



Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, February 5, 2023 • 10:30 a.m.

Welcome Home!

Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church community: christchurchcolumbia.org. This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone is welcome to receive communion at God's table, and the clergy are happy to speak with you at any time.

We are delighted you're here - welcome home!

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude |

Opening Hymn LEVAS 1 | Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.

Let our rejoicing rise
high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.

Facing the rising sun
of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past,
till now we stand at last
where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.

continued

God of our weary years,
 God of our silent tears,
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,
 thou who hast by thy might
 led us into the light,
 keep us forever in the path, we pray.
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
 lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
 shadowed beneath thy hand,
 may we forever stand,
 true to our God, true to our native land.

Opening Acclamation |

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**
Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;
People: **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People: **One God and Father of all.**
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day |

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

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life
 which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns
 with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading from Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12] |

Reader: A reading from Isaiah.
 Shout out, do not hold back!
 Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
 Announce to my people their rebellion,
 to the house of Jacob their sins.
 Yet day after day they seek me
 and delight to know my ways,
 as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
 and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
 they ask of me righteous judgments,
 they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?
 Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
 Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
 and oppress all your workers.
 Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
 and to strike with a wicked fist.
 Such fasting as you do today
 will not make your voice heard on high.
 Is such the fast that I choose,
 a day to humble oneself?
 Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
 and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
 Will you call this a fast,
 a day acceptable to the LORD?
 Is not this the fast that I choose:
 to loose the bonds of injustice,
 to undo the thongs of the yoke,
 to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?
 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;
 when you see the naked, to cover them,
 and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
 and your healing shall spring up quickly;
 your vindicator shall go before you,
 the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
 Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
 you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.
 [If you remove the yoke from among you,
 the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
 if you offer your food to the hungry
 and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
 then your light shall rise in the darkness
 and your gloom be like the noonday.
 The LORD will guide you continually,
 and satisfy your needs in parched places,
 and make your bones strong;
 and you shall be like a watered garden,
 like a spring of water,
 whose waters never fail.
 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
 you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
 you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
 the restorer of streets to live in.]

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Psalm 112:1-9, [10] | *Beatus vir*

Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last forever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

Antiphon

It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.
 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.
 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

Antiphon

They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.
 [The wicked will see it and be angry;
 they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.]

Antiphon

Reader: A reading from 1 Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.]

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
 2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
 4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
 5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 2 years in Pal - es - tinc, he comes to claim the
 3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
 3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
 4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

The Gospel | Matthew 5:13-20

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

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

Sermon | Kathy Lyon, *Lay Preacher*

Holy Baptism | BCP 299

The Presentation and Examination of the Candidates | Shayna Violet Burger

Infants and Younger Children |

Then the candidates who are unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Parents and Godparents, as follows

*Parents and
Godparents:* I present Shayna to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents:

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that this child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and
Godparents:* I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and
Godparents:* I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children:

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the Spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce all the sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

I do.

The celebrant then addresses the congregation:

Celebrant: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

***People:* We will.**

Celebrant: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant |

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidate |

Celebrant: Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Intervenor: Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Intervenor: Open her to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Baptism |

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who pours water upon the candidate, saying:

Celebrant: I baptize Shayna in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The celebrant continues:

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the candidates' heads, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying:

Shayna, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever.
Amen.

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

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

Offertory Anthem | This Little Light of Mine

Traditional, arr. George Mabry

Presentation Hymn 380 (v. 1) |

Old 100th

**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. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B | BCP 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

