



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, October 5, 2025 | Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

YOU ARE
strong

FOR THE SPIRIT GOD GAVE US
DOES NOT MAKE US TIMID, BUT
GIVES US POWER, LOVE AND SELF-DISCIPLINE.

-2 TIMOTHY 1:7 NIV

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: www.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.

PRELUDE |

OPENING HYMN 405 | All Things Bright and Beautiful

Royal Oak

Descant



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

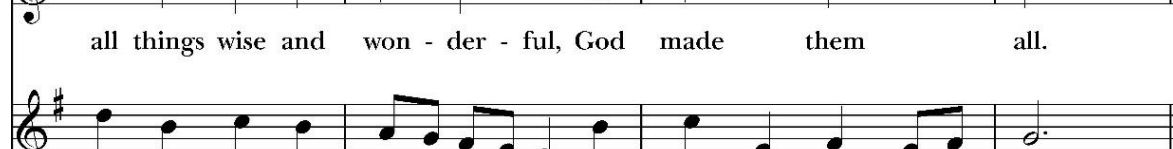
Refrain



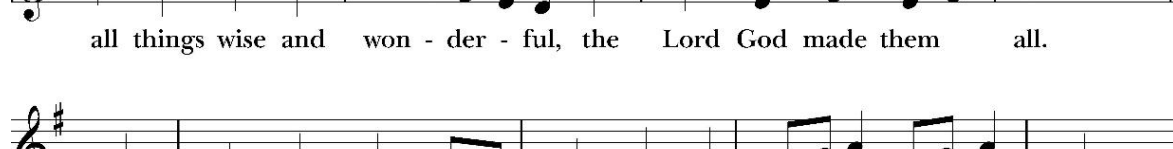
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



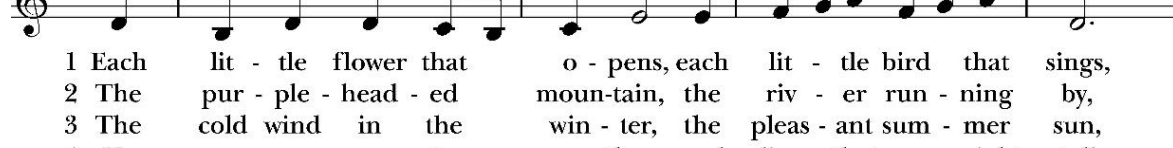
all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

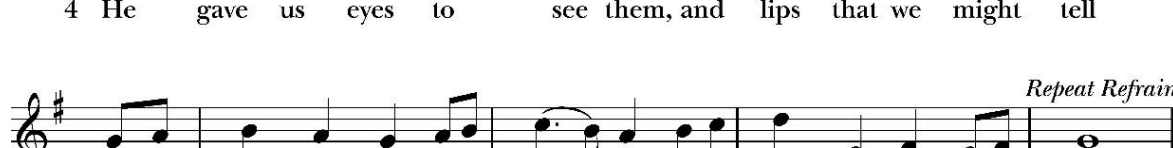


1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Repeat Refrain



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.
People: Amen

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY|

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | Lamentations 1:1-6

Reader: *A reading from Lamentations.*

How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!

How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!

She that was a princess among the provinces
has become a vassal.

She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;

among all her lovers
she has no one to comfort her;

all her friends have dealt treacherously with her,
they have become her enemies.

Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;

she lives now among the nations,
and finds no resting place;

her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;

all her gates are desolate,
her priests groan;

her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.

Her foes have become the masters,
her enemies prosper,

because the Lord has made her suffer
for the multitude of her transgressions;

her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.

From daughter Zion has departed
all her majesty.

Her princes have become like stags
that find no pasture;

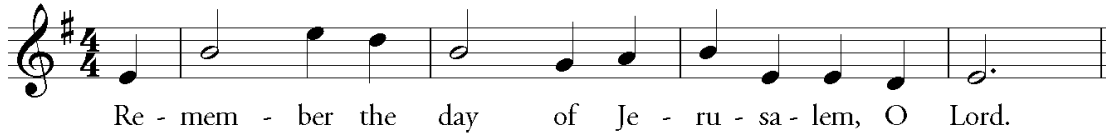
they fled without strength
before the pursuer.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 137 | *Super flumina*



By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, *

when we remembered you, O Zion.

As for our harps, we hung them up *

on the trees in the midst of that land.

For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,
and our oppressors called for mirth: *

"Sing us one of the songs of Zion."

How shall we sing the Lord's song *

upon an alien soil.

