CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

February 20, 2022: Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

You may stream the 10:30 a.m. service from Christ Church's website, YouTube, or Facebook pages
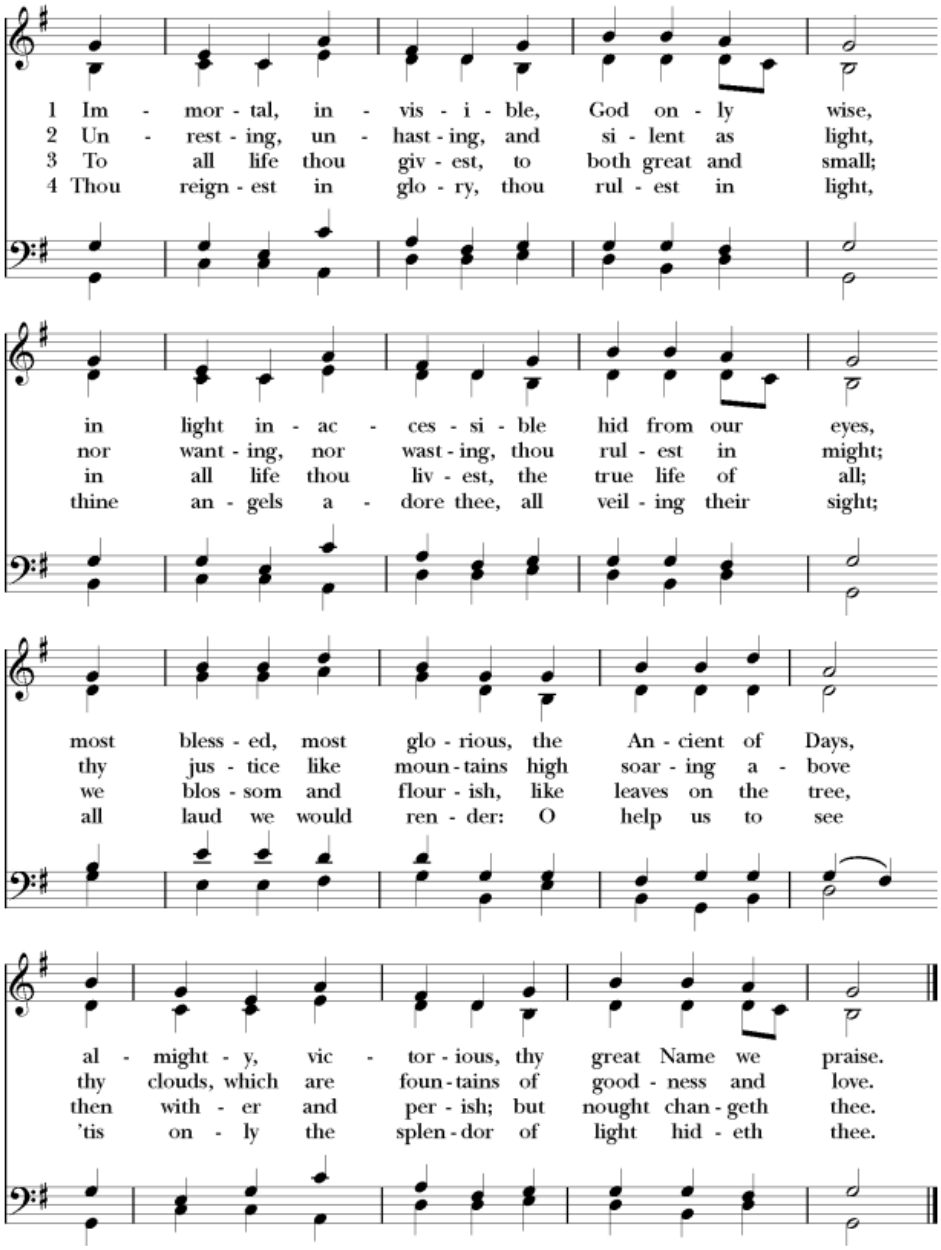
THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise *arr. Robert J. Powell*

INTROIT – Christ Is Our Guiding Light *Eric Law*

Christ is our guiding light: come let us walk in the way of peace.

OPENING HYMN 423 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise *St. Denio*



Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant: 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.***

