

# The Fourth Sunday in Lent



March 30, 2025



*Today's hymns are found in the Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS) hymnal and the Hymnal 1982 in the pew. Hymnal numbers that begin with the letter "S" are found in the "Service Music" section in the front of the Hymnal 1982. Most prayers come from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the small red book in the pew.*

## HOLY EUCHARIST

### RITE II

#### **VOLUNTARY**

Ciacona in E Minor, BuxWV 160

Dietrich Buxtehude

*All stand as able.*

#### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

O bless the Lord, my soul

*Hymnal 411*  
ST. THOMAS (WILLIAMS)

#### **WELCOME**

#### **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Enriching Our Worship*

*Celebrant* Blessed be the God of our salvation:

*People* **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

#### **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*BCP 355*

*Celebrant* 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.

*All* **Amen.**

#### **KYRIE ELEISON**

*BCP 356*

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy.

*People* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy.

#### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Steven Shakespeare  
*Prayers for an Inclusive Church*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Undignified God, spirit of dangerous feasts, inviting the unclean to your table: find us in the far country of hopelessness and greed; free us from the prison of resentment and envy and bring us back to life; through Jesus Christ, the friend of sinners.

*All* **Amen.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The People sit.*

## FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9-12

*Lector* A reading from Joshua.

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*read responsively by half verse*

Psalm 32

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
**and whose sin is put away!**
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \*  
**and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
**because of my groaning all day long.**
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
**my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
**and did not conceal my guilt.**
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \*  
**Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*  
**when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \*  
**you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
**I will guide you with my eye.**
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
**who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
**but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \*  
**shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

## SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

*Lector* A reading from Second Corinthians.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand as able.*

## SEQUENCE HYMN

Deep River

*LEVAS* 8  
Spiritual

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So Jesus told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’”

“So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’

“Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The People sit.*

## **SERMON**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*At the invitation of the Celebrant, all stand as able.*

## **NICENE CREED**

*BCP 358*

*Celebrant* Let us affirm the faith of the Church, saying the Nicene Creed.

*All* **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

BCP 389, *adapted*

*Reader* In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy”.

For the holy church of God, that it may be filled with truth, courage, and love, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel in word and action; especially, in the diocesan cycle of prayer, for Grace Church, Southgate; and Church of the Resurrection, Clarkston; we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* For the peace of the world of this country, that safety, respect, courage, and forbearance may prevail, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* For those in positions of public trust, that they may practice mercy, uphold justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* For the earth, that we may treat it with reverence, and care for its bounty and beauty, we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* For all who live and work in this community, especially those celebrating birthdays this week, including *Cathy Berlage, Joanne Clark, Gwen Ald, Cassandra Pettiford-Landsberg, Richard Esse, Christian Warner, Ari M., Lurdes Arambula, Evan Benbow, Bill Fleming*, and those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

We pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* For the sick, the persecuted, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected. We pray especially for:

*Larry Abdullah, Pat Ald, Amy, Alice Bell, Phil Brown, Phil Campbell, Miriam Costandi, Fred DeHaven, Jane Dieter, Chuck Dyer, Mimi Dyer, Mary Herring, Guy Jackson, Nan Keils, Tom Nihem, Shabin, Sue Webb-Dickson, Sandy Zull*, and those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

We pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal. We pray especially for Jan Weir (March 22<sup>nd</sup>), Paul Dieter, father of David (March 23<sup>rd</sup>), Bob Brown (March 25<sup>th</sup>) and for those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

We pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Reader* Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*All* **To you, O Lord our God.**

*Celebrant* Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*BCP 360*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*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.**

*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.

*All* **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

*The People share signs of Christ's peace, and then are seated.*

## **GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vestry Representative



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP 376

*Celebrant* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God.

*The Ushers collect offerings, as the music begins and the Celebrant sets the altar.*

*Please make your offering by placing cash or a check into the offering plate, online at [christcd.org/online-giving](http://christcd.org/online-giving),  
by texting "CCDGIVE" to 73256, or by pointing your phone's camera at this QR code.*

*Thank you for your generosity!*



## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Turn Thy Face from My Sins

Thomas Attwood

Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.  
Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy spirit from me.

