



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

SEEK SERVE SHARE

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Year A

February 1, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

Celebrant	The Right Rev. Kathryn Ryan
Rector	The Rev. Alyssa Stebbing
Deacon	The Rev. Vicki Knipp
Family Minister	Lyssa Williford, Director
Verger	Scott Cummings
Seminarians	Christina Allen and Casey Clough
Music	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



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Text

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

Large print bulletins are available in the narthex.

Digital bulletins are on the home page stchristophersaustin.org

Worship Schedule (see also Connection)

Acolyte

Christian

Altar Guild

Ann and Karen

Bell Ringer

Gabbi

Epistoler

Christian

Eucharistic Minister

Cathy K

Fellowship

Daughters of the King

Flowers

Ann

Godly Play

Lyssa and Linda

Lector

Cathy C

Nursery

Athena

Ushers

Estella and Beau

Vestry of the Day

tba

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

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

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

(Please kneel as you are able)

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph o'er the shades of night:
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Hymnal 1982, # 7

3 Visit then this soul of mine!
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
Fill me, radiancy divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, p. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his 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

1 Glo - ry is to our God King
2 He Glo - ry praise to His God name,
Glo - ry sus to God Lord in the High wor - ship est
Je - sus is And we wor - ship est
Him _____ 3 Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia
Al - le - lu - ia A - MEN A - MEN

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY BCP, p. 215

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; 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 readings)

FIRST LESSON:

A reading from the Prophet Micah.

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the Lord has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

Micah 6:1-8

“O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSE

Psalm 15

The response is from Psalm 15, please read responsively by whole verse.

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, *
who speak the truth from their heart.

3 There is no guile upon their tongue;
they do no evil to their friend; *
they do not heap contempt upon their neighbor.

4 In their sight the wicked are rejected, *
but they honor those who fear the LORD.

5 They have sworn to do no wrong *
and do not take back their word.

6 They do not give their money in hope of gain,*
nor do they take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Those who do these things *
shall never be overthrown.

EPISTLE:

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN

1 Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs,
their soul is Christ's abode.

2 The Lord, who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us,
our pattern and our King;

Hymnal 1982, # 656

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ

SEQUENCE HYMN

3 He to the lowly soul
will still himself impart
and for his dwelling and his throne
will choose the pure in heart.

(Please be seated for the sermon.)

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able)

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,

Hymnal 1982, # 656

4 Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be;
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple fit for thee.

The Right Reverend Kathryn Ryan

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 continue standing as you are able)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon

God of blessings hear our prayers and act swiftly to answer them as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The Leader and People pray responsively

Embolden your church, that it may fearlessly accept its mission to bring light and love into the world without judgement.

We pray for the whole Anglican Communion, and for Sally, Archbishop of Canterbury.

We pray for our own church, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Andy, Kai, Jeff, Brian, and Hector our bishops, for St. Christopher's, Austin, St. David's, Austin, St. George's, Austin, and for our whole diocese.

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

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Keep the needs of the most vulnerable foremost in the minds and in the intentions of our elected leaders and public servants, that the dignity of all may be preserved and the welfare of our whole nation increased.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Help us to ground our choices in our concern for those most impacted by climate change and in the need to preserve the abundance of creation for future generations.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Shower your blessing on this congregation that they might know and feel your presence in their lives and act in the confidence of your love for the good of all.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bring wholeness and peace to all who suffer, free them from their afflictions and instill in them the hope of Christ.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Welcome in your embrace all those who have died and so guide our lives that we may confidently look forward to our reunion with them and you.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Silence

The Deacon concludes with Intercessions

Celebrant

God of true wisdom who through Christ has given us the model of human life, so inspire us that we might live always in the joy of our salvation and greet with joy the day of your coming. **Amen**

Deacon

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

(Please continue kneeling or kneel as you are able)

CONFESSiON OF SIN

BCP, p. 360

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

The Celebrant stands and says

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.

