

# CHRIST CHURCH AMONG THE OAKS

The Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Celebrating Earth Day

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

April 21, 2024 9:00 a.m.

A second worship site for Christ Church Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Worship: Sundays 9:00 a.m. Vicar: The Rev. Sandy Tull  
NSIA Community Center, 120 Meadow Avenue in Vilano Beach  
[ccpvb.org](http://ccpvb.org) [info@ccpvb.org](mailto:info@ccpvb.org)

Opening Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Vs. 1, 2 & 3



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
 \* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 \* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my  
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.  
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.  
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!  
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

# Welcome Guests and Newcomers

*Welcome to Christ Church Among the Oaks. This is a multi-denominational congregation, made up of friends, neighbors, people who are new to our area, and those seeking something a little different and a little more meaningful in their spiritual and worship life. We feel called to serve our local community and as you will hear today, we focus on six local outreach agencies that do the hard work that Jesus taught us. A short description of each Outreach Partner is in the back of this bulletin. We welcome the opportunity to meet you and answer any questions you may have about our church and our work in the community! We are incredibly grateful for the support and encouragement we receive from Christ Episcopal Church in Ponte Vedra and thank their leadership for the freedom to be a unique, mission-focused worship community.*

**Servant Board:** Paula Allmen, Mike Cleary, Steve Harrison, Claire Heusinger, Deborah Pearsall, Stan Sundermeyer, and Jenny Weeks, warden.

**Presider:** The Rev. Sandy Tull

**Musician:** Boril Ivanov

**Vocalist:** Claire Heusinger

*We encourage our guests to fill out a welcome card today!*

*We are glad you are with us and look forward to worshipping with you often.*

**Prelude** *Medley*

## Welcome and Announcements

**Opening Hymn** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* Vs. 1 - 3

## Opening Sentences

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People** The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

## 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.**

## Song of Praise

In my life Lord be glorified, be glorified

In my life Lord, be glorified today.

In my song Lord be glorified, be glorified

In my song Lord, be glorified today.

In Your church Lord be glorified, be glorified

In Your church Lord, be glorified today.

## The Collect

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## First Reading

*Lector*        A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

**People**        **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

*Lector* The Lord is my shepherd; \*

**People** I shall not be in want.

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

He revives my soul \*  
**and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.**

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.**

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.**

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

## Second Reading

*Lector* A reading from the First Letter of John

3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

## **The Gospel**

*Gospeler*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John      10:11-18

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

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

*Gospeler*      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

**Homily**      The Rev. Sandy Tull

## **Meditative Interlude**

### **The Prayers of the People, Celebrating Earth Day 2024**

*Leader*      Loving God, on this day we celebrate the gift of this planet, Earth,

**People**      **Which you created for us as a home:**

A home for humanity

**A home for creatures**

A home for plants

**A good gift of creation.**

We are truly sorry for the ways we have corrupted it.

**Forgive us.**

We are truly sorry for the ways we have disregarded its well-being.

**Forgive us.**

We are truly sorry for the ways we've been complicit in systems that degrade it.

**Forgive us.**

Help us, Oh God,  
**To be good stewards of your gifts to us.**

Help us, Oh God,  
**To realize our connectedness to creation.**

Help us, Oh God,  
**To understand our reliance upon the Earth.**

Help us, Oh God,  
**To bring healing to the planet.**

Help us, Oh God,  
**To make changes that benefit all creatures.**

As all creation praises and glorifies you,  
**So we praise you.**

As all creation reflects your character and beauty,  
**So we seek to reflect your beauty.**

As all creation supports and sustains us,  
We remember and celebrate this day our ministry partners: St. Gerard Campus, St. Francis House and Port in the Storm, South Woods Elementary, Learn to Read, Pie in the Sky and Council on Aging. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen them, and in all things they do.

**So we seek to support one another.**

For the gracious gift and vast beauty of creation,  
**We give thanks. Amen**

### **Prayers for the Hurting World**

**All God of peace and justice, we pray this day for all peoples around the world who are suffering from war, famine, floods, fires, and from other devastations. We pray for all those who fear tomorrow: that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power: that they may have wisdom and discernment to aid people in distress and that they be guided by compassion in their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children who are at risk and live in fear: that you would hold and protect them. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## The Peace

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

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

## Birthday Prayer

Watch over your child, 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* falls; and in *his* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Holy Communion

*To make an offering online visit [ccpvb.org/give](http://ccpvb.org/give)  
or use the QR code at the back of the bulletin. Thank you for your support.*

## Offertory

### The Presentation

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

### Eucharistic Prayer B

*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 God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.



Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.**

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,

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

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 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 forever. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**All** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread.**  
**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**  
**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**  
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant continues*

The Gifts of God for the people of God. Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of life and faith, you are welcome at God's table to receive the Bread and Wine made Holy. (*Enriching our Worship, Form 1*)

## Distribution of Communion

*All baptized persons, including children, are invited to receive Communion.*

## Communion Music *Jesus Loves Me*

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak, but He is strong.

*Refrain:* Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
As He loved so long ago,  
Taking children on His knee,  
Saying, "Let them come to Me." *Refrain*

Jesus loves me still today,  
Walking with me on my way,  
Wanting as a friend to give  
Light and love to all who live. *Refrain*

Jesus loves me! He who died  
Heaven's gate to open wide;  
He will wash away my sin,  
Let His little child come in. *Refrain*

Jesus loves me! He will stay  
Close beside me all the way;  
Thou hast bled and died for me,  
I will henceforth live for Thee. *Refrain*

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**All** **Holy, gracious, God, here at this table your promise of life is made tangible. We have rested in the depth of your love; we have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence; we accept you into our bodies, into our lives. Together, at this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer. And we give you thanks. Amen.**

### **Sending the Eucharistic Visitors**

*When present, Eucharistic Visitors are commissioned to carry the Consecrated Gifts of Holy Communion to those who are unable, due to illness or impairment, to join us for Sunday services.*

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**People** **We who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

### **The Blessing**

**Closing Hymn**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Vs. 4 - 6

### **Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

**Postlude**

*Medley*

# Announcements

## **Pie in the Sky announces Birdhouse art!**

May 03, 2024, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM Pie in the Sky Warehouse, 134 Riberia Street in St. Augustine. Celebrate local artists and bid on fabulous birdhouse art. Live music, food and libations. Come show some love, save a bird and help a senior. You are welcome to scan the QR code for more information.



## **Council on Aging**

Council on Aging will honor St. Johns County centenarians and nonagenarians at two Centenarian Luncheons, scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. at River House (179 Marine St., St Augustine, FL 32084) and Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. at THE PLAYERS Community Senior Center (175 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.) If you or a loved one will be turning age 95 or better this year, please contact Council on Aging to register to participate in the celebration nearest you by calling (904) 209-3700.

## **St. Gerard Campus**

Our friends at St. Gerard Campus are always working to assist women and babies throughout the community. They accept and distribute donations of food, adult and baby clothing, formula, baby food and all baby necessities, such as cribs, car seats, dressing tables and bassinets.

## **Offerings Online**

Forgot to bring cash or write a check??? We now have a QR code in the bulletin for safe, quick, and easy online giving. You will be automatically directed to the Christ Church giving page where you can enter your information one time and it will be saved for future giving.







# Our Outreach Liaisons

## **Learn to Read**

Improving literacy for over 200 individuals each year at no cost to the student. Improved reading skills lead to better paying jobs, higher levels of education, healthier lifestyles, and a better overall community.

Elaine Reagan ereaganpvb@gmail.com

Mary Jane Dillon dillonmj43@gmail.com.

## **St. Gerard Campus**

A non-profit maternity home and Christian high school for pregnant teenagers, promoting empowerment through education and strong Christian values.

Paula Allmen pallmen@icloud.com

Stan Sundermeyer srsundermeyer@msn.com

## **St. Francis Housing Crisis Center / Port in the Storm**

Engaging those experiencing homelessness to achieve stability, self-sufficiency, and a viable plan for their future by providing a safe, stable environment, access to essential services, and supportive connections.

Al Wallander alwallander@outlook.com

Annette Wallander annettewallander2@gmail.com

Jack Tull tulljs@msn.com

## **Council on Aging**

Provides the opportunity for every person in St. Johns County to enjoy wellness, longevity and quality of life choices within a strong, healthy community.

Sharon Carlson xtraice0922@gmail.com

## **Pie in the Sky Community Alliance of St. John County**

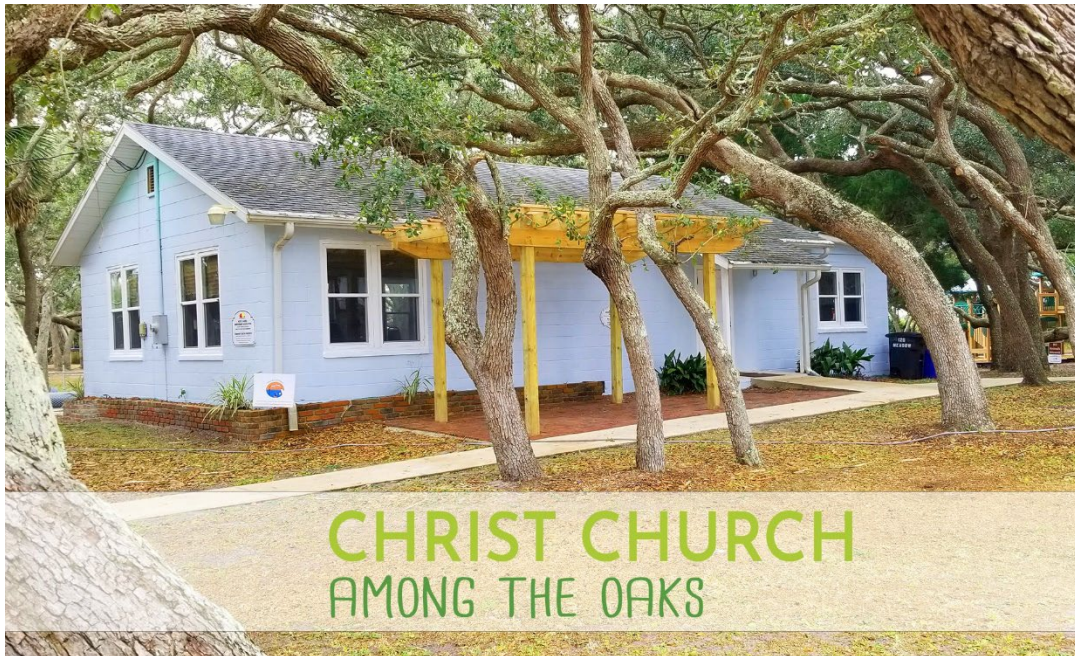
Pie in the Sky is a grassroots, volunteer-based organization providing hope by serving with dignity and respect to alleviate hunger and social isolation through the home delivery of healthy fresh produce to low-income senior citizens.

Paula Allmen pallmen@icloud.com

## **South Woods Elementary**

Creating a secure community that will instill in all students a desire for academic excellence, fostering the development of caring, productive citizens.

Margo Cleary margcleary@aol.com



NSIA Community Center, 120 Meadow Avenue in Vilano Beach

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