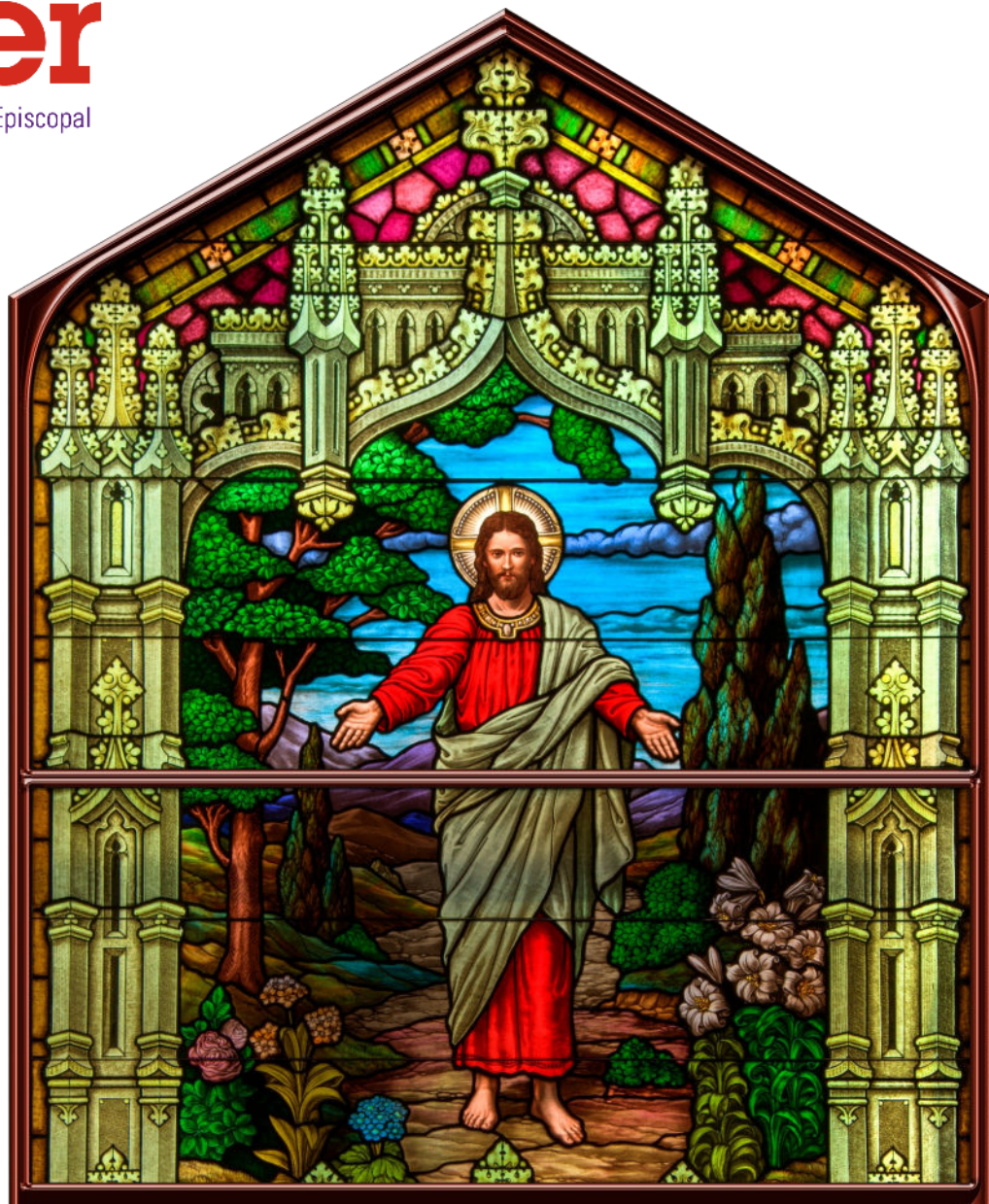


the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXVIII, No. 6

April 18, 2026



FROM THE RECTOR:

We have begun Eastertide—the most joyful and glorious 50-day season of the Church year—in which we are often not sure what we should do.

We know how to walk through Advent. We have finely-tuned preparations, customs, and celebrations for Christmas. We are deliberate and thoughtful throughout Lent. And we have special services every day in Holy Week, leading to a wonderful Easter Sunday.

But what happens after Easter Sunday?

Eastertide is the most important season in the Church year. We have begun a deeply historic, fifty-day season in which we especially remember and rejoice in the Resurrection of Christ.

This is a time to celebrate. This is a time to rejoice. This is a time to give thanks to God.