Gloria

8:00 a.m. service

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
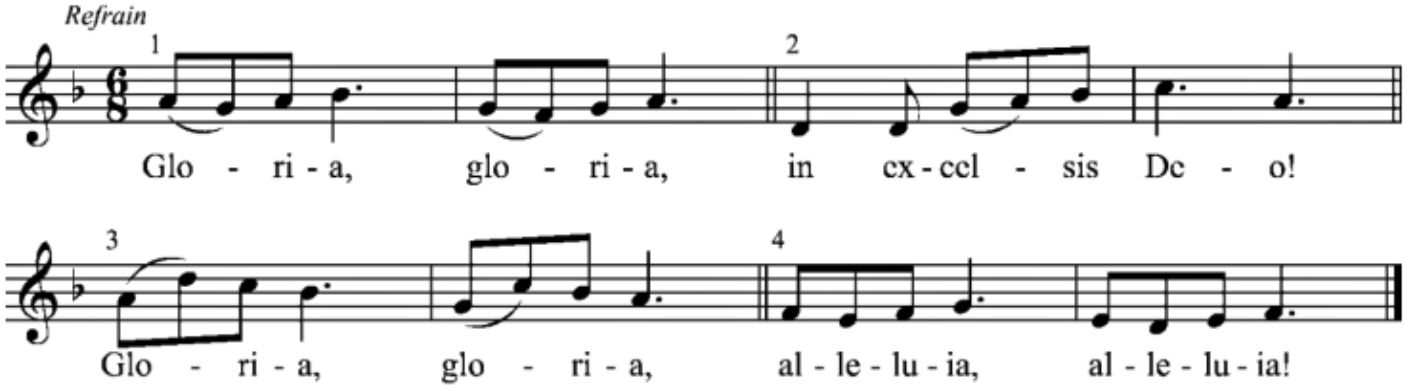
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Song of Praise – Gloria

Jacque Berthier/Taize

Sung at the 10:30 a.m. service.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen***.

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

PSALM 37:1-12, 41-42 ***Noli aemulari***

Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.
Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.
Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.
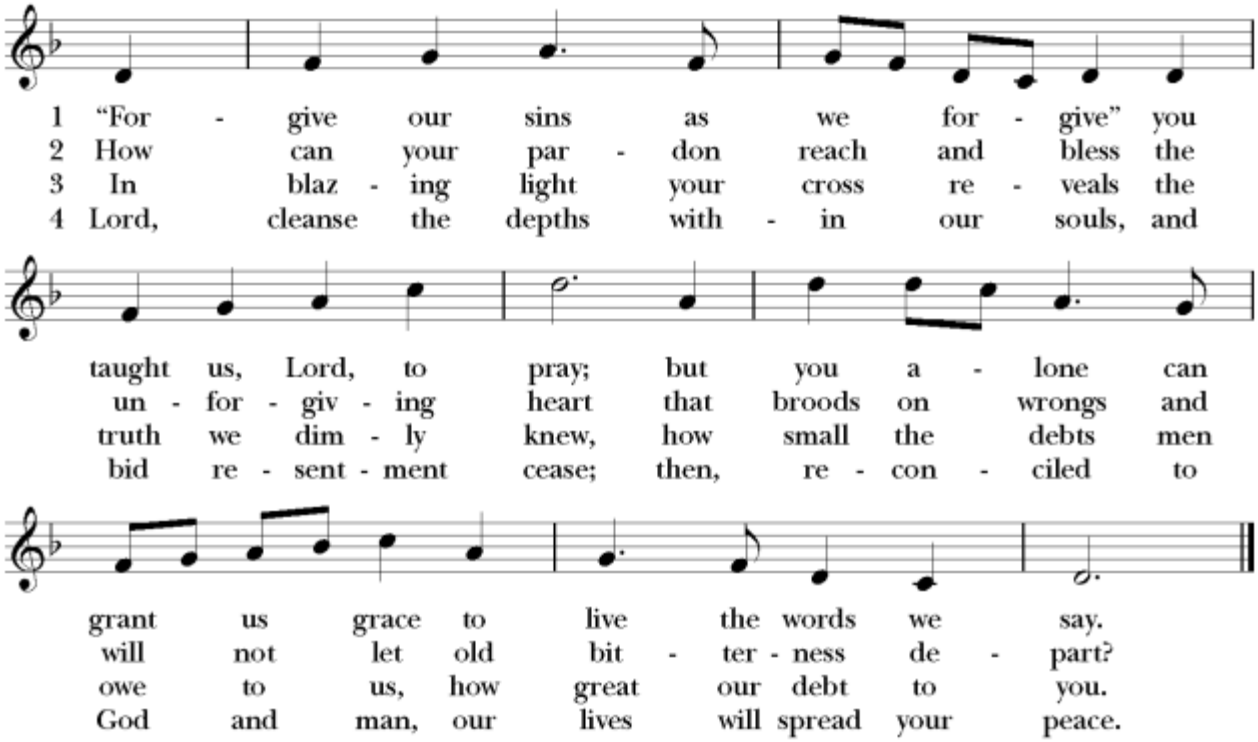
So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

The people stand as able for the singing of the hymn and remain standing for the reading of the Gospel and the prayers.

SEQUENCE HYMN 674 – Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive *Detroit*



THE GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

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

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

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

The people may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

All: **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

Trust and commitment to the Lord often require patient waiting. There is deliverance for those who walk in the ways of the Lord. Love and forgiveness were vital to Joseph's relationships and still apply prominently in our lives today. We must not dwell in the past, instead be renewed in heart and spirit through our reliance on God.
We pray: **Take delight in the Lord.**

We pray for the worldwide Church, its perseverance and courage, and its mercy and wisdom in the face of violence and persecution. Today, among the 85 million people in 165 countries within the Anglican Communion, we hold the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East in prayer. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for the parishes of Advent, Baltimore; Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore; and Church on the Square, Baltimore. We pray for the ordained clergy who lead us: for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishops, Eugene and Robert; our Rector, Emmanuel; our Associate Priest, Marcia; our Deacon, Denise; and our Rector Emeritus, Richard. We also ask for the Lord's guidance for the lay leadership of Christ Church. We welcome all visitors and newcomers worshipping with us today. We hope you have been encouraged by our music and empowered by our prayers and shared Eucharist.
We pray: **In Jesus' name, for His continued grace and goodness.**

