, Jr.
 Music: trad English melody, arr. R. V. Williams

KINGSFORD

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tocatta

Hermann Schroeder

Lent and Easter Services at Christ Church:

Lenten Worship Services
Sundays 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Thursdays in Lent
Continuing March 21, 6pm supper, 6:45pm worship

Palm/Passion Sunday
March 24, 9am and 11am

Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday)
March 28, 6:30pm

Good Friday
March 29, 12:30pm

Easter
March 31
6:30am--Easter Sunrise Service (Central Park, see below)
9am--Easter Celebration
11am--Easter Celebration

Easter Sunrise Service - 6:30am at Belvedere Castle in Central Park (mid-Park at 79th Street). Join us at Belvedere Castle at 6:30am *or*, if you prefer, meet Tara and Eric and others at the park entrance on Fifth Avenue and 79th Street at 6:15am and we will walk to the Castle together! This will be a shared sunrise service of worship between the congregations of Christ Church NYC and nearby St. Paul & St. Andrew UMC. Join us as we begin the celebration of the Resurrection at Sunrise with an informal but reverent time of worship. Please feel free to bring a brief Scripture, poem, reading, or song that you would like to share as part of worship (not required, but welcome). Note: Sunrise is forecasted to be 6:40am on Easter Sunday, and we'll get to experience it in the context of worship!

Women's History Month - March is Women's History Month in the United States. Designed to commemorate and celebrate the vital role and unique contributions of women throughout history, Women's History Month is an annual opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to protecting and advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls in the United States and around the world. Women have long shaped the history of Methodism, beginning with Susanna Wesley, the mother of Methodism's founders. Across the centuries, women have served the church as leaders, teachers, pastors, missionaries, and organizers. From the local church to the global church, the ministry and leadership of women has been essential to Methodism's growth and sustenance.

Lenten Devotional 2024: Life, Death, and Life Again - Lent is a season that allows us space and time to reflect on the various seasons of our spiritual lives and approach new beginnings. To share in the words and wisdom of our community, pick up a copy of our Lenten Reflections Booklet today or email robert@christchurchnyc.org to receive it digitally or by mail.

Thursdays in Lent - Join us for this important and meaningful Christ Church Lenten tradition, designed to offer both an experience of community and a meditative time of worship. Each Thursday in Lent begins with a light soup supper on the third floor at **6:00pm**, followed by a brief time of worship in the chapel at **6:45pm**. Throughout this year's Thursdays in Lent, in addition to the proclamation of our church's clergy leaders, meditations will also be offered by area clergy that were once a part of the congregation of Christ Church, including Rev. Dr. Cathy Gilliard, Rev. Lea Matthews, and Rev. Jeff Wells. Come and reconnect with these clergy leaders whom Christ Church sent into ministry! Children's programming offered! **March 21** — meditation offered by Rev. Dr. Eric Park

A Virtual Conversation Concerning the Upcoming United Methodist General Conference - Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 6:30pm. The United Methodist General Conference will take place from April 23-May 3 in Charlotte, NC. Rev. Dr. Eric Park is an elected clergy delegate to this General Conference. The General Conference, as it always does, will be acting on legislative proposals that impact the entire United Methodist Church, its ministry, its structure, and its polity. Join Eric on Tuesday, April 16, for this virtual conversation, the purpose of which is to inform participants about the nature and function of General Conference and the content and potential impact of proposed legislation. A link to the virtual conversation will be provided soon. The following QR code will take you to a United Methodist website that contains detailed information about the General Conference and proposed legislation.



Interfaith programming with Temple Emanu-El - Our neighbor Temple Emanu-El is offering a variety of programming opportunities to connect with folk from across faith traditions through dialogue groups about everything from meditation to making meals together. Christ Church NYC is partnering to host the monthly Queering the Bible & Beyond dialogue group; below is information about each of the upcoming opportunities. For more information, contact Dr. Alyssa Cady, Director of Center for Interfaith Dialogue, at Alyssa.Cady@emanuelnyc.org. For a full schedule please scan the QR code



Lenten Faith Forum: Entering the Passion of Jesus: *Seeing Lent Through the Lens of Holy Week* - Join us for this conversational time, facilitated by Rev. Eric Park, of reflection in which we examine the significance of the events of Holy Week and reflect on how those events might inform our experience of the Lenten Season. This Lenten Faith Forum began on **Sunday, February 18** (the first Sunday in Lent) and continues each Sunday through **March 24** (Palm Sunday). Each session begins at **10am** (concluding by 10:50) and will be held in the 4th floor conference room. The companion resource for this Faith Forum is a book entitled, *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, written by Amy-Jill Levine.

"BELOVED COMMUNITY" - A Christ Church circle for the ongoing work of dismantling racism: Virtual Gathering: **Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 PM.** This new circle in the life of Christ Church will meet virtually each month to create a virtual space for conversation, discernment, reflection, and prayer related to the perpetually-urgent work of dismantling racism in all of its forms. Facilitated by Katherine Ellington (a member of Christ Church), Tyler Heston and Eric Park (our church's clergy), and Brandon Batson (our church's Director of Communication and Program), "Beloved Community" will be a welcoming environment in which participants are invited to connect with one another over important subject matter. In our first few monthly sessions (February, March, and April), our conversation will focus on the book *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity* by Robert P. Jones. During the next three sessions (May, June, and July), our conversation will focus on the book *Pre-Post-Racial America: Spiritual Stories from the Front Lines* by Sandhya Rani Jha.

Morning Prayer - Daily, **Monday through Friday at 8am**. Everyone is invited to join the Christ Church family for a short time of prayer and reflection each morning. Join the call via the events page on our website!

Children and Families - Every Sunday during the **11am** Service, preschool through fifth grade children are welcome to join us for Sunday School on the third floor. Nursery Care is available on the fifth floor.

Sharing Table Outreach - Sharing Table serves a hot meal and toiletries to over 130 guests each week, and we always need new volunteers! A lead volunteer will give you an orientation on-site. Volunteers arrive at **3:00pm** to help make sandwiches and prepare for guests' arrival. Doors open to guests at 4:00pm and dinner is served at 4:30pm. If you'd like to sign up or get more information, please email Becca Grudzina-Macias at *rebezina@gmail.com*.

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Christ Church Staff :

Ms. Roseann DeGennaro, Church Administrator
Dr. Steve Pilkington, Director of Music and Organist
Mr. Brandon Batson, Director of Communication and Program
Ms. Lydia Prather, Coordinator of Ministry for Children and Families
Mr. Robert Heckner, Administrative Assistant
Mr. David Lipe, Communications Associate
Mr. Tyler Weakland, Director of the Bell Choir
Ms. Amanda Smith, Director of the Parish Choir and Children's Choir
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Bauman, Senior Minister Emeritus
The Rev. Tyler Heston, Minister for Spiritual Formation & LGBTQIA+ Development
The Rev. Mickey Correa, Minister of Christ Church Washington Heights
The Rev. Dr. Eric Park, Senior Minister

The Mission of Christ Church

*We seek to love God above all things, and our neighbors
as ourselves.*

*Christ Church Is A Reconciling Congregation:
Open, Welcoming, And Affirming.*

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10065-8001 212 838 3036
