

Saint Christopher Episcopal Church  
Fairborn, Ohio  
The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio



**Welcome!**

Be thoughtful, be silent, and be reverent,  
for this is the house of God.

Before the service, speak to the Lord.

During the service, let the Lord speak to you.

After the service, speak to one another during fellowship

So we may become friends and be strangers no longer.

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 21, 2017**

**The Celebration of Holy Communion**

**Ten o'clock in the morning**

Sunday School – 9:15 AM and 10:00 AM

Nursery Care – 10:00 AM

## Enter to Know Christ – Leave to Make Him Known

*~ Hail Guest! We ask not what thou art; If Friend, we greet thee, hand and heart;  
If Stranger, such no longer be; If Foe, our love shall conquer thee! ~*

### The Liturgy of the Word

*All as are able – standing*

#### The Processional

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

#### The Collect for Purity

*(in unison)*

**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.**

#### The Hymn of Praise

*(in unison)*

**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 Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### The First Reading ..... Acts 17:22-31

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

#### The Psalm: 66:7-18 *Jubilate Deo*

7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
make the voice of his praise to be heard;  
8 Who holds our souls in life, \*  
and will not allow our feet to slip.  
9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.



## The Prayers of the People

*All as are able standing*

Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of God's praise to be heard, saying,  
"We call out to you with our mouths; your praise is on our tongues."

Lord Christ, you have not left us orphaned, but have given your Church an Advocate.  
May that same Holy Spirit teach us to keep your commandments and comfort us with divine love.

*Silence*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

Loving God, bless the suffering. May those who suffer for doing good find a friend in Christ Jesus. May those who suffer from disasters beyond their control find you attentive to the voice of their prayers.

*Silence*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

Lord of heaven and earth, you made the world and everything in it. You give to all mortals life and breath and all things. May we be faithful stewards of all you have created.

*Invite the congregation to add thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

Merciful Lord, bless the people of this city with a spirit of gentleness and reverence.  
May we be set free from fear to live, instead, in hope.

*Silence*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

Lord, we pray for our president, the vice president, all in governance and legislation to find Your peace and direction, to act and lead according to Your Word and wisdom, to act in humble obedience to that wisdom and for the power of God to flow in their lives.

*Silence*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

God, you are not far from each one of us. You love us as your children. Reveal your love, especially this day, to the sick and sorrowful. Hear our prayers for those in pain and distress: especially

Toni, Carol, Daphne, Ed, Edgar, Thom, Florence,

Vicky, Jan, Steven, Donald, Jeremy, Lindsay and her family,

Nick, Angie, Warren, ToniE, Andy and Tammy and their sons.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions and thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

Heavenly Father, you hold our souls in life. You have saved us in baptism. Because your Son Jesus lives so do we rejoice in the hope of unending life in you. Especially we remember this day: children and loved ones, those who have lost their lives to violence, and those who have laid down their lives in the service of their country (6883).

Pfc. Brian. P. Odiorne // 21, on 2/20/2017, of MA

Navy Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Kyle Milliken // 38, on 5/5/2017, of ME

*Silence*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

O God, we pray for those matters that concern us, especially- our mission, teachers and students, refugees and captives, for the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, for those whose faith is compromised.

*Here other intercessions may be offered, followed by silence.*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them give patient understanding and persevering love. **Amen.**

*Silence*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

We pray for St. Christopher's Recasting Team, for the will to seek the Spirit's guidance, and for the wisdom to follow where the Spirit leads.

*Silence*

We call out to you with our mouths;

**Your praise is on our tongues.**

"Prayer to the Holy Spirit for Wisdom on the Journey to New Life" *(in unison)*

**Spirit of wisdom and understanding, enlighten our minds and open our hearts to discern Your direction in our lives. Guide us and make us firm in our baptismal decision to follow Jesus' way of love. Help us to see the lasting value of justice and mercy in our everyday dealings with one another, as we work to solve problems of family and nation, economy and ecology. Spirit of God, spark our faith, hope and love into new action each day. Amen.**

**The Peace**

*All as are able standing.*

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

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

**The Prayer for a Birthday**

*(said in unison)*

**Watch over your child N., O Lord, as his days increase; bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he fall; and in his heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Prayer for an Anniversary**

*(said in unison)*

**May you be poor in misfortune, rich in blessings, slow to make enemies, and quick to make friends.**

**May the saddest day of your future be no worse, than the happiest day of your past...**

**May you both live as long as you want, And never want as long as you live.**

**Always remember to forget the troubles that passed away.**

**But never forget to remember the blessings that come each day.**

**Here's to health to all those that we love, health to all those that love us, and health to all those that love them.**

**May the gracious God hold you both in the palm of His hands.**

**And, today, may the Spirit of Love find a continual dwelling place in your hearts. Amen**

*The Healing Prayers are offered at the back of the church during Holy Communion.*

## The Liturgy of the Table



*The Celebrant says*

Blessed be our God, who hears our prayers  
and loves us as children.