Lord, hold close to you all who are ill and in need of your healing touch, especially Jim, Kathleen, Chad, Caroline, Jess, Tinny, Catherine, Mary Ann, Norman, Amos, Chuck, Bunmi, Alta, Alfred, & Ashley, and those we name. We pray for those lonely, homeless, neglected, and abused. We pray for those who live in fear, especially Faizan and Fazal. We ask your blessings upon underserved communities impacted by the effects of system racism and inequity. Open our hearts and minds to help us discern our response to supporting the diocese's work of racial reconciliation. May we serve all who suffer in a spirit of love and kindness.
We pray: **May we all receive the gift of health and peace.**

We pray for all who have died and entered Your heavenly kingdom, especially Christian Johnson, and those we name. May we realize that we live in the presence of Christ now and forevermore.
We pray: **Glory be to God, our eternal Father.**

As a church family, we give thanks for special occasions of joy in our lives. This week we celebrate the birthday of Denis and the anniversary of Skip & Lorri Shepherd. We are all unique individuals created in the image of God. Each person enriches our community of faith and touches our hearts and soul.
We pray: **Praise to our Lord for His never-ending love.**

May we be kind, merciful, understanding, and generous in giving to all we encounter, both friends and strangers, including angry and unjust people, always modeling Christian love. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

Music During the Offering – Be Thou My Vision

arr. Bob Chilcott

Catherine Hinton, soprano

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art
Be Thou my best Thought, in the day or by night, Both waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art
Be Thou my best Thought, in the day or by night, Both waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

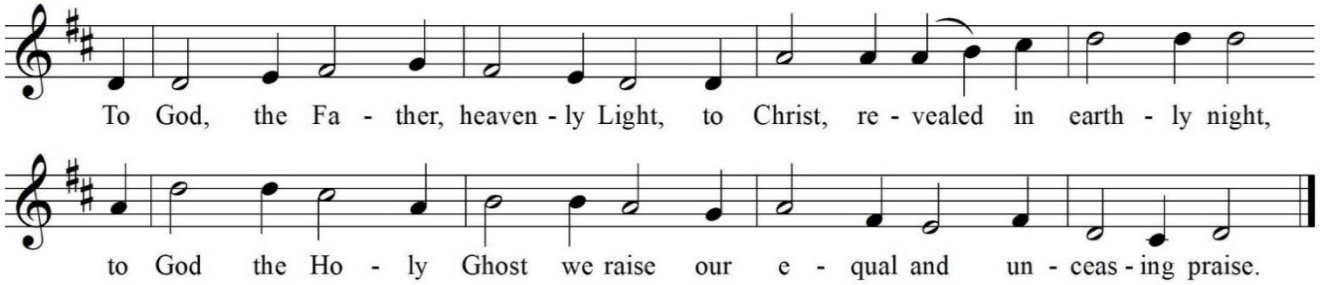
Be Thou my Wisdom, be Thou my true Word; Be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee, Lord;
Be Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son; Be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou, and Thou only, the first in my heart; O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure Thou art;
O Sovereign of heaven, be Thou my Vision; Be Thou my Vision, O Ruler of all.

The people stand as able.

Presentation Hymn 124, V. 5

Puer Nobis



Eucharistic Prayer C

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.**

Celebrant: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: **By your will they were created and have their being.**

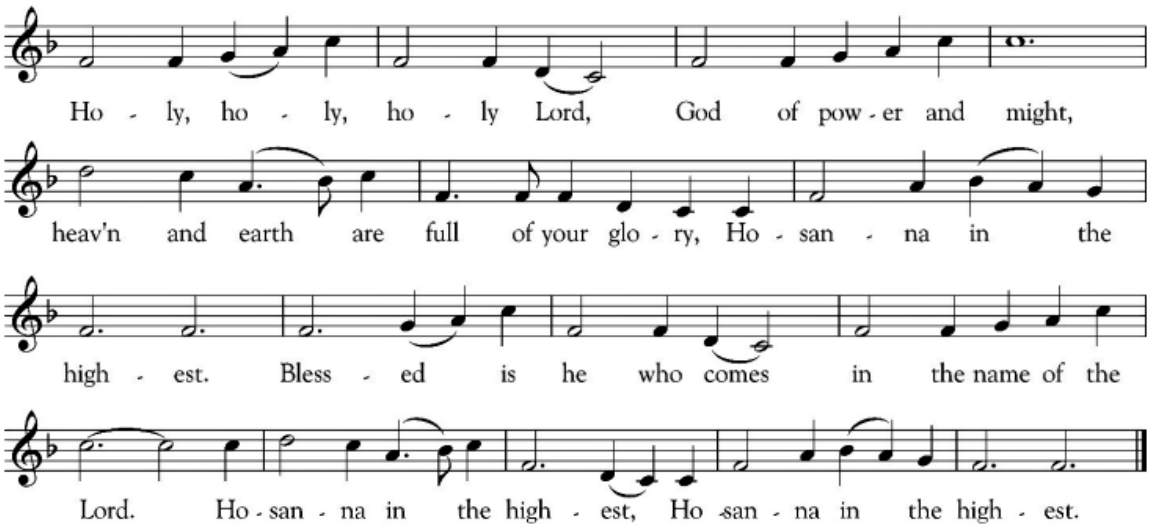
Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: **By his blood, he reconciled us.**
By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People: ***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Celebrant: Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***AMEN.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

