

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Second Sunday of Easter

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday, April 16, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. • 10:30 a.m.

Welcome Home!

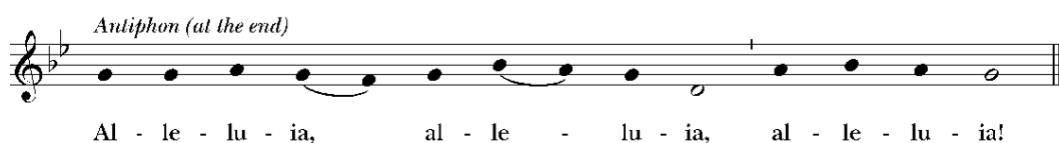
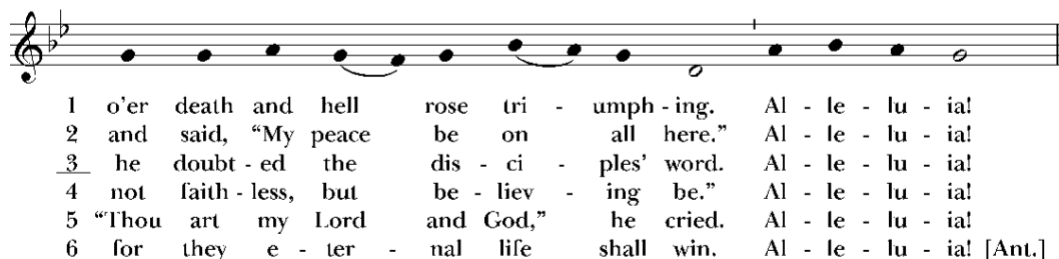
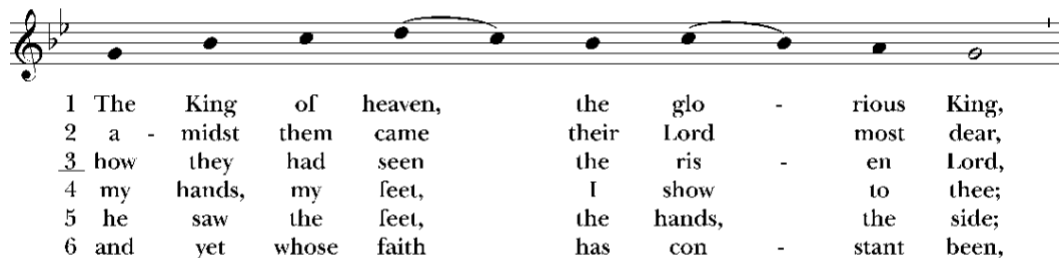
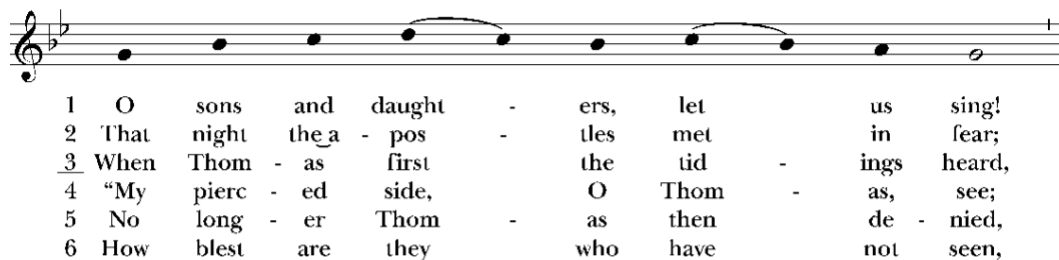
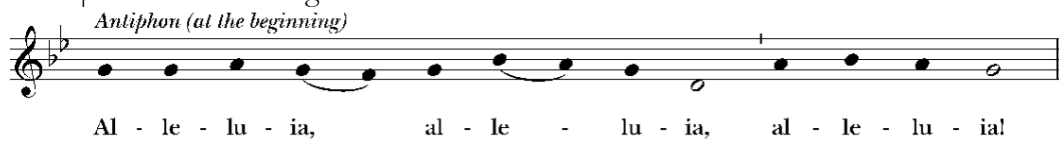
Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church community: christchurchcolumbia.org. This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone 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!

