

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

“**B**ut those who
hope in the **LORD**
will renew their **STRENGTH**.
They will **SOAR** on
wings like eagles;
they will **RUN** and
not grow weary,
they will **WALK**
and not be faint.”

Isaiah 40:31



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.

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4, 2018

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 Prelude

Special music

Melody Kelley

The Liturgy of the Word

All as are able, standing

The Processional Hymn: # 423..... “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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

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

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:

S-280 Glory to God

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

S-280 Glory to God (cont.)

you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most
High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the
glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

The Collect of the Day

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

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading **Isaiah 40:21-31**

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

The Psalm: 147:1-12, 21c *Laudate Dominum*

- 1 Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
- 2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;

- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
 - 10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
 - 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
 - 12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.
- 21c Hallelujah!

The Second Reading 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All as are able, standing

The Gradual Hymn: # 684“O for a Closer Walk with God”.....vs 1-3

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Holy Gospel Mark 1:29-39

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gradual Hymn: # 684“O for a Closer Walk with God”.....vs 4-5

The Homily

The Rev. David Bailey

The Nicene Creed

All as are able, standing.

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

All as are able, standing

Brothers and sisters, how pleasant it is to honor God with praise! Let us pray to the Lord, saying:
“Great are you, O Lord; Hallelujah!”

O God, your Son Jesus came into the world to proclaim your message. Give your Church, the body of Christ, that same passion to be all things to all people that we might show forth your salvation.

Silence

Great are you, O Lord; **Hallelujah!**

O God, you cast the wicked to the ground and lift up the lowly. Protect and defend those living under oppressive rulers and those living under the oppression of hunger, poverty, and war.

Silence

Great are you, O Lord; **Hallelujah!**

O God, you prepare rain for the earth and make grass to grow on the plains and hills. Provide food enough to support all the creatures that inhabit the earth.

Silence

Great are you, O Lord; **Hallelujah!**

O God, there is no limit to your wisdom; your understanding is unsearchable. Bless all teachers and students. Sustain our school systems and universities. Bless your people with knowledge.

Invite the congregation to add their thankgivings, followed by silence.

Great are you, O Lord; **Hallelujah!**

O God, you give power to the faint and strengthen the powerless. In the name of Jesus, we ask that you heal those with diseases and set free those in bondage. Heal the brokenhearted and care for the wounded, especially

Joyce, Judy, Thom, Carol, Toni, Daphne, Florence, Warren, Pat, Jim and Ann,
Sandi, Joe, Frank, Vicky, Camden, Kelly, Jan, Jim, Nikki, Bob and Doris,
and for all those who lost their health and freedom through addiction

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

Great are you, O Lord; **Hallelujah!**

O God, you are everlasting, the creator of the ends of the earth. We entrust to your tireless care those who have died, especially those 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 (6909).

Silence

Great are you, O Lord; **Hallelujah!**

(The Prayers of the People are taken from Praying the Scriptures, Litanies for Sunday Worship, by Jeremiah D. Williamson)

The Confession and Absolution

All as are able, kneeling.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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, who declared at the beginning that it is not good for humankind to be alone; we thank you that, in your loving providence, you have led this couple (N. and N.) into the covenant of marriage and have brought them to this ____ anniversary. May you bestow upon them your abundant grace in the year to come. May their wills be knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they continue to live in love and joy with one another all the days of their life: 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 gives the offertory sentence.

The Music at the Offertory “The Potter’s Hand” arr. Lloyd Larsen

All as are able, standing

The Doxology Hymn # 124: verse 5

To God the Father, heavenly Light,
to Christ, revealed in earthly night,
to God the Holy Ghost
we raise our equal and unceasing praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

All as are able, 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 (preface: Epiphany)

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

The Sanctus S-125 "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord" (*sing in unison*)

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

The Celebrant continues

All as are able, kneeling, or standing.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the New Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Christopher and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 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:

773 (WLP)..... “Heal Me Hands of Jesus”

411..... “O Bless the Lord, My Soul”

679..... “Surely It Is God Who Saves Me”

“Heal Me, Hands of Jesus” WLP #773

1. Heal me, hands of Je- sus, and search out all my pain: re -
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je- sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let
3. Know me, mind of Je- sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
4. Fill me, joy of Je- sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and

store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.
me for - give as one for-given and bring me peace to - day.
pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.
heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

The musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in 4/4 time, G major, and features four verses of lyrics. The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time, G major, and provides harmonic support for the vocal line. The score is divided into two systems, each with a vocal staff and a piano grand staff.

