



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

SEEK SERVE SHARE

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Year C

October 26, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Celebrant
Deacon
Family Minister
Seminarians
Music

The Rev. Alyssa Stebbing
The Rev. Vicki Knipp
Lyssa Williford, Director
Christina Allen and Casey Clough
Ann Vail, Director of Music
Michael Davis, Piano
John Cotten, Guitar
St. Christopher's Choir

Visitors

Welcome! We are so blessed you've joined us for worship today. Please connect by text, email, phone. **Childcare** is available for Formation and Worship.

Restrooms

Church: near the Nursery. Parish Hall: to the right as you enter.

Fellowship

Follow the crowd after the service for conversation and treats.

wifi network | St. Christopher

wifi password | StChristophers8724

Prayer Requests Please complete a prayer card and drop it in the offering plate, or contact our office by phone, email, or on our website.



The Connection enewsletter

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact the office or scan the QR code with your phone.

Ways to support the ministry of St. Christopher's

Support the life and ministry of St. Christopher's. Contact the office for more information.

St. Christopher's clergy and staff will never ask for an urgent favor, purchase of gift cards, or other financial items, or your personal info via email or text. Please delete these without responding.



In Person



Automatic Giving



Online Banking



Online



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Text

Please remember to enter **pledge** on the memo line and choose **Operating Pledge** online.

Worship Schedule

Acolyte
Carol

Epistoler
Tilly

Flowers
Cathy

Nursery
Athena

Youth
Taylor

Altar Guild
Cathy/Mary Lois

Eucharistic Minister
Carol

Godly Play
Lyssa and Kathy

Ushers
Linda and Steve

Bell Ringer
Gabbi

Fellowship
Ministry Fair

Lector
Joyce

Vestry of the Day
Joe and Michael

Sunday | 9a Nursery | 9a Adult Form. | 10a Children's Form. | 10a Holy Eucharist, Rite II | 11a Fellowship

Monday | 9a Morning Prayer **Wednesday** | noon House of Prayer **Friday** | 7p Online Compline

Office | Mon-Thu: 9:30am – 2:30pm | 512.288.0128 | office@stchrisatx.org

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 25

As the Prelude begins we invite you to you to finish conversations and find a place in the nave to prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

Michael Davis, piano

WELCOME

(Please kneel as you are able)

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

(Please stand as you are able and join in singing.)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 506

Praise the Spirit

1 Praise the Spirit in creation,
breath of God, life's origin:
Spirit, moving on the waters,
quickenning worlds to life within,
source of breath to all things breathing,
life in whom all lives begin.

2 Praise the Spirit, close companion
of our inmost thoughts and ways;
who, in showing us God's wonders,
is himself the power to gaze;
and God's will, to those who listen
by a still small voice conveys.

3 Praise the Spirit, who enlightened
priests and prophets with the word;
his the truth behind the wisdoms
which as yet know not our Lord;
by whose love and power, in Jesus
God himself was seen and heard.

6 Praise, O praise the Holy Spirit,
praise the Father, praise the Word,
Source, and Truth, and Inspiration,
Trinity in deep accord:
through your voice which speaks within us
we, your creatures, call you Lord.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING SENTENCES

BCP, p. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, p. 355

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

During the singing of the Gloria the children will follow the cross and return at the Peace

GLORIA

Hymnal 1982, # S280

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.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray

COLLECT FOR THE PROPER 25

BCP, p. 235

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

(Please be seated for the lessons)

THE FIRST LESSON:

Sirach 35:12-17

A reading from the book of Sirach.

Give to the Most High as he has given to you,
and as generously as you can afford.

For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it
and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice;

for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.

He will not show partiality to the poor;
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.

He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan,
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

RESPONSE

Psalm 84:1-6

The psalm appointed for today is from Psalm 84, please read responsively by whole verse.

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!" *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 **The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my Sovereign and my God.**
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 **Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 **They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will appear in Zion.**

EPISTLE:

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy.

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able and join in singing.)

SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 552

Fight the Good Fight

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might,
Christ is thy strength and
Christ thy right;
lay hold on life, and it shall be
thy joy and crown eternally.