Prelude | Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Opening Hymn 206 | O Sons and Daughters

O filii et filiae



Opening Acclamation |

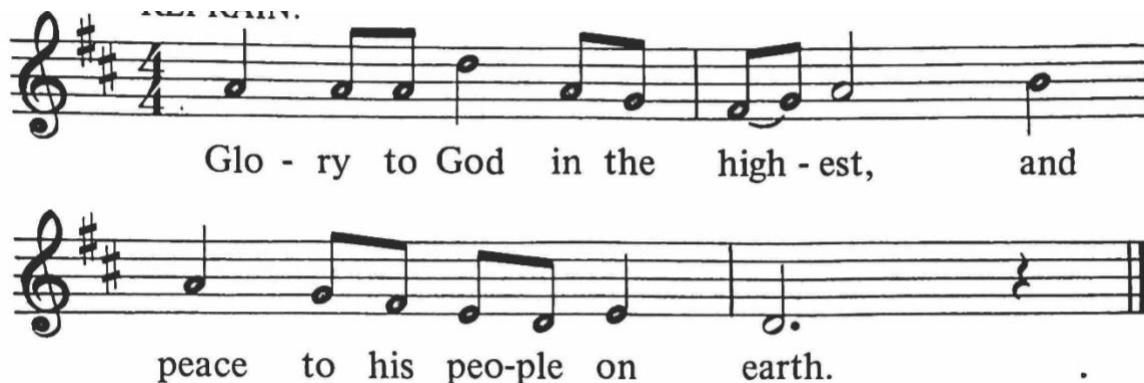
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.
People: **Amen.**

Gloria In Excelsis Deo |

James Chepponis



Choir:
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father. ***Refrain: all sing***

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. ***Refrain: all sing***

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. ***Refrain: all sing***

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. ***Refrain: all sing***

The Collect of the Day |

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, forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.
You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’
This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 16 | *Conserva me, Domine*

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *

**I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."**

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *

upon those who are noble among the people.

But those who run after other gods *

shall have their troubles multiplied.

Their libations of blood I will not offer, *

nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *

it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *

indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; *

my heart teaches me, night after night.

I have set the LORD always before me; *

because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *

my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, *

nor let your holy one see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life; *

**in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

A Reading from 1 Peter 1:3-9 |

Reader: A reading from 1 Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

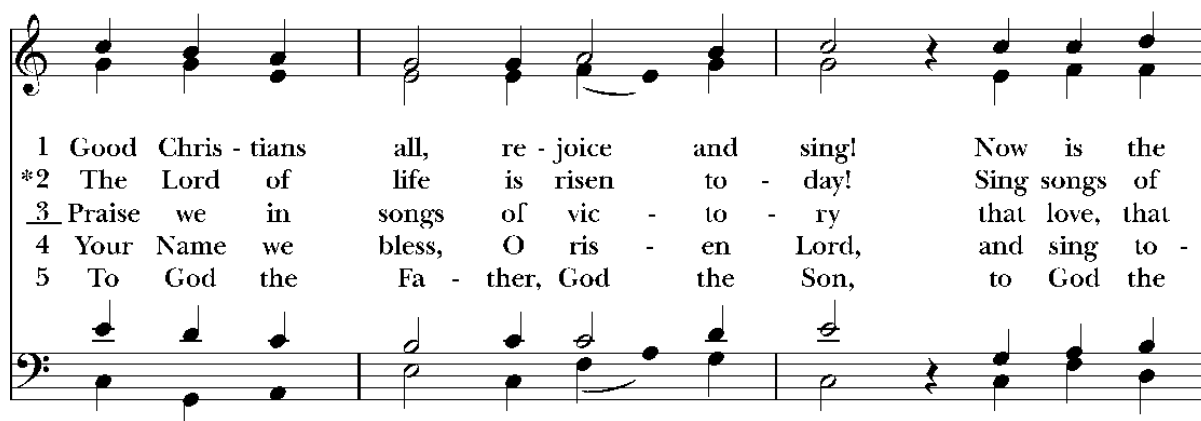
Reader: The word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