Not because life is sorted out over these fifty days. The challenges we face in February often remain in April. But in Eastertide, we remember that Jesus conquered death

for us. We recall that whatever obstacles we encounter, we can, as Paul writes to the Philippians, ‘*do all things through Christ who strengthens*’ us. Because He lives in and through us.

Observe Eastertide as a festive season. Plant flowers. Open the blinds. Spend time with people. Walk, ride, run, or fish. Worship the Risen Lord. And lift your voice with all the Church throughout the world in our Eastertide acclaim – **‘The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!’**

Faithfully yours in Christ Jesus,

David H

If you're new to The Episcopal Church, or to liturgical Christianity in general, Eastertide is thrilling. Eastertide is thrilling because there is this whole season—fifty days!—for celebration and feasting and reveling in the light of Christ's resurrection. Eastertide is thrilling because it is one of the very high points in this thing called "the Christian Year" or "the Church calendar". It is fresh and new and exciting.

But what about for the old-timers, the folks who have been around the block once or twice? The Christian Year, even the season of Easter, can feel like more of the same thing, just another year of churchy stuff.

Besides, what is the point of following the rhythm of the Church calendar again and again? Perhaps going through it a few times might have value, but what about after ten times, twenty times, or more?

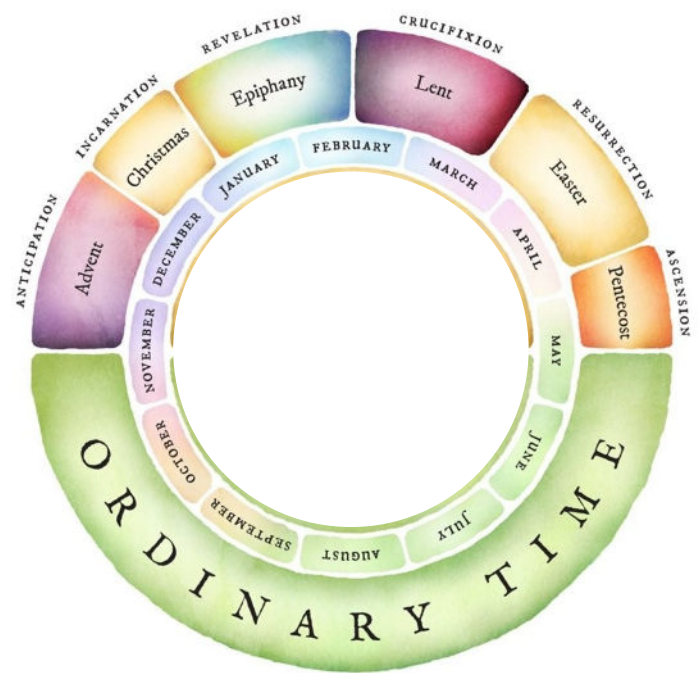
We might ask the same question about reading the Bible: If you've been a Christian for long enough, you know all of the stories. Why keep reading after you've gotten the gist of it?

I've been thinking about this as I've been celebrating another Easter. I've done it all before, but somehow it's still all fresh.

Here is why: ***There are parts of the Christian faith that surface throughout the Christian Year that I have not been prepared to appreciate in the past.***

Yes, we offer all that we are able to muster to God in our worship every year and we listen for God's speaking to us through the Scriptures and in our gathered worship. But there are parts of the liturgy that might seem dull. We might not connect with them. And it is only because we are not yet ready to receive what God is preparing for us. In due time, we will.

This insight came to me when I stumbled upon a video of Thom Yorke of Radiohead playing "Videotape", a hauntingly beautiful song set to piano. I used to listen to Radiohead a lot when I was in high school, but they were always a second or third tier band in my mind,



and I didn't really connect with their music. But I had a couple of their albums, and so I listened to them along with the others I really did like at the time, bands like Manchester Orchestra and Iron & Wine.

I heard "Videotape" probably hundreds of times decades ago, but it never stood out to me. I simply was not ready to hear and appreciate it. Then, upon hearing it again this past week, it was so resonant and powerful. I can't explain what changed, but I appreciated this song for the first time. I have probably listened to it dozens of times since rediscovering it.

I hope that like me, there are parts of the season of Easter that make your heart sing. I hope this Easter you feel the presence of God and find the Scriptures enlightening. But if something doesn't quite sit right, or if it doesn't land, don't worry too much about it. God has a way of using the things that were lost on us in the past to speak to us in the future. Next year new insights might await.



*Thank
You*

Thank you to the Chancel Choir for their contribution to Holy Week. They sang for the Maundy Thursday Service, The Great Vigil, and the two services on Easter Sunday.

In addition to the Chancel Choir on Maundy Thursday we had a string quartet which include Mark Miller, Tami Peterson, Aprili Kondrat and Nini Rubiano.