The Post Communion Prayer

All as are able, kneeling.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray

(in unison)

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image

and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;

that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue 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 # 493“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” vs 1-5

The Announcements

The Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude

Special Music



ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMINDERS

- ☆ **Altar flowers Sunday February 4** – given by Ann Foster in celebration of her graduation from Basic Training and her Mother’s birthday.
- ☆ **Sunday School Schedule**
 - **9:15 Sunday School:** Third Grade and up.
 - **10:00 a.m. Sunday School** for Pre-K to Second Grade.
- ☆ **Sunday February 4** – 6 p.m. **St. C Youth Group “Souper” Bowl Party**”.
- ☆ **Wednesday February 14** – Valentine’s Day 
- ☆ **Wednesday February 14** – **at Noon -- Ash Wednesday Service** 
- ☆ **Sunday February 18** – First Sunday in Lent
- ☆ **Sunday February 18** – ECW used book sale
- ☆ **Sunday February 18** – **11:30 Vestry Meeting**
- ☆ **Monday February 19** – Holiday for President’s Day, 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.
- ☆ **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.**
- ☆ **Reminder** – there will be no Altar Flowers during Lent – from February 18th until Easter April 1st.
- ☆ **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, phone: 254-0005.
- ☆ **The February Lantern** – is online at stchristophersfairborn.org.
- ☆ 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!!

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>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Jan 2018</u>
1 st Sunday	53	72	67	58	64
2 nd Sunday	59	48	57	64	37
3 rd Sunday	67	67	68	78	64
4 th Sunday	72	55	71	C'Mas Eve 103	60
5 th Sunday	n/a	68	n/a	54	n/a
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>263</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>225</u>



TODAY

*The Youth and Young Adults of St Christopher's
invite you and your friends to a Souper Bowl Party
on February 4, 2018 commencing at 6 PM
in our parish hall.*

Come sample our delicious soups and sandwiches
starting at 6:00 PM.

Munch on chips, dips, and snacks throughout the evening

Kick off time 6:30 PM.



**PRACTICING THE PRESENCE OF GOD
A SPIRITUAL RETREAT IN LENT 2018**

We dream of a church in which members can recognize, deepen and express their experience of God's presence in their lives. We hope that this beloved community can help its members explore their understanding of their experiences of God with freedom and grace. We invite you to participate in a day during which you can reflect on your experience of God's presence and learn new ways of deepening your relationship with God, and with yourself. Allow yourself to take a Saturday in Lent and spend that time with God. Give yourself the gift of a day spent resting in God's love for you.

We've scheduled the same day long (9:00 AM – 3:00 PM) retreat on four different Saturdays in four different localities, so pick the one that works best for you!

February 17, St. Philip Episcopal Church, Columbus

February 24, Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens

March 10, Calvary, Clifton (Cincinnati)

March 17, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Trotwood (Dayton)

Cost: \$ 15. Register at: dsospirituality.org

For more information contact the Rev. Diana Shirley dianshireyoh@gmail.com
or 614-560-6963

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

Celebrant	The Rev. David Bailey
Worship Leader	Tammy Elliott
Chalice Bearer	James Lester
Acolyte	Kathy Smith
First Reader	Barry Kelley
Second Reader	Ann Volkmer
Ushers	Iyabo Eguaroje, Hayward Learn
Healing Prayers	tbd
Greeters	Darlene and Gordon Walbroehl
Nursery	Faller
Altar Guild	Mel Bigi, Andrea Haberecht
Tellers	Gordon Hermann, Gordon Walbroehl
Fellowship	Millie and Rick Roach
Director of Music Ministries	Melody Kelley
Organist Emeritus	Connie Klarer
Senior Warden	Deb Snavely: 937-478-3687 (C)

**ST. CHRISTOPHER EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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THE REV. GREGORY P. SAMMONS, SUPPLY PRIEST

Contact Information: gpsammons@gmail.com

For Pastoral emergencies only (hospitalizations, etc.)

419-350-9518

CHURCH SECRETARY – KAY MITCHELL

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