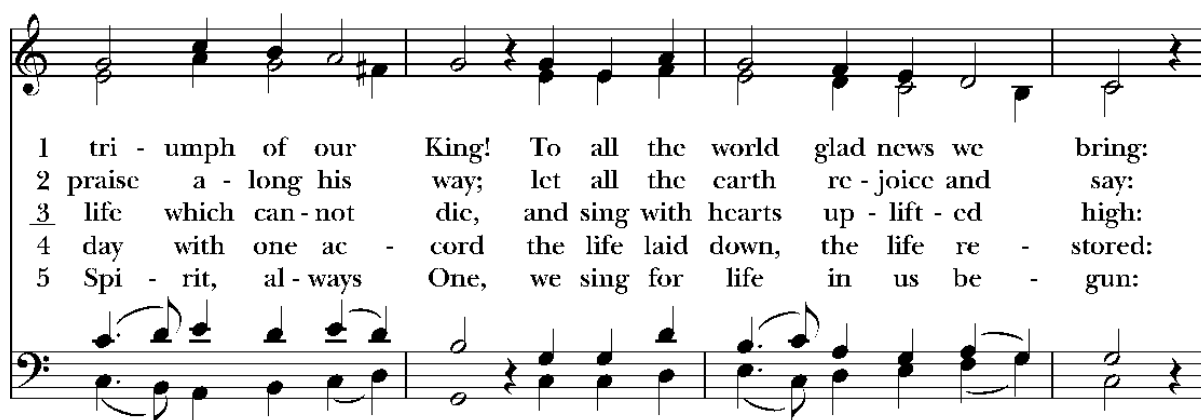
The people stand as able for the singing of the hymn and the reading of the Gospel.

Sequence Hymn 205 | Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

Gelobt sei Gott



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!

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

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

When 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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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."

A 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." Then 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But 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.

Deacon: 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 Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

The people stand as able.

The Prayers of the People |

We live in hope. God's power and love are embodied in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our faith is precious and our joy complete. We are given new birth, and a remarkable purpose in our journey through life. Glory to God, our souls rejoice.

We pray for the worldwide Church, Christ's Body on Earth. May the work of the Spirit be revealed in our lives. May God's blessing rest on the leaders of the Episcopal Church, especially, Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Diocesan Bishops; Carrie, our elected Bishop Co-Adjudicator; our Christ Church staff and clergy; and Richard, our Rector Emeritus. Today in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we lift up the Anglican Church of Tanzania, and in Maryland, our sister parishes of St. Andrew's, Clear Spring; St. Anne's, Smithsburg; and St. John's, Hagerstown. **Let us revel in the goodness and mercy of the Lord.**

We pray for all victims of gun violence and especially for the communities of Louisville, Kentucky and Nashville, Tennessee. We pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray for the governmental leaders in our country and throughout the world, that wisdom, compassion, peace and justice may prevail. **Let us be always guided by the example Jesus set.**

We extend a warm welcome to all newcomers and visitors to our congregation today. We hope to share our joy and the beauty of our worship with you and thank you for your presence. **Lord, we honor You always.**

Our heartfelt prayers are raised for those who are ill, especially Patricia, Emily, Shirley, Louise, Danny, Roberta, Francis. Fr. Ginnever, Samuel, Catherine, Caroline, Alfred, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, Sherry, Nell & Kathleen. We also are grateful for the family, friends, and caregivers whose tender hands ease the pain and suffering of others. **Lord, we ask for Your healing in our lives.**

We also pray for those who have died, especially those we now name. May God's light remain with them eternally. We remember all who are grieving and wish them peace and the warm embrace of our loving God. **O Holy God, remember us in Your Kingdom.**