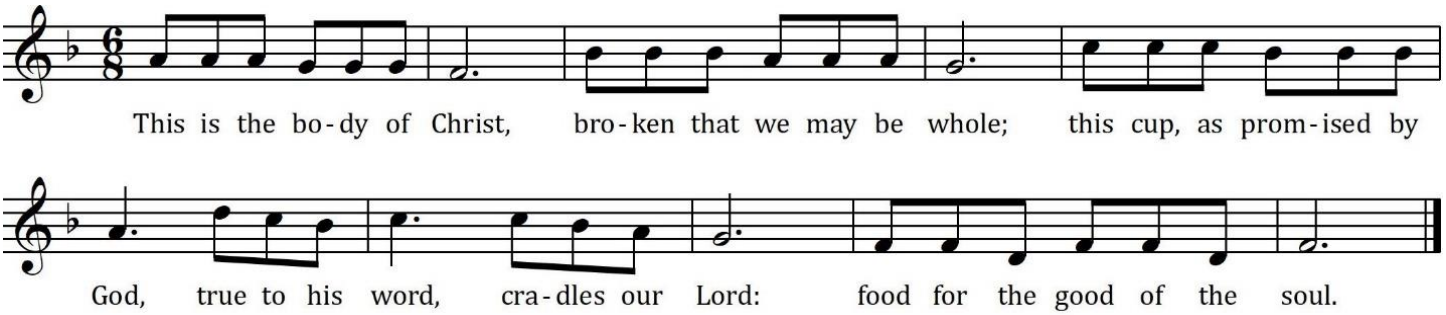
All: **Our Father,**
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

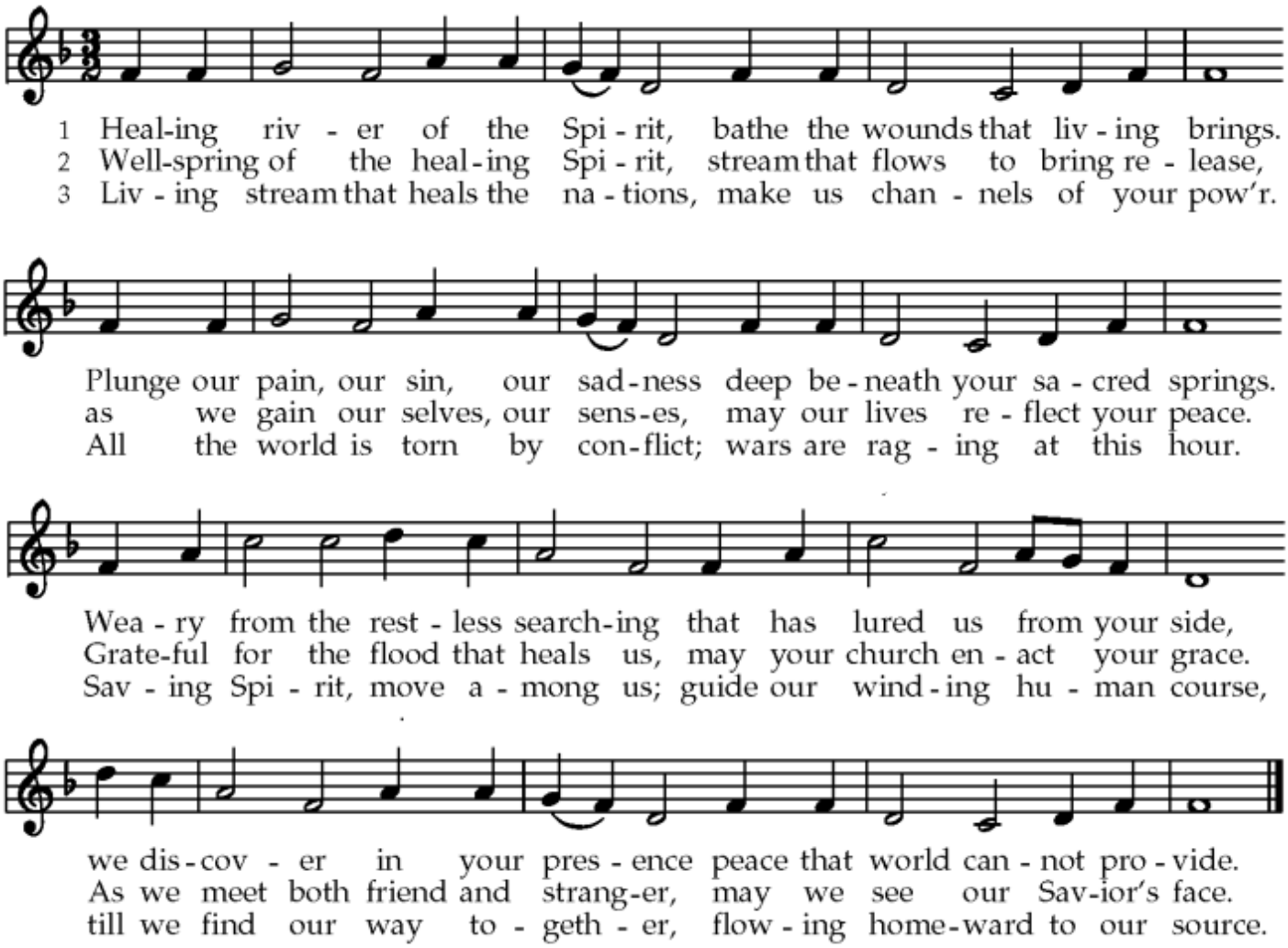
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