Thank you to A.J., Holly, and Michelle Hanlon for assisting in the Good Friday Service.

Thank you to our guest brass players that joined us on Sunday morning, Lane Clevenger, Christina Clevenger, Isaac Sanders and Danny Vinson, all from the Easter Texas area.

Thank you to Anthony Reeves, our music librarian, for keeping the choir folders up to date.

Again, thank you to all the musicians who contributed to make Holy Week meaningful.

children's ministry
Zoe Montes
Director of Children's Ministry

zward@christchurchtyler.org

Register Now!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 22-26, 2026



www.christchurchtyler.org/vbs

VBS is coming up, and **we need YOU!**
(Yes, just like Uncle Sam).
Our **volunteer numbers determine the number of kids we are able to host,** and so we are pushing hard to have volunteers sign-up in record numbers. We currently have 18 volunteers signed up, and our goal is to get 48 total. VBS this year is from June 22-26, with a time commitment for volunteers from 8:00-12:30. Please prayerfully consider volunteering this summer.



CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

- 4/18 **GiGi Mercer,**
- 4/24 **Isabella Dickerson,**
- 4/25 **August Henninger,**
- 4/26 **Kayla Garvey,**
- 4/28 **Jane Clare Comte**



student ministry
Stan Ward,
Director of Spiritual Formation

sward@christchurchtyler.org

The Class of



Youth Sunday | May 10th

Senior Receptions
Downtown | 11:00am
South | 10:00am



Special **combined** service | DOWNTOWN
CONFIRMATION

with Bishop Jeff Fisher
Sunday, May 3rd | 10:00am

*Reception after the service honoring
 the youth confirmands & their parents
 as well as the adult confirmands.*

SUMMER
 SCHEDULE

DOWNTOWN only
 begins May 3, 2026

7:30am Holy Eucharist
 9:00am Christian Formation
 10:00am Holy Eucharist

[South Campus times do not change]

**WOMEN'S
 DEPTH GROUP**

1st & 3rd Wednesdays
 6:00pm South Campus

**The Bob Rowlett Memorial
 Open Golf Tournament**

www.christchurchtyler.org/golf-tournament

Friday, May 1, 2026 | 9:00am
 Pine Springs Golf Club
 5630 CR 334 | Tyler, TX 75708

*Proceeds go toward youth scholarships
 for missions and outreach.*

Keys of the Kingdom
 A Theology Study Group & Book Club

*"And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
 and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven,
 and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."
 Matthew 16:19*

2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS
 3:00 – 4:30pm
 Downtown Campus | Guild Hall
 Discussion & Tea

All are welcome to participate, there is a place for you!

For further information
 & to RSVP contact Valerie Huggler, Parish Secretary
 903.597.9854 / office@christchurchtyler.org

New Book starting in March:
An Emblem of Faith Untouched: A Short Life of Thomas Cranmer
 by Leslie Williams

Both of these will recess during the Summer.

In Our Prayers

Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions:

Luba, Maria, Yevea, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Lisa, Anna Marie, Fred, Owen, Jennifer, Cindy, Earl, Linda, Mike, Mark, Dalton, Marian, Jerry, Stella, Dale, Kirby, Patty, Sarah, Ben, Joshua, Helen, Brinley, Cooper, Hans, Sarah, CF, Chris, Peggy, Heidi, Luke, Jessica, Rick, Kay, Amber, Tabitha, Mike, Sydni, Barrett, Martha, Kendall, Kitty, Colleen, Lee

The Anglican Communion: *The Diocese of Wanglei (South Sudan)*

The Episcopal Church: *Dioceses of Alaska & Albany (NY)*

Diocese of Texas: *St. Johns—Marlin & St. Pauls—Marshall*

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Please contact The Rev. Stephen Stine if you'd like to keep or add someone to the prayer list 903.530.8168 or sssti@tjc.edu.

upcoming

THURSDAY April 23

Keys to the Kingdom | *Theology Book Study*

3:00pm Downtown in the Guild Hall

*RSVP office@christchurchtyler.org

SUNDAY | APRIL 26

12:30pm Picnic Under the Pavilion | CCS

FRIDAY | May 1

**The Bob Rowlett Memorial
Golf Tournament**

Still spots open:

christchurchtyler.org/golf-tournament

SUNDAY | May 3 **Downtown Service Times Change*

7:30am Holy Eucharist | CCD

9:00am Confirmation Reception | CCD

10:00am Combined Confirmation Service | CCD

10:00am Christian Formation | CCS

11:05am Holy Eucharist | CCS

SUNDAY | May 10 **YOUTH SUNDAY**

7:30am Holy Eucharist | CCD

9:00am Christian Formation | CCD

10:00am Holy Eucharist | CCD

10:00am Senior Reception | CCS

11:00am Senior Reception | CCD

11:05am Holy Eucharist | CCS

In Memoriam

Our sympathies to the family & friends of

Jeff Arnold,

husband of Louise Arnold

&

Mike Ferguson,

husband of Dottie Ferguson.