(Please stand as you are able)

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

It is customary for the undesignated offering to be directed to the bishop's discretionary fund.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

David Haas

1 Blest are they, the poor in Spirit
Theirs is the kingdom of God
Blest are they, full of sorrow
They shall be consoled

Refrain

Rejoice and be glad
Blessed are you, holy are you
Rejoice and be glad
Yours is the kingdom of God

2 Blest are they, the lowly ones
They shall inherit the Earth
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst
They shall have their fill
Refrain

3 Blest are they, who show mercy
Mercy shall be theirs
Blest are they, the pure of heart
They shall see God
Refrain

4 Blest are they, who seek peace
They are the children of God
Blest are they who suffer in faith
The glory of God is theirs
Refrain

5 Blest are you, who suffer hate
All because of me
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom
Shine for all to see
Refrain

(Please stand as you are able)

DOXOLOGY

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

Hymnal 1982, # 380

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

GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP, p. 361

(Please remain standing.)

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 him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, ...

The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface

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 1982, # S 130

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est

(Please remain standing or kneel as you are able)

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: ...

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, ...

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,

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal 1982, # S164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

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 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

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
his life laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.

Hymnal 1982, # 304

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
That love that made us makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.

Communion Hymn

1 Let us break bread together
on our knees;
When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together
on our knees;
When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh Lord, have mercy on me.

Communion Praise Song

1 Jesus, name above all names
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord
Emmanuel, God is with us
Blessed Redeemer, living Word

2 Jesus, loving Shepherd
Vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world

Communion Praise Song

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.

(Please kneel or stand as you are able)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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

Lift Every Voice, #152

3 Let us praise God together
on our knees;
When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh Lord, have mercy on me.

Naida Hearn

3 Praise him, Lord above all lords
King above all kings, God's only Son
The Prince of Peace, who by his Spirit
Comes to live in us, Master and Friend

David Graham

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

BCP, p. 365

(Please stand or continue standing and join in singing)

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be alway blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Hymnal 1982, # 657

3 Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise. Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

*Thank you for joining us in worship today.
Please know that your participation
with us has been a blessing.*

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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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, Cheryl, Ray, Michael, Nick, Samuel, Nicholas, Jean, Nate, Emily, Julie, Shannon, Winn, Diana, June, Linda, Beth, Randa

Prayers for those in Service to Our Country: Kenyon, Daniel, Cale, Joshua, Joyce

Prayers for Expectant Mothers: Pam

ANNOUNCEMENTS See the Connection or scan the QR.

Family Movie Night | Fri, Feb 6, 6-8p

Join us for movie night. Popcorn will be available. Bring snacks or dinner. Comfy attire and blankets are welcome.

Wintom Chan Celebration of Life | Sat, Feb 7 @ 2p

Please join us in supporting the Tufton family, especially Annie, with your prayers and presence as we gather to celebrate her father's life. They invite you to wear red in honor of the upcoming Chinese New Year

Annual Parish Meeting | Sun, Feb 8

We hope everyone will be with us as we hear about the state of St Christopher's and about our plans for 2026.

Migration with Dignity Prayer Vigil | Wed, Feb 11 @ 6:30

Interfaith prayer vigil for refugees, asylum seekers, and other immigrants at St. David's (301 E 8th). Meal available @ 5:30 for \$10 donation. Parking is free (entrance on Trinity).

Lent Retreat | Sat, Feb 14, 9a-1p

A creative exploration of the Psalms.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper | Feb 17 @ 5:30p

It's that time of year again as we prepare for Lent.

Ash Wednesday Services | Feb 18, noon and 7p

We will have two services and hope you can begin this most holy season with us.

Vestry Retreat | Feb 21, 9a-3p

Fr. Gerry Sevick will facilitate a formation retreat for the vestry. We will meet at the Seminary of the Southwest library. Lunch will be provided so please let Rev Alyssa know of any dietary requirements.

Lenten Series: Poets and Provocateurs | Feb 25 - Mar 25, 5:30 - 7p

We will be reading Psalms and some Prophets in the context of our Lenten observance. Led by Steve Bishop.

Diocesan Council | Feb 27 - 28

Please pray for our delegates, Colleen Horner, Matt Davila, Michael Welch, and Renee Sinicki, and our clergy, Rev Alyssa, and Deacon Vicki.

Community Iftar Dinner/March Gathering | Sun, Mar 15, 6:45 - 8p @ St Alban's
Ramadan is the month when Muslims focus on prayer, charity, and thanking God for God's blessings. Fasting takes place from dawn to sunset, and the fast-breaking is a truly sacred moment.