2 Run the straight race through
God's good grace,
lift up thine eyes and seek his face;
life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path and Christ the prize.

GOSPEL:

Luke 18:9-14

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ

SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 552

Fight the Good Fight

3 Cast care aside, lean on thy Guide;
his boundless mercy will provide;
trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life and Christ its love.

4 Faint not nor fear, his arms are near;
he changeth not, and thou art dear;
only believe, and thou shalt see
that Christ is all in all to thee.

(Please be seated for the sermon.)

SERMON

The Rev Alyssa Stebbing

(Please stand as you are able)

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 358

The Deacon says,

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection, let us proclaim our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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.

(Please kneel or stand as you are able)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon

God of Justice, hear us, make your presence known to us, and respond to us as we say, Lord
in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The Leader and People pray responsively

Show us how to be the body of Christ today, that your Good News might enter every
human heart.

We pray for the whole Anglican Communion.

We pray for our church, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Andy, Kai, Jeff, Brian, and
Hector our bishops, and for our whole diocese.

We pray for our parish, for Alyssa our priest; Vicki our deacon, Lyssa, our family minister,
our leaders, and ministers.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Be in the eyes and ears and on the lips of our civil leaders, that they might lead through
serving the welfare of all and help us to hold our leaders ac- countable to the needs of the
whole nation.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Open our hearts and our hands to our neighbor's needs, that they might encounter Christ
through us.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bring peace with justice where there is conflict, bring freedom where there is oppression, and bring restoration to lands ravaged by greed, that your creation might be renewed and your purpose for us fulfilled.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Be with those who suffer. Be their strength and their firm foundation throughout their struggles.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Welcome all who have died, that they might continue towards the bright future of your heavenly kingdom.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Silence

The Deacon concludes with Intercessions

Celebrant

Loving God, you have showed us how to love you by loving others more than we love ourselves. Hear our prayers and answer us as may be best for us and to your glory. All this we ask through Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God. **Amen.**

Deacon

Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP, p. 352

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

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

(Please be seated for the announcements)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSING

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP, p. 376

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Hymnal 1982, # 517

How Lovely is Thy Dwelling-Place

1 How lovely is thy dwelling-place,
O Lord of hosts, to me!
My thirsty soul desires and longs
within thy courts to be;
my very heart and flesh cry out,
O living God, for thee.

2 Beside thine altars, gracious Lord,
the swallows find a nest;
how happy they who dwell with thee
and praise thee without rest,
and happy they whose hearts are set
upon the pilgrim's quest.

3 They who go through the desert vale
will find it filled with springs,
and they shall climb from height to height
till Zion's temple rings
with praise to thee, in glory throned,
Lord God, great King of kings.

4 One day within thy courts excels
a thousand spent away;
how happy they who keep thy laws
nor from thy precepts stray,
for thou shalt surely bless all those
who live they words they pray

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 1982, # 380

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERING PLATES

God, our Creator, may these gifts honor the work you have given us to do here in this place. May we bless, break, and share these gifts of time, talent, and treasure with our neighbors, sharing our Good News with the world. **Amen.**

(Please remain standing.)

SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you.

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, but chiefly are we 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:

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

SANCTUS

Hymnal 1982, # S130

**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 Celebrant continues

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People say together.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 364

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal 1982, # S 164

Jesus, Lamb of God:
Have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace.

Jesus, bearer of our sins:
Have mercy on us.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

INVITATION

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.

Please follow the guidance of the ushers to approach the altar to receive communion. Gluten free wafers are available. If you would prefer you may receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Please ask an usher if you need communion brought to you.

(Please sit or kneel as you prefer after receiving Holy Communion)

Communion Hymn

Hymnal 1982, # 615

Thy Kingdom Come

1 “Thy kingdom come!” on bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom’s day.

2 But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.

5 when knowledge,
hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad;
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.

Communion Hymn

Wonder, Love and Praise, # 819

Guide My Feet Lord

1 Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race,
’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.

2 Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.

3 Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.
’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.