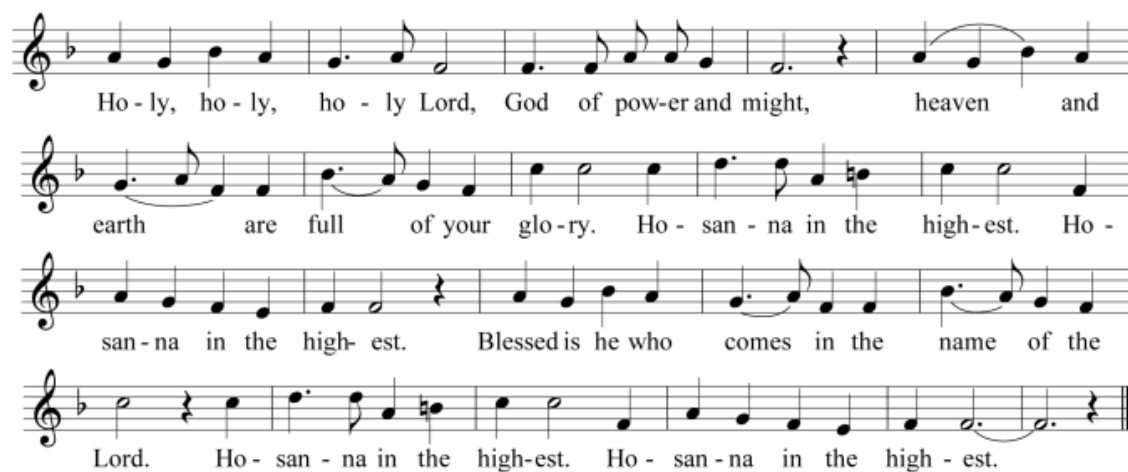
***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:



The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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,

Celebrant and People: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

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 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 | BCP 365

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,
 forever 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 Hymn 324 (v. 2) | King of Kings

Picardy

King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heaven - ly food.

Communion Hymn LEVAS 201 | I've Got Peace Like a River

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2. I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a
 3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1. riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in my
 2. foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain in my
 3. o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in my

1. soul; _____ I've got riv - er in my soul. _____
 2. soul; _____ I've got foun - tain in my soul. _____
 3. soul; _____ I've got o - cean in my soul. _____

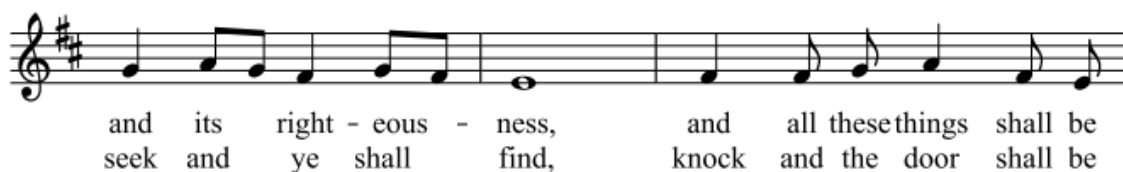
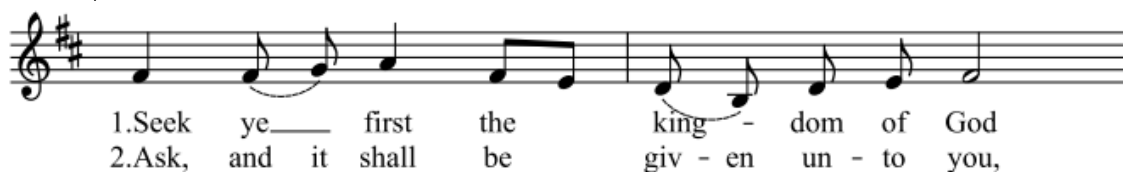
Post-Communion Prayer | BCP 365

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 blesses the People, who respond **Amen.***



The Dismissal |

The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:
Thanks be to God!

Postlude | Verset I, 'In the Glory of the Invalides'

Marcel Dupre
Ola Oladipupo, organist

*Today's altar flowers were donated in celebration of the baptism of Shayna Violet Burger
from all of her Grandparents.*

and

*Today's altar flowers were donated by Rebecca Warlow
in thanksgiving to God for God's loving presence in my life.*

PARISH CALENDAR
FEBRUARY 5 TO FEBRUARY 11

Sunday, February 5

8:00 – 8:45 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast – New Brick, lower level
8:45 – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 – 9:30 am	Family Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 – 10:15 am	Sunday School – Parish Hall & New Brick, lower levels
9:30 – 10:30 am	Bible Study – Parish Hall, conference room
9:30 – 10:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick
10:30 – 11:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Monday, February 6

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
1:00 – 2:00 pm	WOCC Meeting – Zoom
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Zoom

Tuesday, February 7

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 2:00 pm	Japanese Play Group – Outside New Brick
7:00 – 9:00 pm	MS Support Group – New Brick, lower level

Wednesday, February 8

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
10:00 – 11:00 am	Take Off Pounds Sensibly – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, February 9

8:00 – 8:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 8:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, February 10

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Christ Church Book Club – Zoom
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, February 11

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Vestry Retreat – New Brick, lower level
2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication,
email to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening

For a digital copy of this service leaflet with working links, etc., visit the main page of our website.