— *Psalm 51:9-11*

*All stand as able. The ushers bring the offerings to the altar.*

## PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

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

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 1

*Enriching Our Worship*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with angels and archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

**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. Then the Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

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

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering now his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

*All*            **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say  
*All* **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.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## FRACTION ANTHEM *All sing*

*Hymnal S-161  
David Hurd*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

*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.

*All are invited to receive the Sacrament in both kinds. Gluten-free wafers are available by request.*

*The Sacrament is administered with the following or other words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

*There are three ways to receive the wine, if desired. At the high altar, please either sip from the first chalice or dip (intinct) your bread into the second, shallow chalice. At the transept, please take a single cup of wine (light-colored) or juice (dark purple) and place your empty cup on the nearby table.*

*Communion is full in one kind alone; that is, wine or juice are optional.*

*If you desire not communion but a blessing instead, please come to the high altar, cross your arms over your chest, and our priest will be honored to pronounce God's blessing upon you.*

## COMMUNION ANTHEM

Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love

Ned Rorem

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love, who, from yon bright throne above,  
ever watchful o'er our race, still to man extends his grace.

Heaven and earth by him were made, all is by his scepter swayed;  
what are we that he should show so much love to us below?

God, the merciful and good, bought us with the Savior's blood,  
and, to make our safety sure, guides us by his spirit pure.

Sing, my soul, adore his name; let his glory be thy theme:  
praise him till he calls thee home, trust his love for all to come.

— *Anonymous, c. 1800; The Hymnal 1982, 467*

## COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*when needed*

*Celebrant* In the name of God and this church, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*All* **We, who are many, are one Body, because we all share one Bread, one Cup.**

*Our clergy and Lay Eucharistic Visitors are available to bring communion to you or someone you know.*

*To schedule, please contact them or the parish office: 313-259-6688, [officestaff@christcd.org](mailto:officestaff@christcd.org).*

*All stand.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP 365

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* **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.**

## BLESSING

*Enriching Our Worship*

*Celebrant* Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road, and may God's blessing be with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

*Hymnal 690*  
CWM RHONDDA

## DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## VOLUNTARY

Toccata in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel

### SUSTAINING PRAYER LIST

Please continue to pray for these persons:

*Genet Barthwell, Christopher Beck, Stacey Becker, Ed Beverly, Dorothy Coleman, Margie Deeb,  
Susan K. Devereaux, Michelene Dib, Chris Ebling, Judy Fallon, Debbie Faust, Christine Franklin,  
Elisha Gerow, Sally Granger, Ronald Griffin, Richard Householder, Patricia Jones, Lauren Keils, Kelly,  
Eve Laurer, Madelyn Lenhard Laurer, Ruth Leney-Midkiff, Julia Lenhard, Edna Lock,  
Arnold Matthews, Ruby Mays, Thelma McCrary, Jane McFeely, Becky Moses Normore, Linda Olivache,  
Pat, Randy, Lori Riggen, Parker Roberts, Irene Ryke, Mimi Van Scoter, Bob Vitolins,  
John & Donna Wetzel*

# THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Deep River Continues:** The final session this 7<sup>th</sup> season of *Deep River: An Exploration of Spirituals*, a Lenten series highlighting African-American sacred music, will be this Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, featuring members of the Christ Church Choir, Christ Church Bell Choir, and the Community Chorus of Detroit. Enjoy a simple supper at 6:00 p.m. in Ledyard Hall.

**Simple Suppers:** It would be positively “SOUPER” if you could help out with the simple supper that will be served before Deep River this Wednesday. We can only offer this hospitality with the help of volunteers. Sign up in the Atrium or with [bethann@christcd.org](mailto:bethann@christcd.org)!

**Easter Music & Flower Dedications:** Easter is around the corner! Contributing to Easter music & flowers is a very meaningful way to honor family and friends, and to make our shared festivities all the more beautiful. Suggested donation is \$25-\$50. All dedications need to be received by Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to be included in the bulletin for Easter Sunday. How to make a dedication & donation?

