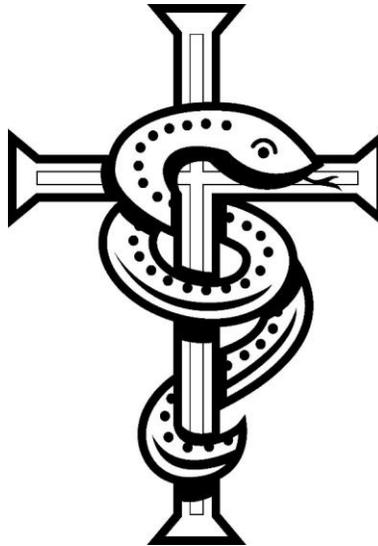


Saint Christopher Episcopal Church  
Fairborn, Ohio  
The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio



**John 3:14**

**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 Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**March 11, 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

### The Penitential Order

*All as are able, standing*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

*The procession enters as the Celebrant reads the following:*

Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel:

The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these.” *Mark 12:29-31*

### The Confession and Absolution

*All as are able, kneeling.*

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor, and ourselves.

*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.**

## Hymn # S-91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### The Collect of the Day

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

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.**

### The First Reading ..... Numbers 21:4-9

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### The Psalm: 107:1-3, 17-22 *Confitemini Domino*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, \*  
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim \*  
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; \*  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; \*  
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food \*  
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, \*  
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them \*  
and saved them from the grave.

- 21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy \*  
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

**The Second Reading ..... Ephesians 2:1-10**

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All as are able, standing*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Gradual Hymn: # 467** ..... “Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love” ... vs. 1-2

**The Holy Gospel ..... John 3:14-21**

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Gradual Hymn: # 467** ..... “Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love” ... vs. 3-4

**The Homily** **The Reverend Gregory Sammons**

**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*

God, who is rich in mercy, makes us alive together with Christ. Let us pray to God, saying, “Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good. Your mercy, O God, endures forever.”

Holy God, you have created us in Christ Jesus for good works: may the Church walk in the light of Christ, that all our deeds might be good and true and to your glory.

*Silence*

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**Your mercy, O God, endures forever.**

Loving God, you did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him: may all people know and experience your love.

*Silence*

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**Your mercy, O God, endures forever.**

Jesus, you are the true bread which gives life to the world: feed the world with bread from earth and heaven.

*Silence*

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**Your mercy, O God, endures forever.**

O Lord, you are the deliverer of those in distress: Guide our elected officials.

Teach them wisdom and kindness. May we, like Nicodemus, seek to follow in the ways of Jesus.

*Silence*

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**Your mercy, O God, endures forever.**

Merciful God, you send forth your word and the distressed are healed: we give you thanks for your mercy and for the wonders you do for your children. Hear our prayers for those in pain and distress: especially

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

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

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**Your mercy, O God, endures forever.**

O God, you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, that eternal life might triumph over death: save us by your grace and raise us up with Christ Jesus, 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 (6911).

*Silence*

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**Your mercy, O God, endures forever.**

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

**The Peace**

*All as are able, stand.*

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

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

**The Prayer for a Birthday**

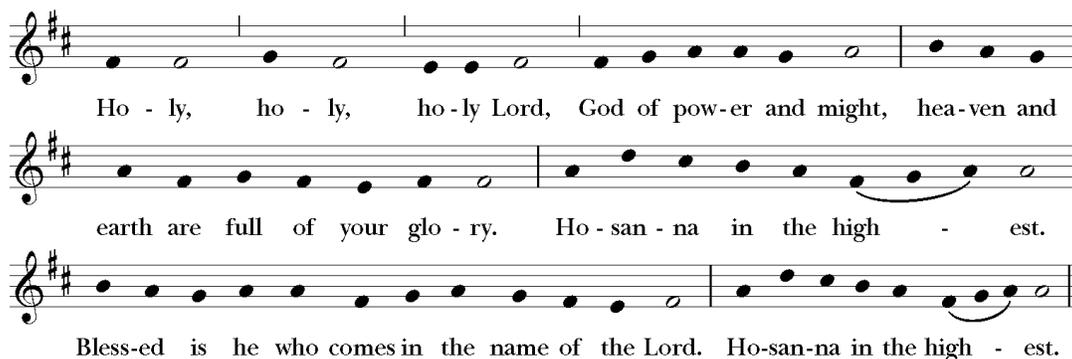
*(said in unison)*

**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.**



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 124 (in unison)



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*

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 continues*

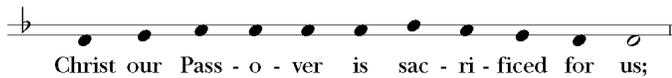
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, *(in unison)*

**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.**

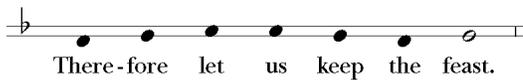
**The Breaking of the Bread**

**The Fraction Anthem: ..... S 153**

*Celebrant*



*People*



*A period of reflective silence is kept.*

**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:**
- # 302 ..... "Father, We Thank Thee"
  - # 691 ..... "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"
  - # 671 ..... "Amazing Grace!"

**The Post Communion Prayer**

*All as are able, kneeling.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray

*(in unison)*

**Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

*The Celebrant says*

May the God of covenant faithfulness enfold you;  
the beloved Son encourage you;  
and the Holy Spirit descend upon you in blessing;  
this day and forever. **Amen.**

**The Recessional Hymn # 145** ..... "Now Quit Your Cares"

## The Announcements

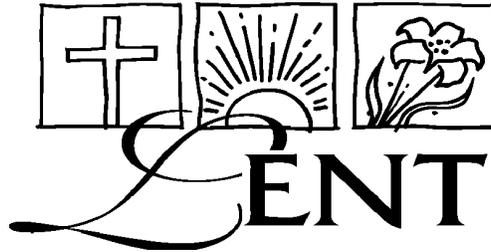
### The Dismissal

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

### The Postlude

Special music

Melody Kelley



## ANNOUNCEMENTS, REMINDERS

- ✧ **Sunday School Schedule**
  - 9:15 Sunday School: Third Grade and up.
  - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for Pre-K to Second Grade.
- ✧ **Sunday March 11 – Daylight Saving Time begins.**  
*Set clocks ahead.*
- ✧ **Friday March 17 – St. Patrick’s Day!!**
- ✧ **Saturday March 17** – 10:00 a.m. Service for Dylan Lykins.
- ✧ **Sunday March 18** – ECW used book sale
- ✧ **Sunday March 18** – 11:30 Vestry meeting
- ✧ **Monday March 20** – First Day of Spring!!
- ✧ **Sunday March 25** – Palm Sunday - begin Holy Week.
- ✧ **Sunday March 25** – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday FISH donations.
- ✧ **Monday March 26** – Deadline for April 2018 Lantern articles and info.
- ✧ **Thursday March 29** – 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday service here at St. C with St. Mark’s participating.
- ✧ **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.
- ✧ **Reminder** – there will be no Altar Flowers during Lent – from February 18<sup>th</sup> until Easter April 1<sup>st</sup> .



- ✧ **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](mailto:dallessa@aol.com), phone: 254-0005.
- ✧ **The March Lantern** – is online at [stchristophersfairborn.org](http://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!!

**We will have a Memorial Service for Dylan Lykins,  
(son of Cathy Lykins),  
Here at St. Christopher's  
on Saturday March 17, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.**



### ***SIGN-UP FOR***

### ***Easter Flowers***

**Cost is \$15.00 each:** The flowers will be a selection of colorful flowers for the season. Please order and pay for the flowers by **Sunday March 25th**. Please also indicate if you want to take the plant home.

### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

We are asking for donations of small trinkets, stickers, toys and **wrapped** candy (peanut-free) that the youth can use to stuff the many dozen plastic eggs they already have. Please bring your donations to the church no later than **Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**.





## HOLY WEEK

### Holy Week and Easter Services

**Palm Sunday (March 25) at 10 a.m.** Blessing and Procession of the Palms,  
Passion reading and Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday (March 29) at 7 p.m.:** Holy Eucharist and stripping of the altar  
with St. Mark's, Dayton community celebrating with us  
and Fr. Michael Kreutzer as celebrant.

**Good Friday (March 30) at 7p.m.** Tenebrae and Seven Last Words Service,  
led by David Christmas and Stan Nelson

**Holy Saturday (March 31) at 7 p.m.** Easter Vigil at St. Mark's with  
St. Christopher's

**Easter Sunday (April 1) at 11 a.m. (Please note time)** Festival Holy Eucharist



**A Joint Roman Catholic/Lutheran Service of the Word  
Honoring St. Patrick and the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation  
Sponsored by the Lutheran Saints in Ministry  
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 100 East Main St., Fairborn  
Sunday, March 18th at 3:00 pm.  
Fellowship time to follow**

#### ***Participating Congregations:***

- 1.) Abiding Christ Lutheran Church, Fairborn
- 2.) Arise in Christ Lutheran Church, Donnelsville
- 3.) Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, West Milton
- 4.) Mary Help of Christians Catholic Parish, Fairborn
- 5.) Sacred Heart Catholic Parish, New Carlisle
- 6.) St. Mark Lutheran Church, Fairborn

The service consists of prayers and readings by Saint Patrick, a Baptismal renewal ceremony, and Music led by our *LSIM Celtic Praise Team*.

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

Celebrant	The Rev. Gregory P. Sammons
Worship Leader	Cindy Feltz
Chalice Bearer	Toni Olgeaty
Acolyte	Alan Haberecht
First Reader	Paul Reichert
Second Reader	Mary Donnellan
Ushers	Sierra Lester, James Lester
Healing Prayers	tbd
Greeters	Andrea and Alan Haberecht
Nursery	Faller
Altar Guild	Eleanor and Becky Wood
Tellers	Millie Roach, Ed Smith
Fellowship	Nelson & Sharp
Director of Music Ministries	Melody Kelley
Organist Emeritus	Connie Klarer
Senior Warden	Deb Snavelly: 937-478-3687 (C)

**ST. CHRISTOPHER EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**PO BOX 1026 1501 N. BROAD ST,  
 FAIRBORN, OHIO 45324-1026**

**(937) 878-5614 (Office)**

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**E-Mail: [office@stchristophersfairborn.org](mailto:office@stchristophersfairborn.org)**

**THE REV. GREGORY P. SAMMONS, SUPPLY PRIEST**

**Contact Information: [gpsammons@gmail.com](mailto: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**