



The Second Sunday of Easter

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*“A welcoming, compassionate and healing
community in Christ”*

Sunday April 27, 2025
9:00am

Large Print

Christ Episcopal Church
205 North Seventh Street Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-421-7481
E-Mail: office@christchurchstroudsburg.org
[Website: www.christchurchstroudsburg.org](http://www.christchurchstroudsburg.org)

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Rector | The Rev. Bruce E Gowe |
| Assisting Priest | The Rev. Dr. Sidnie Crawford |
| Music Director | Bethann Kratzer |
| Church Admin | Joyce Onsted |
| Senior Warden | Carl Ausfahl |
| Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols, <i>Bishop of the Diocese of Bethlehem</i> | |

VESTRY

Jr. Warden – Cheryl Cloke
Clerk of Vestry – Chris Searles
Myra Bailey, Debby Campbell, Kevin Furst,
Rob Ceci, Marcos Gonzalez, Katina Williams, Sharon Potter

Mission Statement: “A welcoming, compassionate and healing community in Christ”

Liturgy Participants

Preacher & Celebrant: The Rev. Bruce Gowe
Lectors: Carl A | Bonnie K
Counters: Jill A | Bob N
Chalice Bearer : Anthony P
Altar Server: Anthony P
Music Director: Bethann Kratzer

ENTRANCE HYMN H 494

Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now
 5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and
3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown

1 hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

Together we say

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.*

OPENING ANTHEM S 280

Glory to God

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

²⁷When [the captain and the temple police] had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

¹⁵There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

¹⁶"The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

¹⁷I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter."

²¹I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *

and have become my salvation.
²²The same stone which the builders rejected *
 has become the chief cornerstone.
²³This is the LORD's doing, *
 and it is marvelous in our eyes.
²⁴On this day the LORD has acted; *
 we will rejoice and be glad in it.
²⁵Hosanna, LORD, hosanna! *
 LORD, send us now success.
²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; *
 we bless you from the house of the LORD.
²⁷God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; *
 form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
²⁸"You are my God, and I will thank you; *
 you are my God, and I will exalt you."
²⁹Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
 his mercy endures for ever.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

A Reading from the Revelation of John.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
 every eye will see him,
 even those who pierced him;
 and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Reader</i> | The Word of the Lord. |
| <i>People</i> | Thanks be to God. |

SEQUENCE HYMN *Celtic Allelula*



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GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SEQUENCE HYMN

THE HOMILY

THE CREED (BCP p. 358)

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 (BCP p. 359)

All remain standing.

Grace to you and peace from Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead. The Lord has acted; let us rejoice and be glad, saying, "You are our God; and we thank you."

Almighty God, you have given your Church the ministry of reconciliation: grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Kevin, our own Bishop, for Bruce our Priest, Sidnie our Assisting Priest, Wil our Postulant for the Diaconate, and Barbara our Canon Missioner.

Silence

You are our God;

And we thank you.

Ruler of the kings of the earth, Lord Jesus, your word is a word of peace: speak forth salvation in a weary world. We pray for Donald our President, Josh our Governor and Michael our Mayor.

Silence

You are our God;

And we thank you.

All you do, O Lord, is marvelous in our eyes: give us a respect for all you have made.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

You are our God;

And we thank you.

Mighty Savior, raise up faithful witnesses in our community, that our neighbors might come to know that you love them and have freed them from the power of sin. We pray for Paula George, Margaret Giese, Sarah Goodrich, Lynn Harrison and Bill and Rev. Beth Haynes and family. In the Diocese of Bethlehem for St. John's, Hamlin; and Lay Formation and in Kajo Keji for St. Mark Dwani Parish. In the Anglican cycle of prayer for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

Silence

You are our God;

And we thank you.

O Lord, you are good; your mercy endures forever: be the strength of the weak especially Anthony, Oliver, Lorelai, Marshall, Richard, Antonia, Rebecca, June, Margaret, Kelly Ann, Berni, Ed, Julian, Noel, Mike, Chris, Frank, Zach, Tom, Laura, Jo, Rob, Loretta, Brianna, Renee, Mary and Jim E, Jodi, David, Denise and Jay; and the song of those who mourn, especially for Olga Lorenzetti and Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome, and all those who have died.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence

You are our God;

And we thank you.

Alpha and Omega, you do not hand your beloved ones over to death, but promise life eternal to all those baptized into your Son: to you be glory and dominion forever.

Silence

You are our God;

And we thank you.

Presider

Lord Jesus Christ, you set your face steadfastly to go to Jerusalem: Deliver us from the temptation to shrink from the hard paths of a dutiful life. Make us ready to meet all the counsels of your will, and to be obedient even to death; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalms 50:14*

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY HYMN H 380 v. 3 *From all that dwell below the skies*

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

SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 367)

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 him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 367)

It is right, and a good...

...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:

SANCTUS S 125 *Holy, holy, holy (Proulx)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself...Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

EPICLESIS (BCP p. 369)

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father ...

...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 LORD’S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 FRACTION ANTHEM H 417

This is the Feast

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, — whose

1 blood set us free — to be peo - ple of God. [Ant.]

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

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.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

You may be seated until you come forward to receive. When you receive the consecrated bread, you consume it and then move to the cup of consecrated wine. The cup is for drinking, and for those who choose to “intinct” or touch the tip of their bread to the wine. You may also choose to receive Communion in only one kind. If you would like a blessing, come forward and cross your hands over your heart to indicate you would like to be blessed. Gluten free wafers are available. Please let the priest know as you come forward. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE.

COMMUNION HYMN MHSO 86

In a Bulb there is a Flower



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple
2 There's a song in ev - 'ry si - lence, scek-ing word and mel - o -
3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i -

tree; in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter -
dy; there's a dawn in ev - 'ry dark - ness, bring - ing
ty; in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our

flies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of
hope to you and me. From the past will come the
life, e - ter - ni - ty; in our death, a res - ur -

win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
fu - ture, what it holds, a mys - ter - y, un - re -
rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

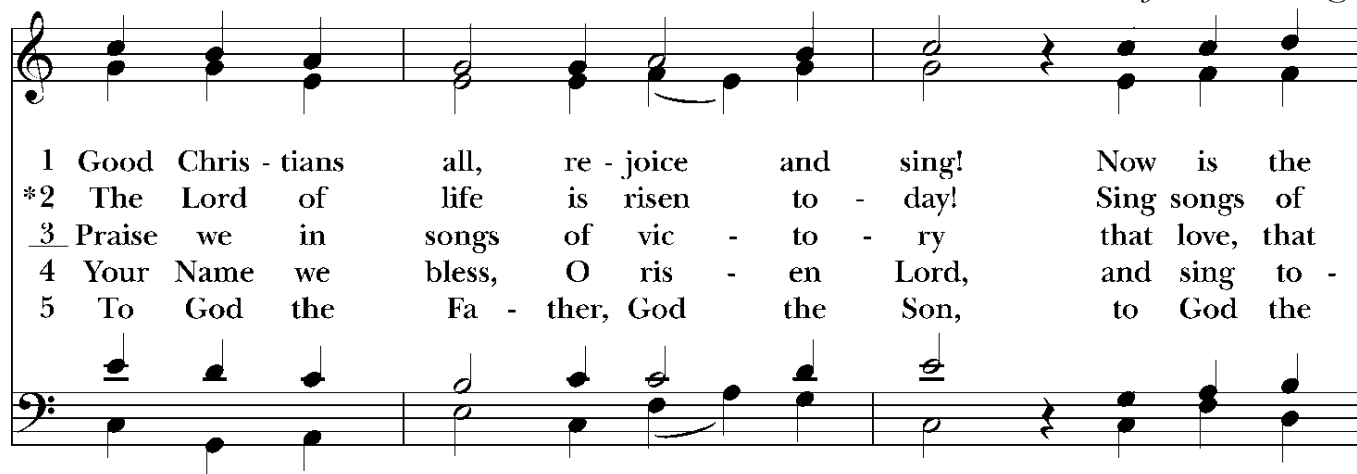
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BLESSINGS

BLESSING (BCP p. 366)

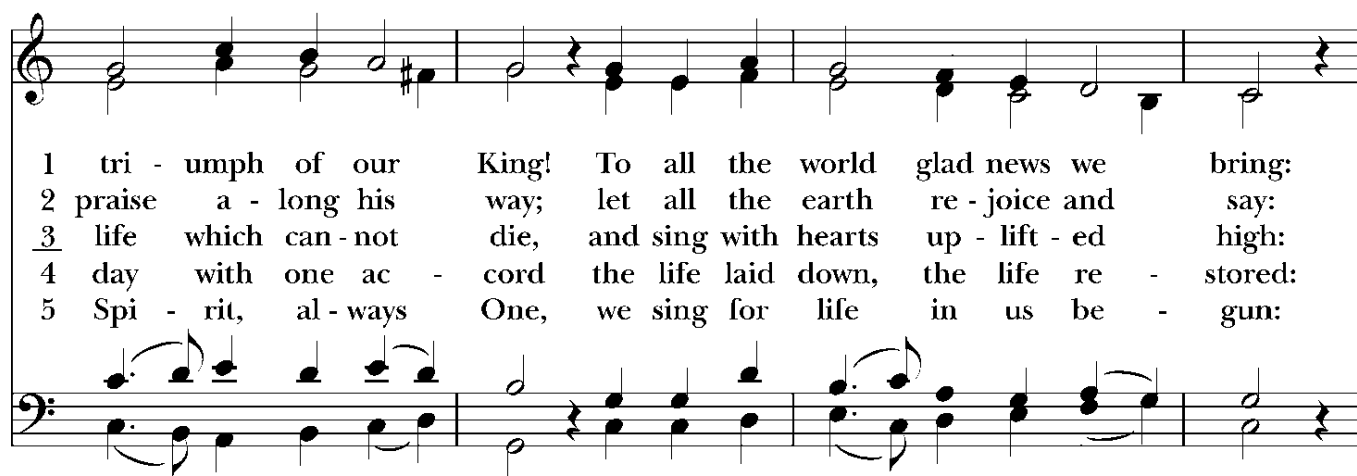
The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN H 205

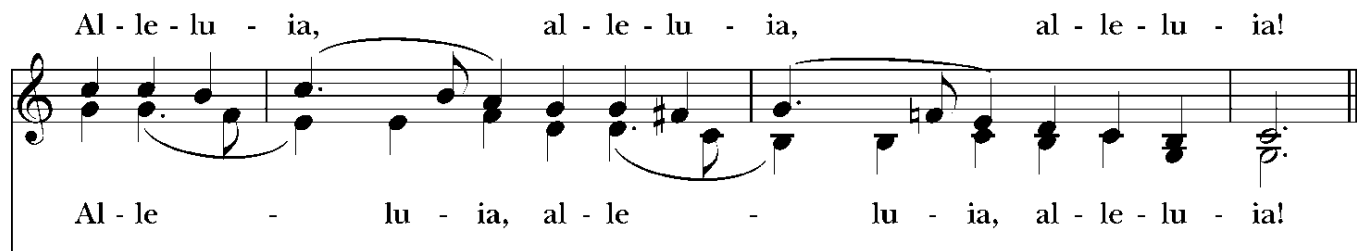
Good Christians all Rejoice and Sing



1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the
*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the



1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:
5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Today's flowers are offered by Holly Wells in memory of Robert Burson,
James Wells and Jerry Adams

Christ Church Announcements



Financial Presentation Today!

The Finance Team is holding a meeting after Mass today for all interested congregants. The 2025 budget will be presented.

Please Note Upcoming Mass Time Change

Starting on May 11th Sunday Masses are at 8:00am and **10:00am**. Wednesday 12:05pm Mass will not change.

CEC Music

Do you like to sing? Our choir rehearses every Thursday evening at 6:30 pm. No prior experience necessary!

Our Bell Choir Practices Tuesday nights at 7pm

Bethann is our music director.

You can reach her at bkrat44@gmail.com

Happy Anniversary!

Deborah Emin and Suzanne Pyrch

James and Leslie McChesney

Frank and Theresa Coletta

Happy Birthday!

Cheryl Cloke!