FRACTION ANTHEM – This is the Body of Christ *John Bell*



COMMUNION HYMN VF 96 – Healing River of the Spirit *Beach Spring*



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
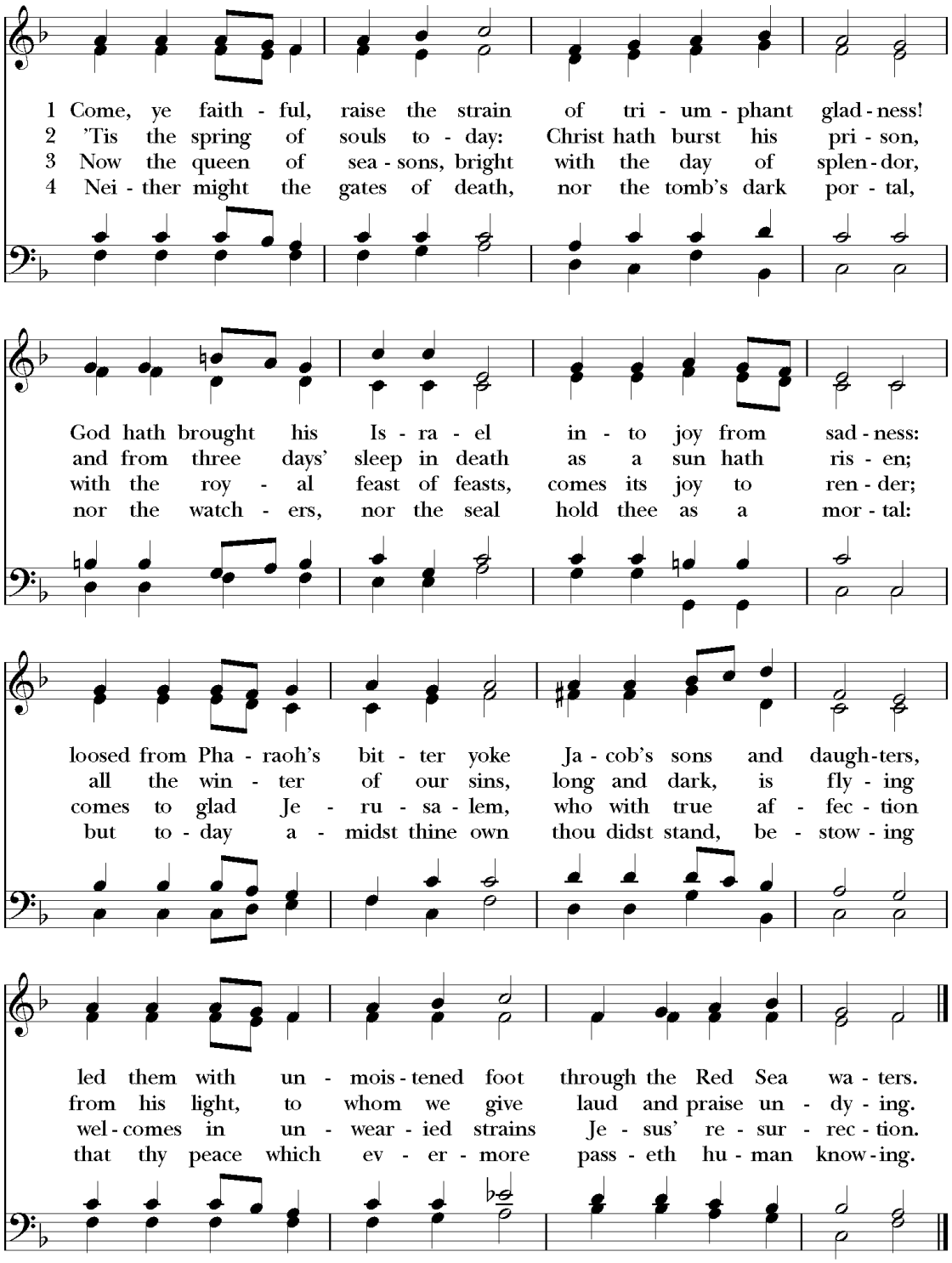
Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **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.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant offers a blessing and the People respond ***Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN 199 – Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain *St. Kevin*



DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE – Priere a Notre-Dame from Suite Gothique *Leon Boellmann*

Ola Oladipupo, organist

Today's Altar Flowers were donated in honor of Oyinkan Williams' 60th birthday on February 25th.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Youth Formation: Sunday School | Every child is always welcome to join us virtually for Sunday School, with both sessions beginning at 9:15 a.m. If this is your first time, the registration form is located **here** and you can send completed ones to ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org to enroll. You can receive the elementary-age Zoom link by emailing Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkins@verizon.net. The older youth session is run by our Youth Minister, Todd Domer, and you can reach him by emailing youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for those Zoom details.

