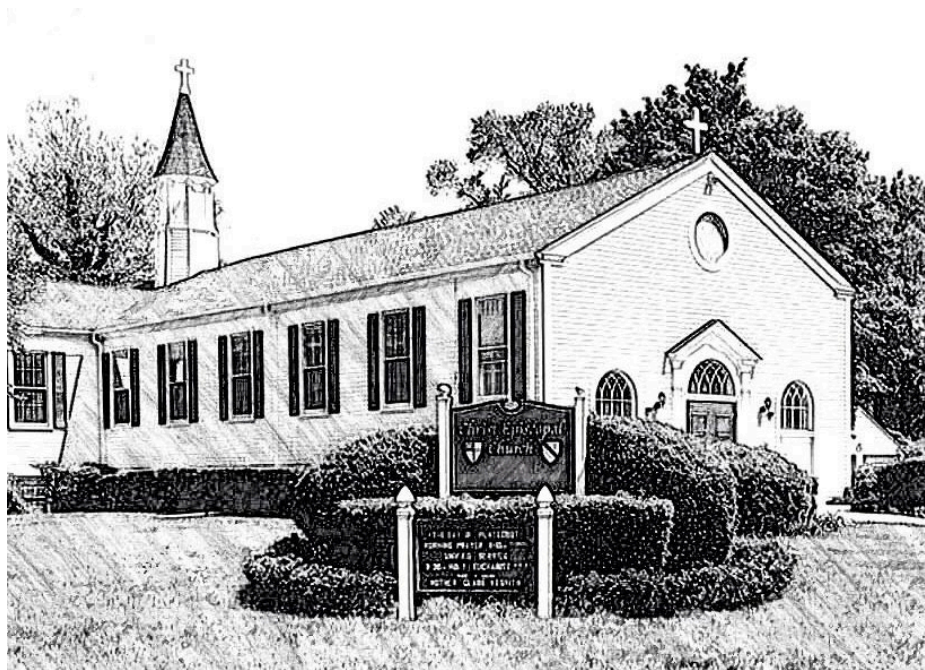


# *Christ Episcopal Church*



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

**The Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 19, 2023**

Christ Episcopal Church  
12 Prospect Street  
Babylon, New York

# *The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

Year A

**March 19, 2023**

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

Book of Common Prayer, page 319

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

Prelude

Opening Hymn *Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

Hymn 7, v1-2

## **The Penitential Order**

Penitential Order

BCP p 319

Confession & Absolution

BCP p 320

Trisagion

BCP p 324

The Collect of the Day

*see following pages*

## **The Word of God**

First Lesson: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

*see following pages*

Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

The Holy Gospel: John 9:1-41

The Sermon

Mother Nesmith

Nicene Creed

BCP p 326

Prayers of the People    Response: *Lord, have mercy upon us*

The Peace

## **The Holy Communion**

Offertory Hymn *I want to walk as a child of the light*

Hymnal 490

Offertory Response

*All things come of thee, O Lord; and of thine own have we given to you*

Eucharistic Prayer 1

BCP p 333

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP p 337

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p 339

Seasonal Blessing

Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

Recessional Hymn *Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

Hymnal 7 v 3

Dismissal

BCP p 340

Postlude

# 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Pg. 351

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

Prelude

Opening Hymn *Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

Hymnal 7

## The Penitential Order

Penitential Order

BCP p 351

Confession & Absolution

BCP p 352

Trisagion *Holy God*

Hymnal S102, *repeat 3 times*

The Collect of the Day

*see following pages*

## The Word of God

First Lesson: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

*see following pages*

Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

Tract Hymn *O splendor of God's glory bright*

Hymnal 5

The Holy Gospel: John 9:1-41

The Sermon

Mother Nesmith

Nicene Creed

BCP p 358

The Peace

## The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem *Take My Yoke Upon You*

by Nolan & Martin

Offertory Response

*All things come of you, O Lord; and of your own have we given to you*

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p 361

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy, Lord*

Hymnal S124

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem *O Lamb of God*

Hymnal S161

Communion Hymn *I want to walk as a child of the light*

Hymnal 490

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p 366

Seasonal Blessing

Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

Recessional Hymn *How wondrous and great*

Hymnal 533

Dismissal

Postlude

## The Lessons appointed for the Fourth Sunday of Lent Year A, RCL

### The Collect

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### Old Testament: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

### Psalm 121

1 The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green  
pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul \*

and guides me along right pathways  
for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of  
the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me; your rod and  
your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \* you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \* and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### **The Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-14**

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

### **The Gospel: John 9:1-41**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that

anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

---

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

## **Prayer List for Sunday, March 19, 2023**

### ***Let us offer prayers of healing, comfort and strength***

Bill D., Bob C., Bob N., Deb, Karen, Lydia, Mama Clare, Nora, Phil B., Ronnie, Sandy M., Wayne, Sr. Joy, Lorraine and Lou-Ann, Michelle and Brianna and family, Robin, Audrey, Lillian and Lydia, Dottie Z and Angela, John, Joseph, Joanne, Dave C., Emily, Damian, Terry, Nikki, Tom & Ann, Tom & Doyle, Mthr. Sonia Waters, Mthr. Abby Murphy, and those who continue to suffer from long Covid.

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. We give thanks for the birth of a baby boy William Charles to Ashtyn & Billy Oswald, Nancy and Jerry Hemendinger's grandchild.

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

Mike Vazzano (3/21)

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

Fred & Martha Specht (3/19)

### ***Let us pray for those who have died***

We remember all who have died as a result of gun violence, mass shootings, and racial violence, those who have died in the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and all who have died in the war in Ukraine.

## **Assisting Our Worship**

### **8:00a.m.**

Eucharistic Minister: Fred Reuther  
Lectors: John Altieri  
Servers: Fred Reuther  
Greeter: Lynn Simmons

### **10:00a.m.**

Kathy Hannan  
Beth Krivohlavy  
Hannah Boning,  
Eden Verni-Vazzano  
Vince Verni

## **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 both upstairs and 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  
Healing Service, 3rd Sundays following the Eucharist  
The 10:00 a.m. service is also livestreamed  
In-person Sunday School is suspended for the present time.

### **Church Officers and Vestry**

Diane Gaidon, Warden (2024)	Kathy Hannan (2025)	
Michelle Taormina, Treasurer	Annette Lepsis, Clerk	
Michael Vazzano (2026)	Jackie Barnes (2025)	Vikki Boning (2024)
Blosome Whyte (2026)	Annette Lepsis (2025)	
	Debbie Szala (2025)	Vera Langstone (2024)

### **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  
Ms. Marie Rivera, Parish Administrator

### **Parish Office Hours:**

Wednesday & Thursday, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 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