As a church family, we celebrate wonderful occasions of joy in our lives this week. We give thanks for the birthdays of Alexander, Ross, Veronica & Sherry, and baptismal anniversaries of Andrew, Aislinn, Jan & Donna, wedding anniversaries of Alfreda & Ron Baran and Patricia & Errick Henlon. **Lord, you bless us in so many ways.**

We possess an everlasting inheritance through the incomparable gift of Jesus Christ. By faith, he entrusts us with the heritage of our Lord God. In Peace, Jesus sends us into the world, to spread God's word and God's love throughout the Earth. **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

Offertory Anthem | Celebration in C

Handbell Choir

Please scan to give.



Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him, Alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Eucharistic Prayer B |

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

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.

Celebrant: 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.

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,

All: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: 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, with 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.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer |

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



Our Fa - ther in heaven, hal-lowed be your Name, your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread.
For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king-dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in a key of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, while the Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The score is divided into five systems, each corresponding to a line of the prayer. The first system ends with a repeat sign, and the fifth system ends with a double bar line.

The Breaking of the Bread |

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Cantor: Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Choir: **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Cantor: The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

Choir: **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Cantor: One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

Choir: **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn 178 | Alleluia No.1

Alleluia No.1

Descant

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

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

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

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth.
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

Please stand as able.

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.

Eucharistic Visitors' Prayer | 8:00 a.m. service

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People: We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

The Blessing |

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

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our hea - ven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye hea - ven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

Postlude | In the Glory of the Invalides, Verset X

Marcel Dupre

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Ron Baran

Ushers: Jo Emily Knox, Yetti Lipede

Chalicerist: Sonni Aribiah

9:00 a.m. Service

Ushers: Eva & Hope Oladipupo, Yetti Lipede

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Cheryl Lucente

Ushers: Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams, JB Hanson, Bete Dagne, Alex Amponsah

Acolytes and Crucifer: Ainsley Couch, Jonah Aribiah, Shreya Chrzanowski

Chalicerist: Cheryl Lucente

Altar Guild

Pam Foreman

Cheryl Lucente

Gail Braatelein

PARISH CALENDAR: APRIL 16 TO APRIL 22

Sunday, April 16

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
1:30 – 5:45 pm	Sundays at Three – New Brick, upper level

Monday, April 17

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
5:00 – 7:30 pm	Crab Kickers Soccer – Field
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom

Tuesday, April 18

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

Wednesday, April 19

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

Thursday, April 20

8:00 – 8:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
6:30 – 7:30 pm	Refugee Ministry Meeting – Zoom
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Handbell Choir – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 8:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, April 21

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, April 22 – Earth Day

9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Diocesan Day on the Diaconate – New Brick, lower & upper levels
9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Crab Kickers Soccer – Field
2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
5:00 – 10:00 pm	Beaty Party Setup – New Brick, 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.

Youth Formation

Please note that there will be no Youth Formation classes on Sunday, May 28th, and our last day for the spring program year will be June 4th. If you have any questions or want more information, please email Jenn Atkins at dandjatkins@verizon.net

Adult Formation

Our Parenting Group gathers in the New Brick Vestry Room (lower level). Bible Study will meet in the Parish Hall Conference Room. And during Sunday Circle, we will be looking at commentaries centered around the Resurrection, a two-week series exploring perspectives on Resurrection. We will be learning how various individuals have expressed their perspectives on the subject, and discussing among ourselves how we interpret this important topic.

Help Us Deliver Easter Flowers after Church

Following this Sunday's 10:30 service, we need about a dozen or so parishioners who can spare a few extra minutes on their way home. If you can help deliver a portion of our Easter flowers to a Christ Church family member unable to join us in person this Easter season, please see Yetti or email her at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org. Many thanks!

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Great news! Beginning this Monday, April 17th, you'll be able to join us for Centering Prayer in person, or you can continue to join us virtually. 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 reflective gathering on Mondays in Old Brick at 7:00 p.m. For more info, email Kathy Lyon at rklyon@cablespeed.com.

Join One of the Christ Church Choirs!

We're always seeking more new members for both handbell and vocal choir! Whether you read music or not, whether you have previous experience or not, whether you are ready to commit or not, and whether you are comfortable singing or not, there's a place for you in our choirs. All ages are welcome, and no experience is necessary. If you're interested or have questions, please speak with Larissa at church or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

Throughout the spring, Christ Church will have midday worship in Old Brick including readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. Everyone is welcome to gather for a prayerful time in the presence of God and to share in the wonderful mystery of God's love whilst we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in to reflect, pray, and share in this service that's held in our beautiful, historic chapel.

CEC Book Club - Fridays

The Christ Church Book Club resumes this Friday, April 14th. We're always welcoming new readers to join us, so how about it? Take part for an hour or so each Friday evening for a lively discussion of this book, as we are a friendly bunch and appreciate everyone's input and thoughts. Email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com or text her at 301-452-7115.

Save the Date - April 23

Sherry and Tim Beaty will both have turned 80 years young by April 18th. Next Sunday, April 23rd, they, along with many of their family members, will attend the 10:30 service, and then gather down in the Great Hall (LLNB), where the family will host a fun get-together. Parishioners of all ages who want to join in the festivities are welcome and encouraged to join us! A light lunch will be served, along with a birthday cake... and perhaps some "gentle" roasting of your hosts. But PLEASE, no gifts. However, cards - especially humorous ones - are very welcome.

First Wednesday Fellowship Returns - May 3

Join us for the return of our First Wednesday Fellowship! Our next FWF event is on May 3rd and will be a wonderful feast of Indian cuisine at 6 p.m. followed by group games of all sorts! If you need more info or have ideas for future FWF gatherings, please contact Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkings@verizon.net. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or [sign up here](#). We hope to see you there!

WOCC's Upcoming Events

Save the dates for upcoming events:

- **Saturday, April 29 from 3-5 p.m.** - Card making with Emily; \$10 for materials; Need money and numbers by April 23rd (pay by Realm or check/cash in Narthex; memo is "WOCC Cards w/Emily")
- **Saturday, May 6 at 12 noon** - The WOCC's Annual May Tea at Sweet Simplici-Tea; \$32 for formal lunch & tea; need money and numbers by April 23rd (pay by Realm or check/cash in Narthex; memo is "WOCC May Tea")
- **Monday, May 1 at 1 p.m.** - WOCC monthly meeting in New Brick and on Zoom.

Help Us Plan Christ Church's 300th Birthday!

We have begun gathering and planning for Christ Church's 300th Anniversary, but we're always looking for more input, so join us! This celebration is such an important milestone for our church, and we want participation and ideas from as many of us as possible. There are a variety 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. Thank you.

Please Tell Us How You'll Help! Take Part on April 22, 12-4 p.m. in the Christ Church Food Drive at River Hill Giant Supermarket to Aid Two Food Pantries

Once again, Christ Church will hold a food drive at a local Giant supermarket, resuming a hands-on, family friendly activity that had been halted by the pandemic. The goal: engage shoppers in collecting hundreds of pounds of non-perishable groceries for the Howard County Food Bank and – new this year – for its partner, **SAFE Food Pantry**.

Please consider taking a shift of at least one hour. Plan to bring your kids, too. While supplies last, we have Christ Church T-shirts in adult and youth sizes for participants. Ask for yours when you sign up this weekend after worship services. Then, during the drive, please wear it so that shoppers will see that you're representing Christ Church.

The drive will be held on Saturday, April 22, from noon to 4 p.m. at River Hill Giant, 6050 Daybreak Circle, Clarksville, MD 21029. We need plenty of volunteers to participate, to load the collected goods, and to deliver our anticipated haul to the food bank, which is operated by the **Community Action Council of Howard County**. Outreach member Michon Semon is leading the drive. For information or to get involved, please email **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

The need is great due to the end of federal emergency food assistance tied to the pandemic and to inflation. Low-income households struggle to afford the cost of groceries, up 11.3 percent. People who are on medically restricted diets are especially challenged. In Howard County, SAFE provides free gluten-free and allergy-safe foods.

According to **an April 10, 2023 article in The Baltimore Sun**, the expiration of pandemic benefits at the end of February left about 600,000 to 700,000 Marylanders short an average of \$82 per month. Food pantries in Howard County and throughout the state are facing increased demand due to these gaps.

Bridges to Housing Stability Expresses Gratitude as Christ Church Helps to End Homelessness by Supporting the 2023 ChiliFest Event

County Executive Calvin Ball was among the guests at the **"ChiliFest & Cornhole Tournament"** held by **Bridges to Housing Stability** on March 19. Christ Church was one of the official supporters of the fundraiser, contributing \$500 to become a "Tabasco" Level sponsor.

Executive Director Jennifer Broderick thanked Christ Church, along with other sponsors: "It's a Wrap! We appreciate everyone who came out to support Bridges and enjoy a great day! Special thanks to Bridges' Board, staff, event committee & volunteers! The live music by School of Rock & Melly HC (Long Reach High School guitar band) was enjoyed by all," she wrote in emails.

This year the Golden Ladle went to First Presbyterian Church, which hosted the event and raised the most money to support Bridges' mission, which is to end homelessness in Howard County. As you may recall, First Presbyterian also won the top award at a chili cook-off in 2019, when the event was last held in person. During the years that events were held virtually due to the pandemic, Christ Church **won a Golden Ladle in 2021** and a Silver Ladle in 2020.

The Spirit award for best in-person attendance on March 19 went to St. John Baptist Church, which also was a Tabasco-level sponsor. The first-place team of Paul and Kevin Matthews won the event's Cornhole tournament, which was held outdoors.

An online portal tallied in-person and takeout meal purchases and donations by parishioners. Including the sponsorship, Christ Church donated \$1,000 to Bridges. Thanks to one and all who contributed. In letters to Christ Church, Bridges wrote that our giving "will touch the lives of those who are in need of stable, affordable housing." And in a handwritten note, Broderick wrote: "We're so grateful for your partnership and support."

Enjoy the Baltimore International Seafarers' Center Harbor Cruise on April 26

The deadline for ordering tickets is Saturday, April 15 for a fundraiser to support ministry at the Baltimore International Seafarers' Center. Tickets are \$65 each. Enjoy food and beverages by "Yes Chef!" while exploring the working Port of Baltimore from the water. Depart on Wednesday, April 26, at 4:45 p.m. at Baltimore Finger Piers, 555 Light St., Baltimore MD. **Tickets are here.**

Walk or Run to Benefit Columbia Community Care Starting at 9 a.m. on April 22

On Saturday, April 22, Columbia Community Care (CCC) will hold a Spring Fun Run/Walk starting with a 9 a.m. kickoff party at the former Columbia Flier building, 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia. Please bring a non-perishable item to donate.

The start time for competitors is 10 a.m. Advance registration costs \$20 or \$10 for children ages 12 and under. Same-day registration for adults is \$25. Registration is preferred by Saturday, April 15. To register, go online to **CCC events**. Information also can be found on the **CCC Group on Facebook**. All registered participants will get discount cards to Feet First Sports, located at 5305 Village Center Dr., Suite 110, in Wilde Lake Center. The course ends at the center.

At Christ Church, Leigh Smith is our representative who takes parishioners' donated items to CCC. Please continue your support by collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Put them in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sunday.

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.

It's time to get ready for...



VBS!

June 26 - July 2

Don't Delay!
Vacation Bible School's
Registration Deadline is June 17th!

REGISTER TODAY



Visit www.ChristChurchColumbia.org/VBS

Christ Church STEWARDSHIP

TIME TALENT TREASURE



WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF 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 our parish 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.

Text Giving

You can 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 toward 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**

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.



Christ Episcopal Church

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office@christchurchcolumbia.org

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 • Sara Kirkpatrick

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