- Fill out a dedication card in the sanctuary and place it & your labeled donation (use the memo line in a check) in the offering plate or drop it in the offering box
- Or fill out an online form at the QR code in the Atrium and pay at [christcd.org/online-giving](http://christcd.org/online-giving)

**Inquirers’ Course, Thursdays through April 10<sup>th</sup>:** The spring Inquirers’ Course is underway, and new members or visitors are welcome to join future classes! In these sessions, we explore the people, prayers, and processes of the Episcopal Church and of Christ Church Detroit specifically. Each session has an independent topic, so it’s easy to drop in. The class meets on Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

- April 3: Where We Are: Building Tour & Instructed Eucharist (in-person only; no Zoom link)
- April 10: Who We Are: Spiritual Gifts & Ministries (Zoom or in-person)

Contact Rev. Emily or Paul Abdullah for more info: [emily@christcd.org](mailto:emily@christcd.org), [abdullah.paul@gmail.com](mailto:abdullah.paul@gmail.com)

**Sanctuary Tour & Instructed Eucharist:** This Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7:00-9:00 p.m., the Inquirers’ class will take a tour of the church buildings and will celebrate an Instructed (narrated) Eucharist. This evening is **open to all** members, visitors, and friends who are curious to learn more. Please come!

**Confirmation & Reception:** If you might be interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church when Bishop Bonnie Perry visits on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, please contact Rev. Emily by Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, to start the conversation. Bishop Perry makes an official visit once every three years, so this is an exciting occasion! For example, if you have completed the Inquirers’ Course or confirmation classes in previous years but wanted to wait until Bishop Perry visited Christ Church, now may be your moment! Talk to Rev. Emily today or reach out at [emily@christcd.org](mailto:emily@christcd.org).

**Baptism Opportunities:** Are you or someone you know interested in baptism? The next opportunities for baptism are on Sundays throughout the Easter season, from Easter Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> through Pentecost Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Following that, the next traditional opportunity is on All Saints’ Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Preparation involves a few classes/conversations. Contact Rev. Emily!

**Ashes to Ashes:** Join Rev. Emily for a series of practical, prayerful conversations about end-of-life planning and preparations continuing on Fridays, April 4<sup>th</sup> & April 11<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. at church, with tea and cookies served! These sessions will focus on healthcare decision-making, estate planning, and getting affairs in order. Contact [emily@christcd.org](mailto:emily@christcd.org) with questions.

**Columbarium Fee Increase:** The columbarium in the original baptistery on the west side of the sanctuary is the final resting place for many of our beloved family and friends, lovingly visited and resplendent with evening sunlight through the historic stained glass. As costs to maintain our buildings rise, so, too, will the fee to secure a columbarium niche need to increase. (The first and only fee increase was twenty years ago.) As of May 1, 2025, the fee to secure a niche will increase from \$1,500 to \$2,000, which helps to offset facilities and materials costs. If you are interested in securing a niche for yourself or loved ones, please contact Joshilyn (313-259-6688, [joshilyn@christcd.org](mailto:joshilyn@christcd.org)) or Rev. Emily, who can provide more information. The current season of Lent and the “Ashes to Ashes” course offer helpful settings to consider and prepare for end-of-life decisions.

**Turning the Tables:** This Lent, we’re invited to read and discuss a brand-new devotional by Kathy Escobar called *Turning the Tables: A Lenten Call for Disrupting Power*, which explores ways that Jesus challenges systems of injustice and how Christians are called to do so, too. It is a small, mighty book that is helpful for individual study and/or group conversation. The book is readily available at various booksellers. On Sundays through April 13<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Emily is facilitating informal conversations about the material from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in Sibley House.

**Lent Madness:** On the weekdays of Lent, information is posted at [lentmadness.org](http://lentmadness.org) about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. Check out the bracket posted near Ledyard Hall, and pick up your own bracket and Sainly Scorecard, which includes biographies of the saints.

**Languages:** Are you fluent in other languages? We are welcoming more people to Christ Church for whom English is a second or even third language. We would love to connect better, and having someone who can translate (without Google!) would be wonderful. If you are conversational in Spanish, Farsi, or other languages, please let Rev. Emily ([emily@christcd.org](mailto:emily@christcd.org)) or the Office ([officestaff@christcd.org](mailto:officestaff@christcd.org)) know, so that we can have a roster of folks available.

**Recovery Group Opportunities:** We are pleased to host Overeaters Anonymous (OA) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in Sibley House, joining Joys of Recovery (AA) and Gamblers Anonymous (GA), which meet on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., respectively. Meetings are open to all, and we welcome any recovery group to meet at Christ Church. Contact the office for more information.

**Weekly Gatherings:** Did you know that there are several ways during the week to gather? Check the eNews or with the office ([officestaff@christcd.org](mailto:officestaff@christcd.org), 313-259-6688) for the latest information.

- Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. in Cary Lounge: *Preparing for Sundays: Exploring Sunday’s Readings*
- Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. on Zoom (dates vary!): *Creation Continues: Visual Arts*
- Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. on Zoom: *Centering Prayer*

**VOCES8 in Concert, April 6<sup>th</sup>:** Hear Grammy-nominated British vocal ensemble VOCES8 perform here at Christ Church Detroit on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. VOCES8 inspires people through music and shares the joy of singing. Touring globally, the group performs an extensive repertoire. Versatility and a celebration of diverse musical expression are central to the ensemble’s performance and education ethos. Tickets are selling quickly—buy yours soon at [https://bit.ly/ccd\\_voces8!](https://bit.ly/ccd_voces8)

**VOCES8 Box Office Assistants Needed:** For the April 6<sup>th</sup> concert, we are looking for 2 Box Office Assistants. You must be comfortable handling cash and taking credit cards with Square. Beth Ann will show you how, but you need to have a smartphone and be able to download the Square app. Let Joshilyn (313-259-6688, [joshilyn@christcd.org](mailto:joshilyn@christcd.org)) know if you are interested.

**A Debut Concert, April 12<sup>th</sup>:** Choir member Mike Rowan has started a new choral venture called Crossroads! It is a group of 16 professional singers from metro Detroit, exploring the meaningful, whimsical, and unexpected ways in which we're connected. "Crossroads" illuminates common threads through a dynamic range of music spanning centuries, continents, and styles from the Renaissance to Sara Bareilles. With collaborative direction, their musical journeys take us through the heart of our own community as they feature original compositions from multiple members of the ensemble, including the world premiere of Quinn Vincent's *The Road Not Taken*. The debut concert will take place on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at Christ Church Detroit. The event is free. RSVPs are requested and more information is available on Facebook and Eventbrite.

**Staff Schedules:** Beth Ann is out of the office today through April 5<sup>th</sup>. For assistance in her absence, please contact Joshilyn ([joshilyn@christcd.org](mailto:joshilyn@christcd.org)) or Rev. Emily ([emily@christcd.org](mailto:emily@christcd.org)) or call the church office a 313-259-6688.

## ABOUT THE LITURGICAL ARTS

The woodcut art on the cover is called *Welcoming the Prodigal* by the Rev. Cara B. Hochhalter, an artist, activist, and United Church of Christ (UCC) minister. It is the fourth image in a five-part series depicting the Prodigal Son story. About this image, Hochhalter writes, "When the son returns, there is the desire to celebrate with neighbors and friends. This joyful scene is not often portrayed in art. It is one of exorbitant hospitality and welcome. It is an outpouring of forgiveness and acceptance through a declaration to the neighborhood, without shame! ... There are some details in the parable that you might see in the image: the signet ring, the best robe, the baskets of food, a woman with a tambourine, and the barren tree now shimmering in full leaf. If you look carefully, you can see the elder son coming over the hill from the field." *Welcoming the Prodigal* is reprinted here with permission under the Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License of Vanderbilt University.

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## ASSISTING IN TODAY'S LITURGY

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<i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</i>	The Rev. Emily Williams Guffey, <i>Rector</i>
<i>Musicians</i>	Dr. Edward Maki-Schramm, <i>Director of Music &amp; Organist</i> The Christ Church Detroit Choir
<i>Lector</i>	8:15 Michelle Wilbert, 10:30 Awo Quaison-Sackey
<i>Lay Eucharistic Ministers</i>	8:15 Michelle Wilbert 10:30 Jim Treece, Anthony Mitchell, Edwina Simpson, Hope Hoffman
<i>Livestream Team</i>	Caleb Barger, Taylor Matthew
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Bobbi Gaspar
<i>Floral Iconographer</i>	Richard Thomas
<i>Breakfast</i>	Edwina Simpson, Hope Hoffman
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Kathryn Lincoln, Mary Herring
<i>Sunday School</i>	Chad Hampton, <i>Youth &amp; Family Ministry Coordinator</i> Ari Medvinsky, <i>Children's Assistant</i>
<i>Host</i>	Gabrielle Pizzino