Adult Forum: Sunday Circle | Sunday Circle gathers each Sunday in February and engages in critically important Conversations on Race hosted by Christ Church's Racially Aware Group of Episcopalians. Throughout the month, you can join us either in person or virtually via Zoom, and we hope that you do. The link is here, Meeting ID is 830 0680 9158 and Password is AFSC. This Sunday, February 20th, we will explore the HCPSS Black Student Achievement Program and its potential connections to our continuing support of Lake Elkhorn Middle School.

Confirmation Classes Begin in Two Weeks | Christ Church is offering Confirmation classes for all high school students in 2022 and will begin on Sunday, March 6th. At this time, we'll temporarily hold these classes online via Zoom and make adjustments as we go along. It is our hope that our candidates will be confirmed by one of the Bishops of Maryland later this year; we'll share that date when it becomes available. If you are interested in learning more about Confirmation and/or registering for the class, please reach out to Fr. Manny at revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Centering Prayer – Mondays | Centering Prayer takes place Mondays at 7 p.m. and is a form of contemplation, a method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God. We invite you to log in, see what Centering Prayer is all about, and how it can find a unique and valuable space in your own life. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is 859 2522 4340 and Password is Centering!

Adult and Children's Choir - Tuesdays and Thursdays | Our choirs have resumed activities for both youth and adults, and everyone is welcome to join... so maybe 2022 is your year! Children's Choir meets on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Adult Choir meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. If you've ever been interested in joining our choir, now's that time… and this invitation is open to every parishioner. No experience is necessary, and the more people who join us, the better we sound! Please email Len Langrick, our Director of Music, at music@christchurchcolumbia.org to learn more.

Lectionary Bible Study – Wednesdays | Bible Study takes place on Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., discussing and reflecting on the readings for the coming Sunday. Our next gathering's readings are located here. You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and we'll all study and learn together. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is 885 9287 2661 and the Password is CECBible.

Pick Up Your Pledge Envelopes | The 2022 pledge envelopes have arrived and are available for pickup now. They are located in the Narthex, but if you need to make other arrangements, please email the Church Office.

Taizé Worship Services in Lent - March 4th | Beginning on Friday, March 4th at 6 p.m. in Old Brick, CEC will offer a series of six Taizé worship services including chants, prayers, Scripture, intercessory prayer, and silence. Mother Marcia, a long-time adherent to the Taizé community and frequent visitor, will lead the service. This form of worship, based on the practice of the Taizé community in France, offers a time of quiet and intentional reflection, worship, and drawing closer to the Presence of God in Christ Jesus.

The founder of the Taizé community, Brother Roger, explains: "What we usually call 'worship' the Taizé community simply calls 'Prayer'. Taizé Prayer consists of 'short chants, repeated again and again, giving them a meditative character. Using just a few words, they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God."

Silence is also an important component and a welcome gift to Taizé worship The use of lighted candles and icons offers a visual invitation to pray silently in the presence of others and God. Although chants and even prayers are sung, there is no requirement to be musically gifted to participate. For more information, email Mother Marcia or simply join us in Old Brick any Friday during Lent, beginning on March 4th.

Women of Christ Church - March 7th | The next WOCC meeting takes place via Zoom on Monday, March 7th at 1 p.m. If you're a woman aged 18 or older, you're already a member of the WOCC, so join us and see what's happening!

We've also published our calendar of events for 2022, so please check it out and join us in our activities. We've got lots of opportunities coming up in March, so mark your calendars:

- March 21st is our trip to Maryland Women's Heritage Center to celebrate Women's History Month. Carpooling will be available. Email us for details.
- We've been invited by St. John's in Ellicott City to their Saturday afternoon guided Lenten Labyrinth walks. Guides will be available between 2:30 and 5:30 each Saturday in Lent, beginning March 5th. We visited the site last fall; you can see our report about that experience here.

Altar Flowers and Gifts | If you would like to present Altar gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on an upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and 2022 sign-up sheet at https://tinyurl.com/CEAltargifts. You can also sign up and reserve a slot by using our Realm Online Giving Form; just choose "Altar Flowers and Gifts" from the *FUND* drop-down menu, and place the dedication name(s) and service date in the *MEMO* line. Email the Church Office with any questions.