*All as are able - standing*

### The Doxology

*Celebrant* All things come of you, O God,  
*People* **And of your own do we return to you.**

### The Great Thanksgiving

*All as are able - remain standing.*

### The Sursum Corda

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For through the risen Jesus Christ, you breathe on us the Holy Spirit of everlasting life.

In him, you give us faith to believe in things we cannot yet see or understand; in him, you give us strength and fellowship through the mysteries of this Holy Communion.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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.

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: *(in unison)*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has 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.**

*The Celebrant then continues*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, *(in unison)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

***A period of reflective silence is kept.***

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

### **The Administration of Communion**

*The Celebrant says*

Come to this table.

You that have much faith, and you that would like to have more;

You that have been here often, and you that have not been for a long time;

You that follow Jesus and you that failed.

COME! It is Christ who invites us to meet Him here.

*~ All are welcome to the Lord's Table: open to all who come, so all may be fed. ~*

### **The Communion Hymns:**

*music selections during communion*

### **The Post Communion Prayer**

*All as are able – kneeling.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray

*(in unison)*

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

**The Blessing**      *The Celebrant says*

May God, who creates, redeems, and sustains,  
keep you steadfast in faith, buoyant in hope, and abounding love.  
And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

**The Recessional**

**The Announcements**

**The Dismissal**

Sisters and brothers,  
God has heard you and given heed to your prayers.  
Therefore, go in peace to serve Christ,  
and always be eager to do what is good.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ps. 66:19; 1 Pet. 3:12

*People*      **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMINDERS**

♦ **Sunday Schedule**

9:15 – Adult Forum, discussion of The Creed.

9:15 – Sunday School Grade 3 and up

10:00 – Eucharist, Sunday School Pre-K thru 2nd Grade

♦ **Altar flowers Sunday May 21** – given by the Volkmers in Celebration of their Anniversary.

♦ **Sunday May 21** – Discretionary Fund offering

♦ **Sunday May 21** – ECW Used Book Sale

♦ **Sunday May 21** – **11:30 Vestry Meeting.**

♦ **Monday May 22** – Deadline for **June 2017 Lantern** articles and info.

♦ **Monday May 22** – Fairborn Mayor’s Citizen Forum,  
Time: 7 p.m., Place: Fairborn Senior Apartments on Central.

♦ **Sunday May 28** – **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday FISH donations.**

♦ **Sunday May 28** – Recasting of Assets Group Meeting:  
after the service during Coffee Hour.

♦ **Monday May 29** – **Memorial Day Holiday** – church office closed.

♦ **Weekly Healing Service** – **Tuesdays at noon** a Healing Service with Holy Communion is held in the church proper. The service is open to anyone who wants to attend.

♦ **Check sign-up sheets** – On the counter in Christopher’s Corner there are sign-up sheets for sanctuary candles, Altar Flowers, fellowship, ECW activities, Prayer Chain, etc.

♦ **OUTREACH** – Remember **Box Tops for Education**. Please continue with donations for FISH; they need shampoo, tooth brushes, cereal, peanut butter, deodorant, toilet paper, sugar, and other Food items. And feed your change to our bank – for 2 cents a meal.

♦ **Prayer Concerns:** Please call or email Joyce D’Alessandris to activate the Prayer Chain.  
e-mail: [dallessa@aol.com](mailto:dallessa@aol.com), phone: 254-0005.

♦ **The May 2017 Lantern** – is online at **stchristophersfairborn.org**.  
A printed copy is available upon request, or a copy can be sent by email.



**Memorial Day**  
*Remember Those Who  
Gave Their Lives*

- ◆ We are still collecting used printer cartridges. They can be recycled at the office supply stores. There is a plastic container in Christopher's corner for you to fill!!
- ◆ **Save the date! Sunday June 11** – Trinity Sunday and the annual end of year **Church cookout & Picnic!**



~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

**“Living the Great Commandment by Ministering  
to Our Neighbors in Body, Mind and Spirit.”**

Celebrant	The Rev. Ruth B. Paulus
Worship Leader	Tammy Elliott
Chalice Bearers	Toni Olgeaty
First Reader	Stan Nelson
Second Reader	Sierra Lester
Acolyte	Kathy Smith
Ushers	Eleanor and Becky Wood
Healing Prayers	Cindy Feltz
Greeters	Joyce and Ron D'Allessandris
Nursery	Kopp
Altar Guild	Mel Bigi, Andrea Haberecht
Tellers	Rosalie Arnold, Cindy Manship
Fellowship	Markleys / Birthday
Director of Music Ministries	Melody Kelley
Organist Emeritus	Connie Klarer
Senior Warden	Deb Snavelly: 878-4054

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**THE REV. RUTH B. PAULUS, RECTOR**

**RECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

**revrn05@gmail.com**

**In Emergencies: 937-307-4622 (Cell)**

**CHURCH SECRETARY – KAY MITCHELL**

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 2 PM**