Epiphany V at Christ Church

Epiphany continues with three worship services this Sunday - the first is our Old Brick Eucharist at 8 a.m. and is followed by Family Worship in New Brick at 9 a.m. We then conclude with our traditional 10:30 service with music and choir in the New Brick Sanctuary. Mask use is optional, though still recommended. As always, we'll livestream our 10:30 worship, which you can watch on our [website](#), [YouTube](#), or [Facebook](#) pages.

Sunday School

Youth Formation begins with breakfast around 8:30, followed by Family Worship and Sunday School. Every child is welcome, and you can find the details on [our website's Youth Formation page](#). Also on that page is a link to the Sunday School registration form, so please sign your children up so we can plan accordingly (use one form per child, please). If you have any questions, email Jennifer Atkins at sundayschool@christchurchcolumbia.org

Adult Formation - New Sunday Circle Series Begins

Our Parenting Group gathers in the New Brick Vestry Room (lower level). Bible Study will meet in the Parish Hall Conference Room. Sunday Circle will be looking at the social and political issue of immigration through the lens of real-life stories presented by our multicultural Christ Church congregation. In our series, we will enrich our knowledge and connection with the immigrant story with personal sharing, poetry, short story, prayer, and 'digging deeper' material on the history and cultural roots of immigration policy in Western nations. Join us each Sunday in Old Brick at 9:30 a.m. or on Zoom. **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **847 9910 4117**, and the Password is **AFSC**. There are several options, and you're welcome to join any of them any Sunday. **See our Adult Formation page on the CEC website for more information.**

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/CECaltargifts>. 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.

Our Sunday Services Need Your Help

We are in need of more ushers, chalcists, and lectors for the 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services. You will serve on rotational schedules (not every week) and during select events. There are no age requirements or limits, and personalized training will be provided so please consider helping out!

- **Ushers:** welcome, seat, and direct parishioners during the service
- **Chalcists (Lay Eucharistic Minister):** assist the clergy in the distribution of the Eucharist
- **Lector (Lay Reader):** read aloud to the congregation throughout the year.

Please contact Yetti at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

The 2023 Pledge Envelopes Are Here

The 2022 Christ Church pledge envelopes have arrived and are available for pickup now. They are located in the Narthex, but if you need to make other arrangements or have any questions, please **email the Church Office**.

The CEC Monthly Newsletter has Returned, and is Hot off the Press!

After a pandemic-sized hiatus, we've decided to bring back the *Gathered Together* monthly newsletter, and the first issue of 2023 was published earlier this week. Along with the details about upcoming services and events, it also contains long-form articles and reports written by fellow Christ Church members, staff, and ministry groups, and is well worth your time over a cup of coffee on a rainy day or weekend morning. You can pick up a printed copy in the Narthex or Old Brick, or download the issue at tinyurl.com/CEC-FebNewsletter. And if you would like to submit something for upcoming editions (writing, artwork, etc.), please do! It's only as good as the content you share. Email yours to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org.

WOCC February Meeting - Monday Afternoon

The WOCC hosts our February meeting on Zoom this Monday at 1 p.m. so come and join us - even if this is your first time! **The Zoom link is [HERE](#)**, the Meeting ID is **843 0204 4790** and the Passcode is **cecWOCC**.

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Centering Prayer is a unique method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God, moving us beyond conversation with Christ and towards communion with Him. Everyone is welcome to join us for this special gathering on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom link is [here](#), the Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340** and the Passcode is **Centering!**

Christ Church Choir - Thursdays

C'mon, all you who like to sing! Adult Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m. and everyone is welcome to take part! **You can find links to the registration forms on our website's Music Ministry page.** Whether you read music or not, whether you have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit or not, there's a place for you in our choir! If you're interested, please email music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

CEC Book Club - Fridays

We begin discussing a new book this Friday, February 3rd at 7:30 p.m. - *Looking for God in Messy Places: A Book About Hope* by Jake Owensby, Bishop of Western Louisiana. The book, recommended by Sara Kirkpatrick, is only 135 pages in length. Right now, we have ten members in the CECBC but always welcome newcomers to the group, so how about you? We are a friendly bunch and appreciate everyone's input and thoughts. The book can be purchased online, but you don't need to be prepared the first week; we can scan our assigned pages and email them to you. For a copy of this week's reading, feel free to email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com or text her at 301-452-7115. Then simply log in to Zoom for an hour or so Friday evening.

Like Coffee? Let's Enjoy Some Together! You Can Help.

The 8:30 a.m. Old Brick Coffee Hour is in full swing (thank you!), but we really need people and ministries to help set up for the 9:30 a.m. gathering in New Brick's Elevator Room. This is an excellent opportunity for fellowship and fun, and a great way to get to know your fellow parishioners. You can work by yourself, in groups, or with another family. Perhaps a group or ministry can offer to host the occasional Coffee Hour, as well. All you need to do is provide snacks, brew the coffee, stay for the coffee hour, and help tidy up. Training will be provided. Questions? Please contact the church office at office@christchurchcolumbia.org or 410-381-9365.

WOCC Upcoming Events

The Women Of Christ Church is sponsoring *Wear Red for National Heart Health Month* on Sunday, February 12th. American Heart Health Month is a very important awareness event, as heart disease remains the leading killer in the country - yet studies show that 80% of cases can be prevented. Come to church that day in your favorite red items, and look for our new Wear Red for Heart Health photo collage on our website and social media that weekend (there's still time to send yours in)! Five steps to help prevent a heart attack are: 1)eat healthily, 2)get active; 3)stop smoking; 4)achieve a healthy weight; 5)take medications as prescribed.

Other WOCC activities in the coming months will include Labyrinth meditation walks, a Nature Center journey, and our annual May Tea. We are also trying to put a Toby's Dinner Theater gathering into our 2023 plans. For the latest, look for details in upcoming Christ Church news and information bulletins, and then come join us for these events! Also, if you have other good ideas, share them with us. You can reach us at WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org at any time.

Men Of Christ Church's February Gatherings

We had a great time recently reconnecting with several gatherings, with great food, games, and conversation. We have also talked about various ways that the MOCC can begin to impact our local community and there was a lot of energy around us getting together on a more regular basis. Join us for our February events: our first is our monthly MOCC Saturday Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 18th at 9:30 a.m. Just join us at Bob Evans Columbia, 8325 Benson Drive. We'll also have a MOCC 18-and-Older Gathering on Saturday, Feb. 25th at 6:30 p.m. at Stumpy's Hatchet House, 6695 Dobbin Road. Interested to learn more about the MOCC? Please contact Duane Smith at cduanesmith@verizon.net or email the Church Office: office@christchurchcolumbia.org

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - February 21

The incredible youth of Christ Church will once again host our annual Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Pancake Supper on February 21st! Join us in the Great Hall of New Brick for this traditional start to the Lenten season. Serving begins at 6:30 p.m. so please sign up here so we know how much to buy. Seating is available until 7:30 p.m. The prices are \$15. for an individual and \$25. for a family, and you can pay using cash, or using our [online giving form](#) (choose "Shrove Tuesday Dinner" in the FUND dropdown menu). You'll also get to view the beautiful handiwork of [African Team Ministries](#) at the event. This will be the final opportunity to get your hands on some great gift ideas, made by very talented artisans.

Youth Ministry News

Youth Group Teachers are Needed!! Have you considered a calling to help nurture the youth of Christ Church? We are in need of more teachers and assistants! No experience is required. We will provide all the materials and you will be on a team with an experienced leader. If you are able to help - even just once a month - with this important ministry, please contact Todd Domer at todd.domer@gmail.com

Our February Youth gathering will be go-karting at the Autobahn Indoor Go-Kart Raceway in Jessup. There will be more details to come, but the event will be on February 25th from 7-9 p.m. so mark your calendars... and get ready to rev your engines!

Christ Church Podcast - Later in 2023

In a recent *Gatherings*, Father Manny discussed the idea of creating a Christ Church Podcast, a homegrown, multimedia collaboration of our parish's many features, talents, and interests. That idea is gaining steam for a launch later this year, but we would love to involve some more people to help make this the best it can be. If you enjoy writing, are interested in researching the multilayered history of Christ Church, have an interest in audio production, like to shoot videos on your phone or camera, enjoy composing, singing, or playing music, have a particular topic you'd like to share with others, love to draw or paint... we can find a place for each of you! We're meeting again in two weeks (date and time TBD) and you're invited to join us to see how you can be an important part of this new venture. If you'd like more information or are interested in joining us, please speak with **Fr. Manny**, **Ann Barnes**, or email Chris at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Pledge for 2023

At Christ Church, we are so blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who continually support our ministry of faithful service, and we pray that each of you will prayerfully consider your contribution to Christ Church for this calendar year. You can bring your pledge cards to church with you at any time, pick up and complete a pledge card in the Narthex, or [pledge online](#) (choose "Pledge for 2023" in the *FUND* dropdown menu). Thank you very much for your support of our vital common life.

Somos Amigos Welcomes 2023 By Holding a Productive Clinic

Volunteers once again traveled to the Dominican Republic to provide medical and dental care during a mid-January clinic held by **Somos Amigos Medical Missions**. Unlike in October, when parishioners Dione and Jim Mahoney participated, no Christ Church members were able to take part this time. However, the Mahoneys got a first-hand report from a relative who went to the little town of Naranjito.

Dione's brother-in-law, Jorge (*in the image above, far right*), served as a Spanish translator for dental patients and providers. "All in all," he told her, "it was a good trip" and he was happy to see so many Dominicans as providers. (In the group photo, Jorge can be seen standing in front of a shamrock.)

Somos Amigos' previous healthcare delivery model had relied primarily on volunteer clinicians and other helpers traveling four times a year, collaborating with residents of Naranjito. But the pandemic halted travel, so the nonprofit organization turned to local health providers to sustain a level of care. Residents continue to play key roles. The evolving hybrid model serves a rural, mountainous area that has little access to health care otherwise.

During four days in January, Jorge said, the clinic treated about 45 dental patients and about 60 patients per day on the medical side. Many of the providers were Dominican.

Parishioners learned about the latest treatment model and Somos Amigos' plans to care for a greater number of people when Executive Director and CEO Frank Brightwell visited Christ Church last fall. He delivered the sermon at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services on Sunday, Oct. 30, and sat in on adult formation during Sunday Circle.

He also discussed Somos Amigos' expanded insulin program, an innovative model that serves diabetes patients whose needs had been unmet. The program provides a schedule of yearly visits (or more frequently, if necessary) with an endocrinologist and with an ophthalmologist to address complications.

"It's been an incredible opportunity," said Brightwell, who described the insulin program during Sunday Circle. "We saw the opportunity and incredible minds got together, and you all are helping us to do that."

He referred to the donations of Christ Church parishioners and the Outreach Commission, which supports Somos Amigos in keeping with a mission statement to help those in need through organizations that are local, national, and international. In 2022, we donated \$1,000 in vestry-approved funds to Somos Amigos. Thanks to all for making that possible!

During his visit, Brightwell expressed his gratitude for both monetary and volunteer support. In addition to the Mahoneys, volunteers have included Shahra Toth, former parishioners Mary and Ed Keath, and physicians Preethi Jackson and Ellen Hoke.

To learn more about Somos Amigos, go online to read its [2021-2022 annual report](#), speak with Dione and Shahra, or email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

African Team Ministries - Begins this Sunday

African Team Ministries is a Christian ministry working as an intermediary between African and American churches. With help from Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Anglican denominations, ATM provides funding for orphan and refugee relief missions and evangelism in East Africa. African Team Ministries provides East African, primarily Kenyan, artisans with a market for their beautiful creations. Please peruse the ATM jewelry table that will be set up each Sunday in February leading up to Lent to view their intricate wood carvings, eye-catching soapstone décor, natural elements' nativity sets, stunning necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and much more! It will also be on display during the **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**. The support they receive is sent directly to their partnering bishops to provide school fees, tuition, books, and uniforms. This support ensures that the children receive an education and the measure of stability needed to rebuild their minds. You can make payments using our **Online Giving Form**; just choose "African Team Ministries" from the *FUND* dropdown menu. African Team Ministries currently have children registered for sponsorship in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. We could also use help with the table on these days, so if you would like to assist, please speak with Sara Kirkpatrick.

Exploring Prison Ministry on Zoom - Next Tuesday, February 7

"Lord...when did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" (Matthew 25:37-39)

As our baptismal covenant calls us to serve those on the margins and seek justice for every beloved child of God, that includes those convicted of crimes and imprisoned—those we believe have harmed others in some way. Join us via Zoom on Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. to meet Reverend Sue Beck, pastor of the Community of St. Dysmas (CSD). CSD is comprised of the Lutheran congregations within the Maryland State Correctional System. Their call is to "share the transforming power of Christ's love with persons incarcerated...and to support them upon their release." Pastor Sue will talk about CSD's work within the walls of four Maryland prisons and answer questions you may have about how you could engage in this important ministry. **The Zoom link is HERE**, the Meeting ID is **859 6298 6434**, and the Passcode is **390958**.

Save the Date: DreamBuilders Mandatory Meeting for Summer Mission Trip - March 4

If you are interested in joining DreamBuilders to repair homes in Kentucky in June, make sure you attend our **mandatory** meeting on Saturday, March 4th, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be at Temple Isaiah (12200 Scaggsville Rd., Fulton). We will have all the information you will need about the June trip, but if you have any questions before then, please see or **email Cathy Gold at cgold2000@aol.com**. It'll be a life-changing event, for you and for the people we're helping in Kentucky. Hope to see you there!

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Project

This important project is an initiative that's being taken by one of our own parishioners, Gavin Couch. Gavin explains: "Hello, my name is Gavin Couch and I am currently a life scout in Troop 874. I am working on my eagle project with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. This is an organization that builds beds and provides bedding to children who were recently homeless, but now have a place to live and need beds and bedding. I am at the beginning of my project and am collecting monetary donations and twin-sized bed-in-a-bag sets. There is also a Venmo code for monetary donations and a link to an Amazon wishlist, should you like to purchase from there. If you would like these details or have any questions, you can see me at church or email me at **gbcouch24@gmail.com**. Thank You."

Columbia Community Care Seeks Volunteers on Saturdays, Continues to Request Diapers, Personal Care Items

Please continue supporting **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) by giving essentials and with your time and talent. Please look for updates, such as requests for volunteers on Saturday mornings, posted in the **CCC Facebook Group** or on the **"I Can Help" portion of its website**. For example, you'll find a need for volunteers to sort grocery items at the CCC pantry building, 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia.

Please keep collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Put any of these 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 Christ Church point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bins and delivers their contents.

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 their 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.





Time is Running Out!
Christ Church's Lenten Meditation Book
Needs Your Submissions Today

For 20 years now, Christ Church has compiled a Lenten Meditation Book, distributed to our parishioners on the Sunday preceding Ash Wednesday. The LMB is created with love and designed to assist us all in times of quiet contemplation, by sharing our thoughts and preparing ourselves for rebirth and renewal at Easter. Our Communications Administrator posts these each weekday during Lent on our Christ Church website to share them with the world, along with uplifting musical selections on Saturdays.

To accomplish these goals, **we must have all your submissions in by the end of today, February 5th**, to put this publication together and to have it up on our website, which is viewed by thousands of individuals worldwide during Lent. We have about 15 of you submitted.... but there are many more of you out there, so help make this year's LMB a very special one by sending us your favorite meditation(s).

It's time to compose and submit your prayers, songs, stories, poems, readings, or personal reflections. This also includes your favorite inspirational pieces by writers or theologians. You can submit these by name or anonymously - your choice. You can visit christchurchcolumbia.org/lenten-meditations and read last year's daily reflections.

All contributors will be listed and acknowledged at the conclusion of the booklet. Submit by email to: efboudreau1@gmail.com, by text message to 301-452-7115, or place it in the Spiritual Life mailbox in the Church office. Questions: call Ellen Hoke at 301-452-7115.

Thank you ever so much!



Christ Church's 300th Birthday

We are presently seeking parishioners to help with planning Christ Church's 300-Year Anniversary. This celebration is an important milestone for our church, and we want as much participation from each of us as possible. There are lots of committees that you can serve on and so we would like to encourage everyone to consider being a part of this historic occasion.

If you have ideas, are interested in assisting, or would like more information, please contact Fr. Manny at [**revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org**](mailto:revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org).

Thank you.



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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*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Jan DeBoissiere (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Denisa Abdallah • Jane Adams • Tim Beaty • John Curley • Beth Johnson • Sara Kirkpatrick

Andrea Leeman • Ray Lyon • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Alfred Titus-Glover