Christ Church's Grief Support Group | If you are grieving a loss and would like to occasionally join a group of others for mutual support and learning, please let us know. Christ Church is planning on creating a Zoom gathering, led by Mother Marcia, for those who might find comfort in sharing &/or listening to experiences of processing loss. This group would meet on a schedule that's most convenient for all participants. Mother Marcia is also happy to meet individually to offer pastoral care and counseling, so if you're interested in taking part in either gathering, please email or speak to her at any time.

Knitters... We Need You! | The Christ Church Prayer Shawl Group has recently been very successful in creating prayer squares, so we are in abundance of those. We do, however, need help in knitting complete prayer shawls at this time. There are several people who are in need of one, but we don't have any to offer to them. If you are interested in knitting a prayer shawl, they can be made approximately 20" wide and 60" long, and knit in a machine-washable material (cotton or acrylic are preferred). An example of a completed prayer shawl can be seen **here**. The fun in making these is that the knitter is creating something with love to comfort someone in need and that they can be creative in choosing a design or creating their own. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Kathy Lyon at rklyon@cablespeed.com.

Christ Church Survey | At Christ Church, a team of clergy and parishioners are beginning to plan for the future of worship and Christian education and formation. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing a survey with the congregation to gather your thoughts on these matters at Christ Church. We encourage everyone to complete the survey when it comes out so that we have enough information to help inform our planning. Stay tuned.

Request for Palms | Ash Wednesday is only three weeks away. We invite you to return your palms from Palm Sunday last year to Christ Church so they may be burned and used for Ash Wednesday services this year. We hope you will then join us for our Ash Wednesday services on March 2nd, as we will have services at 7:00 a.m., 12 noon, and 7:30 p.m. We will have *Ashes to Go* on Ash Wednesday morning, as well. More information will be shared soon.

We Can Use a Few More Ushers and Lectors... How About You? | Several people have recently offered to help out during Christ Church services, and we are extremely grateful to each of you! We do have several spots available for more volunteers, so we encourage you to consider becoming an usher and/or lector for the occasional Sunday service. You will know your schedule well ahead of time, and all ushers and lectors will receive training before scheduling. Please contact Yetti Lipede at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

Diocese of Maryland's COVID Update for This Week | The Omicron variant continues to increase the number of cases throughout the region. The most recent Diocesan update can be read in full here. Please note that masks are still required at all times while indoors at Christ Church, and we encourage those with compromised immune systems to remain home on Sundays and worship virtually. As always, we'll continue our dialogue with the appropriate organizations and adjust restrictions with care and consideration. Email us if you have any questions.

African Team Ministries - This Sunday | After 2020's COVID-19 hiatus and 2021's abbreviated booth, ATM is back! Handcrafts will be on display through the 27th of this month and at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 1st. This ministry provides East African, primarily Kenyan, artisans with a market for their beautiful creations. Come & see intricate wood carvings, privative musical instruments, eye-catching soapstone décor, natural elements nativity sets, stunning necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and more!

We also need volunteers to help with set-up, selling, and pack-out. If you are interested in helping and are available after services or on Shrove Tuesday, please contact Sara Kirkpatrick at kirkpasf@gmail.com, leave a message at 410-730-6797.

Leaders of Saint Luke's Youth Center Say "Thanks" to Christ Church During a Visit on Feb. 13th | Despite the snowy weather on the morning of Sunday, February 13th, leaders of St. Luke's Youth Center attended worship services and Adult Forum at Christ Church. As seen in our website's Outreach blog post for this week, they were here to say "thank you" in person for our support in 2021 that helped Baltimore youth make the most of their four-week summer day camp.

Camp Inspiration is held by the nonprofit SLYC, which operates year-round from the former St. Luke's Episcopal parish at 217 N. Carey Street, Baltimore, Maryland. During camp, families could choose to pick up their children as late as 6 p.m. That option made it much easier for working parents, and it lengthened their kids' fun and learning opportunities. The extended care was funded in part by a $500 contribution from Christ Church.

"We are grateful," said SLYC Executive Director Amanda Gardner Talbot, speaking on behalf of 35 families who make up the collaborative in a West Baltimore neighborhood not far from the B&O Railroad Museum. She is carrying on the work of her late father, an SLYC founder. The Very Rev. Van H. Gardner, who served for 21 years as dean of the Episcopal Cathedral of the Incarnation, passed away early last year.

Talbot was accompanied by Darlene Clark, engagement coordinator, and Nyah Vanterpool, board member, who together invited parishioners to volunteer at SLYC. Volunteer opportunities include in-person tutoring and after-school activities that newcomers may explore as individuals or in small groups. A program called SLYC After School

impacts the lives of young people, ages 4 to 19. Pandemic protocols are in place to protect the health of helpers, staff, and children.

Leaders spoke briefly at the end of Adult Forum about SLYC's collaborative model that includes families, staff members, supporters, and volunteers from several Episcopal parishes. The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland is among the partners. SLYC's liaison on the Outreach Commission is Michon Semon who, along with Nancy Winchester, represented Christ Church at an end-of-camp celebration. Since then, Nancy has made a lovely quilt for SLYC fund-raising. Parishioners got a sneak peek of the handmade quilt after Adult Forum.

For more information about SLYC, please email amanda@bmoreslyc.org.