Congratulations on the baptism of:

Sofia, Alex & Mateo

children of Diana & Eduardo Tenorio
and

Aurora & Henry

children of Tatyanna & JT Wilkinson

South Campus

April 12, 2026



THE VESTRY

Mr. Tim Alexander, *Treasurer*
 Mr. Bill Clawater, *Asst. Treasurer*
 CLASS OF 2026

Mr. Ashley Bracken, Mr. John Bufe
 Ms. Joyce McGee, Mrs. Sara McElroy,
 Mrs. Ann Weissmann-*Clerk*
 CLASS OF 2027

Dr. Roger Fowler, Mr. Jim Johnson-Jr. *Warden CCS*,
 Mr. George Lollis, Dr. Bob McKinney—*Sr. Warden*,
 Mrs. Shannon Teagarden
 CLASS OF 2028

Mrs. Katie Birdwell, Mr. Hunter Carr—*Jr. Warden CCD*,
 Mrs. Ann Jarrel, Mrs. Judy King, Mrs. Beth Short

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays Year C BCP 1979 Lectionary

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

3 Easter

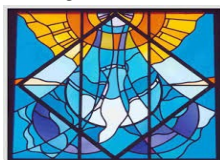
Acts 2:14a, 36-47, Isaiah 43:1-12, Psalm 116
 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

4 Easter

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60, Nehemiah 9:6-15, Psalm 23
 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

Holy Baptism



The next scheduled date for baptisms is Sunday, May 24, 2026. If interested in baptism on this date, please contact the church office, 903-597-9854 or office@christchurchtyler.org.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle
Bishop of the Diocese of Texas

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher *Bishop Suffragan* The Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan *Bishop Suffragan*

The Rt. Rev. Hector Monterroso
Bishop Assistant

The Rev. David Luckenbach
Rector dluckenbach@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin
Associate Rector chartin@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Ted Welty
Associate Rector twelty@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Stephen Stine
Deacon ssti@tjc.edu

The Rev. Tim Kennedy
All Saints Episcopal School Senior Chaplain, Assisting Priest

The Rev. Leesa Lewis
All Saints Episcopal School Assistant Chaplain, Assisting Priest

Mrs. Michael Osburn *Parish Administrator* mardoin@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Jeffrey Ford *Organist/Choirmaster* jford@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. A.J. Meals *Assistant Organist* mealsa@gladewaterisd.com

Dr. Stan Ward *Director of Spiritual Formation for Students & Families* sward@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. McKinley Terry *Assistant Director of Student Ministries* mterry@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Zoe Montes *Director of Children's Ministries* zward@christchurchtyler.org

Ms. Jessica Creel *Assistant Director of Children's Ministries* jcreel@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Valerie Huggler *Parish Secretary* office@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Samantha Hague *Director of Communications* shague@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Robert Finney *Music Leader, Christ Church South* epiphanyttx@gmail.com

Ms. Jennifer Ducote *Sexton*
 Mr. Anthony Moore *Sexton*
 Mr. Kendrick Milton *Assistant Sexton*

Jessi Mayes *Nursery Coordinator*, Reagan Darling,
 Priscilla Yeboah, Kimberly Wanjiru, Jada Akrong *Nursery*

Pastoral Emergency Contacts

In the event of a pastoral emergency, Call the church office during office hours 903.597.9854; after hours call The Rev. David Luckenbach 903.279.8777, The Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin 903.952.3850, or The Rev. Stephen Stine, Deacon, 903.530.8168.



Christ Church | Episcopal
118 S. Bois d'Arc
Tyler, TX 75702

903.597.9854
office@christchurchtyler.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.christchurchtyler.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship Services

7:30am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*

9:00am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*

11:00am **CCD:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*

11:05am~ **CCS:** The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*

~live-streamed christchurchtyler.org

CHRIST CHURCH: ONE CHURCH—TWO CAMPUSES

CCD: Christ Church *Downtown*, 118 S. Bois d' Arc, Tyler, TX 75702 (*office address*)

CCS: Christ Church *South*, 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703

www.christchurchtyler.org | office@christchurchtyler.org

Please Note: *The Crucifer* is published twice monthly (once in July & December).
If you have something you would like to see published in *The Crucifer*, please contact
Samantha Hague at 903-597-9854, shague@christchurchtyler.org.



*The vision of Christ Church is
to be recognized as a joyful,
spirit-filled community of
apostles reaching out and
transforming lives for Christ.*