Communion Praise Song

In Moments Like These

David Graham

In moments like these, I sing out a song,
I sing out a love song to Jesus.
In moments like these, I lift up my hands,
I lift my hands to the Lord.
Singing, I love you, Lord,
Singing, I love you, Lord,
Singing, I love you, Lord. I love you.

En momentos como así, levanto mi voz
levanto mi canto a Cristo
En momentos así, levanto mi ser,
Levanto mi alma a El.
Cuanto te amo Dios
Cuanto te amo Dios
Cuanto te amo Dios, te amo

(Please kneel or stand as you are able)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP, p. 366

Let us pray.

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

(Please stand as you are able and join in singing)

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 637

How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foundation,
ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith
in his excellent word!
What more can he say
than to you he hath said,
to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 “Fear not, I am with thee;
O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God,
and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen thee,
help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 “When through the deep waters
I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee,
thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

5 “The soul that to Jesus
hath fled for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell
shall endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia

POSTLUDE

Michael Davis, piano

Thank you for joining us in worship today.

*Please know that your participation
with us has been a blessing.*

Large print bulletins are available in the narthex.

Digital bulletins are on the home page stchristophersaustin.org

Prayers of the People are from Hear Our Prayer, Church Pub Inc. Kindle

Psalm is from Psalter for the Christian People, Liturgical Press. Kindle

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Cover Artwork: The Parable of The Pharisee & The Tax Collector by Rebecca Brogan

PRAYER REQUESTS

Your help is needed in keeping our Prayer List current. Please send any updates for the Prayer List to the office at office@stchristophersaustin.org

Prayers for Healing, Comfort, and Peace: Sally, Mike, Elizabeth, Bob, George, Finn, Hailey, Judy, Ian, Elena, Paula, Bobby, Mary, Caroline, Alison, Ward, Mary, MJ, Erin, Robert, Pam, Joe, Hank, Cheryl, Ray, Michael, Nick, Samuel, Wendy, Nicholas, Jean, Nate, Rachel, Khloe, Emily, Jorge, Julie

Prayers for God's Protection: Kenyon, Daniel, Cale, Joshua, Joyce

Prayers for New Birth: Esme, Parker

Prayers for New US Citizen: Karen

Prayers for Expectant Mothers: Pam

Prayers for the Departed: Fraser

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Check out the Connection for more information.*

Ministry Fair | TODAY

Come and discover how your gifts—of time, talent, and treasure—can help “tell out” the story of God’s love in our community and beyond. Explore ministry tables, meet leaders, and find new ways to connect, serve, and grow. Whether you are new to our parish or a longtime member, there is a place for your unique gifts. Let us “tell out” what God has done and is doing among us.

Stewardship | Ingathering, Sun, Nov 23

Remaining materials have been mailed. We invite you to spend some time in prayerful discernment about your giving for the coming year. Your generous gifts sustain our worship, outreach, formation, and fellowship—helping us to be Christ’s hands and heart in our community. You are invited to place a gold star around Mary when you have completed your pledge and add your story to our book of stories.

All Saints’ Memorial List and Altar (Ofrenda) | Sun, Nov 2

We will celebrate All Saints Sunday on November 2. During the worship service, lost loved ones will be remembered and recognized and there will be an ofrenda (altar of repose) in the narthex. All members and friends of St. Christopher's who have lost a loved one are encouraged share their name and bring a picture or item for the altar.

Meander Through the Bible | Wed, Oct 29, 5:30p

Sessions begin with a quick potluck supper then lessons at 6:00pm.

From Altar to Table | Oct 30, Nov 6 @ 2-3p

The "From Altar to Table" spiritual direction group bridges Sunday worship with daily life. The aim is to explore and share traditions that reflect God's presence in our everyday life and interactions. The group will invite the sacredness of The Altar and the communal nature of a table. Contact the office if you wish to participate.

Community Meal and Fellowship | Thu, Nov 6, 3-5:30p

The Outreach Committee will be providing a meal and fellowship to food insecure folks in our area on the first Thursday of the month in our Parish Hall. Please join us in putting our faith into action. Contact Cathy (512.431.3383) or the office for more information.

O Lord, do you
have any idea
how lucky you
are to have me
on your team?



I'm So Sorry.

