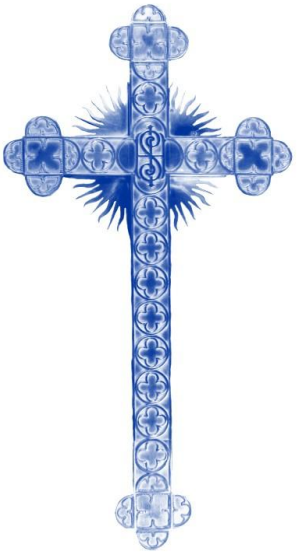
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

November 15, 2026 ✠ 10:30 am



The Word of God

Voluntary

Hymn # 598 Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth *Mit Freuden zart*

Opening Acclamation BCP, p. 355

S-280* Glory to God Robert Powell

The Collect of the Day

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;

the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,

"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,

their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
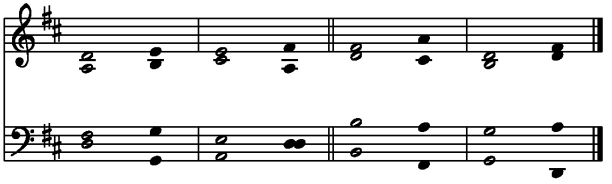
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

The Psalm **Psalm 90:1-12**
Domine, refugium

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

1 Lord, you have been our **refuge ***
from one generation to a**nother.**

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were **born**, *
from age to age you are **God.**

3 You turn us back to the dust and **say**, *
"Go back, O child of **earth**."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is **past** *
and like a watch in the **night**.

5 You sweep us away like a **dream**; *
we fade away suddenly like the **grass**.

6 In the morning it is green and **flourishes**; *
in the evening it is dried up and **withered**.

7 For we consume away in your dis**pleasure;** *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indig**nation**.

8 Our iniquities you have set be**fore you**, *
and our secret sins in the light of your **countenance.**

9 When you are angry, all our days are **gone;** *
we bring our years to an end like a **sigh**.

10 The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even **eighty**; *
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are **gone**.

11 Who regards the power of your **wrath?** *
who rightly fears your indig**nation**?

12 So teach us to number our **days** *
that we may apply our hearts to **wisdom**.

The Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk

get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Hymn # 536 (vv. 1-3) Open our ears, O faithful people *Torah Song*

The Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

Preacher: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

Hymn # 536 (v.4) Open our ears, O faithful people *Torah Song*

The Sermon The Rev. Webster Gibson

The Nicene Creed p. 358

The Prayers of the People (Congregational response: *"Hear our prayer."*)

The Peace p. 360

The Holy Communion

Presentation of gifts

For this Sunday, we emphasize our annual giving with the opportunity to present our gifts at the altar. During this offertory time, you are invited to bring your pledge card forward and place it in the basket at the front of the altar. As the choir sings their anthem and as the congregation sings a hymn of thanks, please walk up to the altar and place your pledge card in the basket.

Remember, as with all that we offer up to God every Sunday, and especially with our pledge cards, it expresses our offering of our whole selves in service to the living God for all that God has done revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

If you prefer to turn in your pledge online or mail to the church office in the next couple of weeks, we are grateful for your doing so.

The Offertory

Choir Anthem If ye love me Thomas Tallis

Hymn # 705 As those of old their first fruits brought *Forest Green*

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B) p. 367

S-125* Holy, holy, holy Lord Richard Proulx

The Lord's Prayer p. 364

S-155* Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover Gerald R. Near

The Invitation p. 364

The Communion of the People

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Baptized Christians are invited to receive bread and wine; all others are encouraged to come forward for a blessing.

Kneel or stand as able.

Following the direction of the ushers, please come to the rail with pulpit side (right) filling rail from right to center, and lectern side (left) filling rail from center to left. As the clergy distributes the bread, hold both hands out and up.

If you need communion brought to you, please alert an usher.

To receive the wine:

- *To sip from the chalice: Gently take the base of the chalice and guide the chalice to your mouth. Do not grab the main part of the chalice.*
- *To intinct: Hold your wafer up to indicate intinction to the chalicer. The chalicer will take the wafer from you, dip the edge into the wine and return it to your hand.*

Those who wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

During Communion

Hymn # 490 I want to walk as a child of the light *Houston*

Post Communion Prayer p. 365

Hymn # 680 O God, our help in ages past *St. Anne*

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Celebrant: We send to those who cannot be with us the Sacrament of Christ's loving presence.
People: May the prayers of all of us go with you as you share in the communion.

** "S" Hymns are found in the front section of the hymnal.*

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SERVING TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher **–**The Rev. Webster Gibson
Lay Readers – Pat Kofalt, Marty Tabaka
Prayers of the People – Arthur Sperry
Lay Eucharistic Ministers – Claire Dame, Leslie Harper
Ushers – Pat Kofalt, Mari Kofalt, Michael Cipiti, Marty Tabaka, Doug Thomas
Acolytes – Gregory Elwood, Florence Elwood, Jazmine Pellot
Altar Guild – Pam McKinley, Jazmine Pellot
Livestreaming Team – Phil Sargent, Jimmy Downs, A.J. Frazier

Leadership of Christ Church

Church Staff

The Rev. Webster S. Gibson, *Rector, Ext. 1*
Jean Lin, *Music Director/Organist*
Garth Stevens-Jennings, *Family Ministries, Ext. 2*
Noelle Creamer, *Communications, Ext. 4*
Theresa Seitz, *Bookkeeper, Ext. 5*
Susan Francis, Helen Zebarth, *Parish Nurses, Ext.3*
Steven "Tuffy" Whitacre, *Sexton*
DeLyn Celec*, Director of Alleluia Singers*
Marsha Baden, *Director, Cherub Choir*

Members of the Vestry

Senior Warden: Barbara Downs
Junior Warden*:* Martha Griffin
Treasurer: Bob Puttock
Register: Betsy Young

2027 – Ron Bellows, Barbara Downs, Leslie Harper, Betsy Young

2028 – Martha Griffin, Eric Kalbaugh, Robert Wilson, Mary Margaret Wise

2029 – Katie Harvard, Susan Lauer, Neile Martin

Trustees: Wilborn Roberson, Robert Mitchell, Pem Hutchinson

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

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