

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

*For John came
to you in the way of
righteousness...*

Matthew 21:32, NRSV



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.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 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

The Prelude

Special Music

Melody Kelley

All as are able – standing

The Processional Hymn: # 686 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

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: #397 “Now Thank We All Our God”

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 **Exodus 17:1-7**

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 *Attendite, popule*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

The Prayers of the People

All as are able standing

Brothers and sisters, in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Humbly then, let us approach our God, saying, "To will and work for your good pleasure, O Lord, enable us."

Christ Jesus, strengthen our tongues to declare you as Lord of our lives.

May we, your Church, glorify your Heavenly Parent in word and deed.

Silence

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

Christ Jesus, you chose not to exploit your equality with God, but humbled yourself to be with us. Give us your heart for the marginalized and poor. And may all people, especially those in power, follow your example of humility.

Silence

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

Christ Jesus, by your birth in human likeness you blessed all of creation. Remind us that your feet have trod our soil and tasted our waters. Give us the will to care for this precious planet.

Silence

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

Christ Jesus, you rule the world with love and compassion. Give to our local leaders compassion and vision that the people of our region might live as neighbors, looking out for each other's interests.

Silence

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

Christ Jesus, 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

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

Christ Jesus, you became obedient to the point of death that we might have abundant life. Work marvels in the lives of the sick and sorrowful. May they recount to generations the wonderful deeds you have done in their lives.

Hear our prayers for those in pain and distress: especially

Judy, Thom, Carol, Toni, Daphne, Warren, Steven, Florence, Vicky,

Alice, Jan, Terri, Nick, Jayden, Holly, Jim and Ann.

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

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

Christ Jesus, through death and resurrection you were highly exalted by God. Continue your good work in those who now rest from their labors. May all the dead find new and lasting 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 (6897).

Silence

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

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.

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

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

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

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

To will and work for your good pleasure,

O Lord, enable us.

The Celebrant says

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

All as are able, – kneeling.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbor, and ourselves *(in unison)*

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.

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.**

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)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sets the solitary in families: We commend to your continual care the homes in which your people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech you, every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in holy wedlock, have been made one flesh. Turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we may evermore be kindly affectioned one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

The Liturgy of the Table



The Celebrant says

Be of the same mind, brothers and sisters, having the same love, the same selflessness and the same humility as Christ Jesus, who is at work in you, enabling you for the glory of God.

The Music at the Offertory “Be Not Afraid” by Craig Courtney

All as are able - standing

The Doxology: Hymn #380, verse 3, “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

(sing in unison)

The Sanctus

S-129 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

And now, 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 Fraction Anthem: S-164 "Jesus, Lamb of God"

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.

The Administration of Communion

The Celebrant says

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

- The Communion Hymns:** # 568..... “Father All Loving”
 # 339..... “Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness”
 # 641..... “Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

The Post Communion Prayer

All as are able – kneeling.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray *(in unison)*

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.**

**Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing *The Celebrant says*

The Peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Recessional Hymn # 690 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

The Announcements

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude Special Music



Sunday Attendance

It is important that we are aware of how many people are in attendance on Sunday. So each month we show the attendance numbers. Remember, statistics indicate that to have a thriving and prosperous congregation, we need to shoot for 100 as the average Sunday attendance.

<u>Sunday Attendance</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
1st Sunday	68	62	56	52
2nd Sunday	65	64	57	60
3rd Sunday	62	54	57	71
4th Sunday	54	42	51	51
5th Sunday	n/a	48	n/a	n/a
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>249</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>234</u>

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMINDERS

- ✧ **Altar flowers Sunday October 1** – given by previous donations
- ✧ **Sunday School Schedule**
 - **9:15 Sunday School** for Third Grade and up.
 - **10:00 a.m. Sunday School** for Pre-K to Second Grade.
- ✧ **Starting October 1st** -- There will be Sunday School class for children ages 4 - 6. It will be in a room, to be determined, downstairs. It will be during service & we will come upstairs during the peace.
- ✧ **Saturday October 7** – 10am - 2pm. Abiding Christ Lutheran Church is holding their annual Fairborn Community Health Expo.
- ✧ **Sunday October 8** – at 2 p.m. **Cropwalk**. You can sign up to walk, or support others who are walking
- ✧ **Monday October 9** – **Columbus Day Holiday** – church office closed.
- ✧ **Monday October 9** – ECW/ECM outing to Dayton Foodbank.
- ✧ **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.
- ✧ **Thursdays – 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice**
- ✧ **Check sign-up sheets** – On the counter in Christopher’s Corner there are sign-up sheets for **altar flowers**, sanctuary candles, fellowship, ECW activities, Prayer Chain, etc.
***** Please note: our cost for Altar Flowers is now \$25, so we are asking for a \$25 donation.**
- ✧ **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'Allessandris to activate the Prayer Chain.
e-mail: dallessa@aol.com, phone: 254-0005.
- ✧ **The October Lantern** – is online at stchristophersfairborn.org.
A printed copy is available upon request, or a copy can be sent by email.
- ✧ 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!!

**** **Altar Flowers** - Please consider signing up for Altar flowers. Most dates are open for October and November. A couple of individuals have made generous donations to help cover the open Sundays, but ... We cannot continue to have flowers on Sundays if we do not have donations to cover the cost.



Children's bulletins – There are Activity bags available for children ages 3-6, 7-12; the bulletins relate to service readings for that week. Please keep the bulletins, and return the bags after the service.

Abiding Christ Lutheran Church is holding their annual **Fairborn Community Health Expo - Sat. Oct 7th - 10am - 2pm.** They provide lunch during this popular event and are again asking St. Christopher's to contribute cookies or bars. Those of you who are willing to donate: Please drop off your goodies at St. Christopher's (marked "Health Expo") NLT the AM, Friday the 6th. Or, if you prefer, at Abiding Christ Church - 326 E Dayton Yellow Springs Rd. If you make bar cookies, please bake in a disposable container & do not slice, as they will portion them out. Many thanks! Marilyn Power - 878-8830

Cropwalk – Sunday October 8th at 2 pm.

You can sign up to walk, or support others who are walking

The 2017 Fairborn CROP Walk to fight hunger will be held on Sunday, October 8, 2017. The purpose of the CROP Walk is to raise money to fight hunger in Fairborn and around the world. If you would like a donation envelope and/or plan to walk, we will post more information in the weekly bulletin. See Rosalie Arnold for more information.

***** The Episcopal Church Women/Episcopal Church Men group:**

On Monday, October 9, we will go to the Dayton Foodbank to assist in one of their projects. We will carpool from the church at 11:30, have lunch (TBD) at noon and go to the Foodbank at 1. Please sign up.

~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

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

Celebrant	The Rev. Canon John R. Johanssen
Worship Leader	Ron D’Alessandris
Chalice Bearer	Toni Olgeaty
First Reader	Stan Nelson
Second Reader	Judy Brainard
Acolyte	Ed Smith
Ushers	Iyabo Eguaroje, Gordon Hermann
Healing Prayers	Joyce D’Alessandris
Greeters	Judy Brainard, Telesa Learn
Nursery	Volkmer
Altar Guild	Kathy Smith, Sierra Lester
Tellers	Rosalie Arnold, Millie Roach
Fellowship	Cindy Feltz
Director of Music Ministries	Melody Kelley
Organist Emeritus	Connie Klarer
Senior Warden	Deb Snavely: 878-4054

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CHURCH SECRETARY – KAY MITCHELL

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