The 2021 contribution for Camp Inspiration was made from Vestry-approved funding of the Outreach Commission, which strives to address needs locally, nationally, and internationally. For questions, please email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

SAFE Offers Gluten-Free, Allergy-Safe Foods on Third Saturdays | The SAFE Food Pantry, a nonprofit organization that helps people who require gluten-free and allergy-friendly groceries, has relocated indoors so that it can continue free distribution during the winter months. The next availability takes place this Saturday, February 19th, from 10 a.m. to noon at the NonProfit Collaborative, 9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046.

If you have gluten-free or allergy-safe foods to donate, you can bring them without making advance arrangements. Or, if you or others whom you know are in need of these items, please come to Patuxent Woods, which is on an RTA bus line.

Another way to obtain food from SAFE is through its partnership with the Howard County Food Bank. Clients of the food bank can receive pre-bagged, non-allergenic food items when they check-in for their monthly visits. For more information, please call or text a SAFE volunteer at 443-741-1060.

Columbia Community Care Needs Diapers, Personal Care Items | At Christ Church, members of R.A.G.E and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to continue supporting the all-volunteer organization, Columbia Community Care (CCC). Please collect diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. You can put any of these items in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sunday.

The items as well as groceries and produce are distributed at three sites: Long Reach Village Center, Suite 9, 8775 Cloudleap Ct.; Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd., and at the Barn/Teen Center indoor space in the Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, all in Columbia.

Recipients are welcomed from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. For volunteers, donations and drop-offs begin at 9 a.m. You'll find updates, such as requests for volunteers at specific sites, posted in the CCC Facebook Group.

Baltimore Seafarers News | As a reminder, the Women of Christ Church gather donations for Seafarers throughout the year. At this time, they are looking for magazines, cards, notebooks, gloves, hats, and scarves. If you'd like to donate any of these items, the "Seafarers" box is under the table in the Tower Room of New Brick.

Donate Snacks, Crackers, and Cookies to FISH in Bin on our Breezeway | Organizers for FISH of Howard County are continuing to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill its shopping lists. The yellow bin is between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your contributions to our neighbors in need.

In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org. Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.



Come to Our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!
March 1st at 6:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join the Christ Church Youth Group as we host the 2022 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Pancake Supper on Tuesday, March 1st at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, please sign up here or visit https://tinyurl.com/CECshrove2022. Ticket prices are on the form, and you can process payment by using our online giving form. Simply select *Youth Ministry* from the *FUND* dropdown menu and write "Shrove Tuesday" in the *MEMO* line.

Questions? Contact Yetti Lipede any time.

We hope to see you there!



The Long Welcome: Refugee Ministry Update

Our refugee family continues to make great progress in their transition to life in the U.S. After weeks of hurdling administrative requirements, and thanks to the tremendous efforts of Paula Rees, Mati was successfully enrolled in Wilde Lake High School. He recently shared that his school back in Afghanistan was just one room, so getting to classes at Wilde Lake has been interesting. But he's making friends and learning how to navigate the technology used for instruction. His mother, Ziba, just moved up a level in her English class at Howard Community College, and she enjoys Mother Marcia's supplemental tutoring sessions. The entire family is immensely grateful for Christ Church's support. In fact, calling from Afghanistan, the family's father recently expressed his deep appreciation to everyone for taking such good care of his family. He is aware there is a large group behind the effort, who've contributed in so many different ways.

Moving forward, the ministry team is engaging in workforce preparation, exploring options for higher education, and mentoring in financial literacy, among other tasks. In fact, we particularly need help with fundraising—a critical part of being able to help the family meet both their short- and long-term goals. If interested, contact Deacon Denise. Finally, our Signup Genius for donations has been updated; just go to https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c44aaaf22a1fac34-refugee or scan the QR code below to access it.

Thank you for all you do to serve the many needs of the world.



WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH

Because of your genuine and overwhelming acts of selflessness, kindness, grace, compassion, and love, you continue to give immensely to support and build our common life at Christ Church. You inject life into Christ Church so that we may be able to serve the world. It is your giving that has made it possible for us to accomplish some of the work that God has given us. The truth is that we have been able to minister and serve countless people because of your faithfulness, and for that, we thank God for each one of you and thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

We also want to thank ***YOU***. Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables Christ Church to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us.

We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness. Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving, and so as we celebrate the season of giving, we want to highly encourage all who have not fully completed their pledge for 2021 to remember their faithfulness. We also want to appeal to all who have not as yet returned their pledge for 2022 to remember their faithfulness.

TEXT GIVING: You can now give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply text ***CECGIVING*** to **73256**, and you'll receive a secure link to our page where you can set up a one-time or recurring gift.

ONLINE GIVING: You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing towards your annual pledge or another offering. Whether it's a one-time donation or a recurring gift, you can go to our overview page for instructions and links. Signing up is fast and easy; if you need assistance doing so, or if you have any Stewardship-related questions, please contact us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*
The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*
Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*
Len Langrick, *Interim Music Director*
Kathleen Lyon, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*
Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*
Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*
Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)
Tim Beaty • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • Greta Pike-Barnes •
Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman