

CHRIST CHURCH AMONG THE OAKS

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

April 28, 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 info@ccpvb.org

Opening Hymn

Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

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 *Abide with Me*

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.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30

Lector My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

People **I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *

"May your heart live forever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord; *

he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *

they shall be known as the Lord's forever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *

the saving deeds that he has done.

Second Reading

Lector A reading from the First Letter of John

4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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 15:1-8

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

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, Form III

Leader Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for 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.

That they may do God's will in the service of the kingdom of his Christ.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

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
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 *I Am the Bread of Life*

I am the bread of life.
He who comes to me shall not hunger;
he who believes in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father draw him.

Refrain: And I will raise him up,
and I will raise him up,
and I will raise him up on the last day.

The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world,
and he who eats of this bread,
he shall live forever, he shall live forever. *Refrain*

Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink of his blood, and drink of his blood,
you shall not have life within you. *Refrain*

I am the resurrection, I am the life.
He who believes in me
even if he die, he shall live forever. *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 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude *Medley*

Closing Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach — us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

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.

Learn to Read of St. Johns County

Learn to Read of St. Johns County has opportunities available to tutor. They are currently seeking volunteers who are able to tutor in the mornings, late afternoons/evenings and/or weekends, and are in particular need of math tutors. For more information visit their website learntoreadstjohns.org.

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

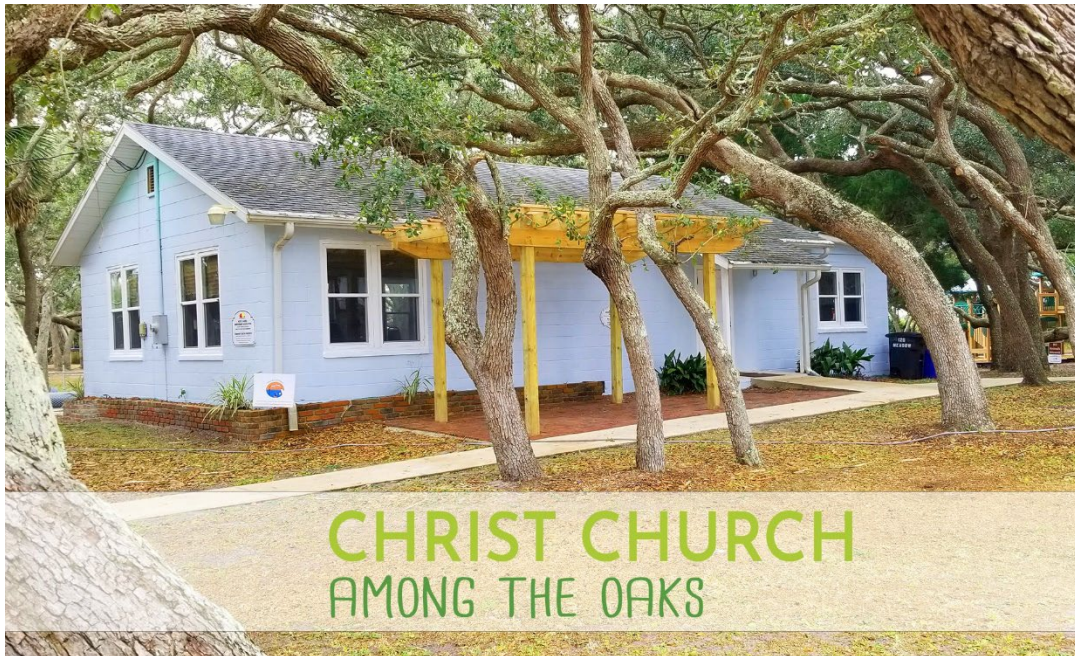
Pie in the Sky is a grassroots, volunteer-based organization providing hope by serving with dignity and respect to alleviate hunger and social isolation through the home delivery of healthy fresh produce to low-income senior citizens.

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



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