



*Held in the Hands of God...
Reaching our Hands out to others*

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 28, 2024
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Christ Episcopal Church
12 Prospect Street
Babylon, New York

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Year B

April 28, 2024

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Book of Common Prayer, page 323

[We ask that during the service you mute all electronic devices]

Prelude

Opening Hymn <i>In Christ there is no East or West</i>	Hymnal 529, v 1
Opening Acclamation	BCP p 323
Song of Praise <i>Christ our Passover</i>	BCP p 46
The Collect of the Day	BCP p 170

The Word of God

First Lesson Acts 8:26-40	<i>see next pages</i>
Psalm 22:24-30	
Second Lesson 1 st John 4:7-21	
The Holy Gospel John 15:1-8	

The Sermon	Mother Nesmith
Nicene Creed	BCP 326
Prayers of the People	
Response <i>Lord, hear our prayer</i>	
The Peace	

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn <i>Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life</i>	Hymnal 487
Offertory Response <i>All things come of thee, O Lord; and of thine own hath we given thee.</i>	
Eucharistic Prayer 2	BCP p 340
The Lord's Prayer	BCP p 336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP p 337
Post Communion Prayer	BCP p 339

The Blessing

Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

Recessional Hymn <i>In Christ there is no East or West</i>	Hymnal 529, v 2-3
Dismissal	BCP p 339
Postlude	

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Year B

April 28, 2024

10:00 a.m. Holy Communion, Rite II

Book of Common Prayer, page 355

Prelude

Processional Hymn *We Know that Christ is raised and dies no more* Hymnal 296

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia!

2 We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia!

3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God, the Three in One.
Alleluia!

4 A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing:
Alleluia!

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People *The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

The Song of Praise *Christ our Passover*

tune Crown him with many crowns

1. Alleluia! Our Lord
And Savior Jesus Christ
Is now our Passover indeed
And has been sacrificed;
So let us keep the feast
No more with enmity
But with the new unleavened bread
Of true sincerity.

2. Christ being raised from death
Will never die again,
For he has died to death and sin
And now death cannot reign;
The life that he now lives,

He lives to God on high,
So also you are dead to sin
Through Christ eternally.

3. The first fruits of the grave
Is Christ our living head,
For since by one came death, by one
Came new life from the dead;
For as in Adam all
Must die under the law,
So now shall all be made alive
In Christ. Alleluia!

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Acts 8:26-40

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 22:24-30

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Epistle A Reading from the First Letter of John

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

1st John 4:7-21

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Gradual *Christ the Lord is risen again*

Hymnal 184, v 1

1. Christ the Lord is risen again!
Christ hath broken every chain!
Now through all the world it rings
that the Lamb in King of kings.
Alleluia!

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, our Paschal lamb indeed,
Christ, today your people feed.
Alleluia!

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

John 15:1-8

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon

Mother Nesmith

The Prayers of the People

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Therefore I ask you, who praise the loving-kindness of almighty God, to join in prayer for all of God's people, and for all people everywhere according to their needs. That all may know the benefits of the paschal victory of Christ, we pray, saying: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Grant that your Church, constant in faith and love, may bring forth good fruit. Give unity to all her branches in the strength of Christ, the true vine ... Make her ministers wise in the teaching of Holy Scripture. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Lawrence, Geralyn, Daniel, and Bill, our bishops; Clare our Rector; and all ministers of the Gospel ... We pray also for the work of the Babylon Interfaith Clergy Cluster.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Enlighten all in the world who earnestly desire to find the truth, and lead them to those who can show them the way ... We pray for Joseph, our President; Kathy, our Governor; Rich, our Town Supervisor; Mary, our Mayor. We pray for the work of the United Nations and the leaders of the world. We pray for the people of Ukraine, of Russia, Israel, Palestine, and Gaza, and our own country. With your love, cast out the fear that destroys fullness of life.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Have mercy on those who are without security of living and have lost their sense of purpose ... Bring them back to the one sure source of life in Christ.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We celebrate with and give thanks for our Christ Church family, for [*insert special thanks*], for the birthdays of [*insert list*], and wedding anniversaries of [*insert list*]. We give thanks for all these blessings and for all who are blessings in our lives, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as He loves us.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Grant to all who suffer the knowledge of where true healing is to be found ... Heal the hurt and broken bodies, give peace to the troubled minds, restore hope to the grieved and anxious spirits ... We pray especially for *[insert list]* Lead all human sorrow through the pain of the dying Christ to the joy of his Resurrection.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for the departed, especially *[insert list]*, that their love may be made perfect in your presence ... Have pity on those whose lives on earth seem withered and fruitless, that they may find fullness of life at last.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Celebrant:

Hear our prayers on behalf of those for whom we pray, and give us peace in this time of our Paschal rejoicing, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen and eternal Lord. Amen.

The Peace

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

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Walk in Love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, and offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

During the offertory hymn, you are invited to bring your gifts, your alms and oblations, to the offering plate. For those who wish to give electronically, we have QR codes on the inside back cover of this leaflet, or you may go to christchurchbabylon.org, and click on the "GIVE" tab on our homepage. All gifts are gratefully received and help Christ Church sustain our ministry in the Babylon community.

Offertory Hymn *Alleluia, alleluia! Give that's to the living God*

Hymnal 178

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.

He is the King of creation.

Refrain

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

Jesus has died and has risen.

Refrain

We have been crucified with Christ.

Now we shall live for ever.

Refrain

Come, let us praise the living God,

Joyfully sing to our Saviour.

The priest prepares the altar for the celebration and offering of the Eucharist Feast

Offertory Response

Priest All things come from you, O Lord

People And of your own have we given back to you.

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer B)

BCP p.367

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S125

Presider and People

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 continue standing

Then the Presider continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Glorious and Ever-blessed Mary, Saints Francis and Clare and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p 364

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

People and Presider

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

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S167

Antiphon

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread. *1st time Cantor, Repeat All*

1. The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ. *Antiphon*

2. One body are we, alleluia,
for though many we share one bread. *Antiphon*

Invitation to Communion

Presider 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.

Communion

Communion Hymn *Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life*

Hymnal 487

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes his guest.

3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

Post-communion Prayer

Priest Let us pray.

Priest and People together

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Easter Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Announcements

Closing Hymn *In Christ there is no East or West*

Hymnal 529

1 In Christ there is no East or West,
in him no South or North,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

3 In Christ now meet both East and West,
in him meet South and North,
all Christly souls are one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, walking in the Way of Love. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Prayer List for Sunday, April 21, 2024

Let us offer prayers of healing, comfort and strength

Bill D., Bob C., Karen, Lydia, Phil B., Sandy, Sr. Joy, Ray & Betsy, Caleb, Vivienne, Evelynne, Ernie; Bob N., Thomas, Vera, Courtney, Joshua, Ken, Jason, Nick, Lisa, Carol, Dottie Z., Diane, Bob Z., Heather, Cacioppo Family, Val, Kaya, Nancy, Mary, Derrick, Sal, Terry, Jon & Felicia, Joseph. For the people of Israel, those who are being held as hostages, and the innocent Palestinians suffering in Gaza. We continue to pray for our parish as we work toward the best solution regarding our needed structural repair.

We pray for all who are struggling economically during this time, for those who are unemployed and under-employed, those searching for employment, those who are hungry and food insecure, and those who are homeless or fear eviction or foreclosure, those looking for housing.

Let us offer prayers of thanksgiving

We give thanks for and pray for all those involved in feeding ministries and homeless ministries, especially for our Nourish Babylon volunteers and all those who support the various feeding ministries in the Babylon area.

Let us celebrate with and pray for this week's birthdays

Patricia Williams(5/3), Kaileen Langstone (5/4), Madison Scharf (5/4),
Vera Langstone(5/5)

Let us celebrate with and pray for this week's anniversaries

Let us pray for those who have died

We remember all who have died as a result of gun violence and racial violence, and all who have died in the war in Ukraine and in Israel, Palestine, and Gaza.

Assisting Our Worship

	8:00a.m.	10:00a.m.
Eucharistic Minister:		Kathy Hannan
Lector:		
Servers:		Hannah Boning, Eden Verni-Vazzano
Greeter:		Vince Verni

Announcements

Status of Roof Repair

After meeting with us to discuss all questions and options, the senior construction manager of the diocese met with the bishop, and will now meet with the Trustees of the Diocese at their meeting on May 2, asking for their assistance in funding the final plans. When funding is secured for that, it will be approximately three months for the architect and structural engineer to complete detailed plans and drawings of the option that we discussed, then put it out for bids. At that point, we will know how much the actual construction will cost. When funding for that is secured, the three-month construction phase can begin.

Cookbook Night

Christ Church is putting together a church cookbook for everyone! We already received 3 recipes! Please send in your favorite recipes by May 15th. AND SAVE THE DATE!!! On June 14th we will have everyone make their recipe and bring to the church and have dinner at 6:30 pm.

National Day of Prayer – see separate flyer

The clergy of Babylon Interfaith Clergy Cluster will hold a service for the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2, at 6:00pm. All are invited to gather at the Gazebo across from the Argyle Falls.

World Labyrinth Day – Walk as ONE at 1 – see separate flyer

May 4, the first Saturday in May, is World Labyrinth Day. Please come walk the labyrinth and pray for world peace.

Remember! All the Sundays following Easter Day are also a part of Easter!

Next Sunday, May 5: Rogation Sunday, 8:00 & 10:00am services.
Bring garden tools, seeds, and seedlings to be blessed!

Friday, May 10: The Day of Ascension (transferred), 6:30 pm dinner church with potluck

Sunday, May 12: Mother's Day, 8:00 & 10:00am services.

The Easter season closes with...

The Day of Pentecost, Sunday, May 19: 9:00 am unified service

On this feast day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church!

The children in our Communion Instruction Class will be celebrated and receive certificates showing that they have completed the class.

Altar Flowers & Gifts

Gifts of flowers at the Altar, Sanctuary Lamp, Wine, Bread and Candles can be made each week in thanksgiving or celebration or in someone's honor or memory. Please see the binder at the Chapel entrance for additional details, or contact the office at 631-661-5757.

Digital Giving Options

Scan this QR code to
access our online giving site
through
Realm Giving:



Scan this QR code to learn
more about stewardship and
fill out an online pledge
card:



All Are Welcome

Christ Episcopal Church of Babylon represents and celebrates the diversity that is Long Island. We welcome everyone and believe that there should be no outcasts in the Episcopal Church. Our welcome knows no boundaries of marital status, age, race, ethnicity, cultural or religious background, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic condition, and physical or mental ability. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Episcopal Church.

This is God's House...

and we are blessed by the gift of your presence with us. In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please let the priest know by crossing your arms in front of your chest when you come forward. Gluten-free bread is available; please ask at the communion rail.

Handicapped Accessibility

Our building is equipped with a lift located in the Sanctuary Annex, and a handicapped bathroom located on the lower level. For full access of the building and to join us for Coffee Hour downstairs, please ask a Greeter for assistance.

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The 10:00 a.m. service is also livestreamed

Sunday School meets at 9:45am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays for Pre-K through 8th Grade.

Church Officers and Vestry

Kathy Hannan, Warden (2025)

Michelle Taormina, Treasurer

Martha Richardson, Clerk

John Altieri (2027)

Martha Richardson (2026)

Jackie Barnes (2025)

Michael DeBlasio (2027)

Michael Vazzano (2026)

Annette Lepsis (2025)

Blosome Whyte (2026)

Debbie Szala (2025)

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island

The Very Rev. E. Clare Nesmith, Rector

Dr. Christopher Hopkins, Minister of Music

Marie Rivera, Parish Administrator

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
and by appointment

Christ Episcopal Church

12 Prospect Street, Babylon, NY 11702

631-661-5757 christepiscopalbabylon@gmail.com

www.christchurchbabylon.org

Find us on Facebook: Christ Church, Babylon, NY