Antiphon

If I forget you, O Jerusalem, *

let my right hand forget its skill.

Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth

if I do not remember you, *

if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

Remember the day of Jerusalem, O Lord,

against the people of Edom, *

who said, "Down with it! down with it!

even to the ground!"

O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, *

happy the one who pays you back

for what you have done to us!

Happy shall he be who takes your little ones, *

and dashes them against the rock!

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE | 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Reader: *A reading from 2nd Timothy.*

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God-- whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did-- when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

(continued)

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN 209 | We Walk By Faith

St. Botolph

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no
 2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 that, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words we hear from him who spoke as
 fol - low where he trod; but in his prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound, to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke; but we be - lieve him near.
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near, and seek where you are found:
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN | Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Sebastian Wesley



Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eousness,

Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

Optional Ending

For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord on - ly, that

mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

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

THE SERMON | Leah Chrest

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 worshipped 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 |

Dear Lord, we gather together as a community of love and peace. We praise you for your wonderful works and we thank you for our many blessings. **Lord, we sing the glory of your Name.**

Today we remember our brothers and sisters in war-torn places. We lift in prayer those in refugee camps and those in prisons throughout the world. May they come to know your presence in their lives that it may give them hope for a better future. We give thanks for the compassion and self-sacrifice of aid givers and peacekeepers, for the work of Episcopal Relief and Development, and for the efforts of our parish Outreach Committee. Guide us as we try to fulfill the Diocese's mission of encountering Christ everywhere and engaging in your mission of reconciliation of all peoples. **Lord, have mercy on all your children.**

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we lift up The Anglican Church of Tanzania. We give thanks for contributions to our own community by people who have emigrated from other parts of the world and pray that you watch over the family and friends they left behind. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for our sister parishes. In our own congregation, we give thanks for the Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard & Marcia, and Seminarian, Yehinuel, and for all in our Christ Church family. We welcome those who are new or visiting with us today. May they feel our love. **Lord, hear our prayers.**

(continued)

We pray for healing for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray for the victims of the Michigan Church Shooting, Kayode, Isaac, Ernest, Mariela, Abel, Rachan & Sherry, and those you now name. Lead them and those who care for them to a place of refreshment. **Lord, hear our prayers.**

We pray for the souls of those who have departed this life, especially the victims of the Michigan Church Shooting, and those you name. May the departed rest in peace and may those who grieve be comforted by your presence. **Lord, hear our prayers.**

We give thanks for the happy occasions that members of our Christ Church family celebrate this week: birthdays of Kevin, Amy, Ron, Stacey, Karen, Patrick, Patricia, & Chester, wedding anniversaries of Erin & Jason Whong, Stacey & Patrick Frith, Jena & Sean Peay, Jeannette & Randolph Wild and Melanie & Nick Yaksich, and the baptismal anniversary of Aileen. **Lord, we praise you for our blessings.**

Lord, we know that your love for us never falters even as we think, say and do things that are contrary to your will. In the week ahead, may we remember to give you thanks for our lives and to share with others the love that comes from you. **AMEN.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION |

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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 |

**MAY THE PEACE OF
THE LORD BE ALWAYS
WITH YOU**

2 Thessalonians 3:16

Please scan to give.



DOXOLOGY 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 HOLY COMMUNION



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A |

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 Celebrant continues

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

Celebrant: 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."

All: *Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:*
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

All: ***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, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD |

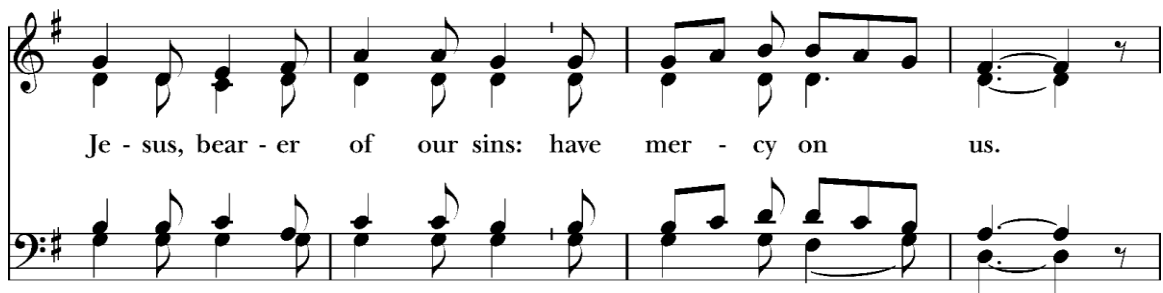
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

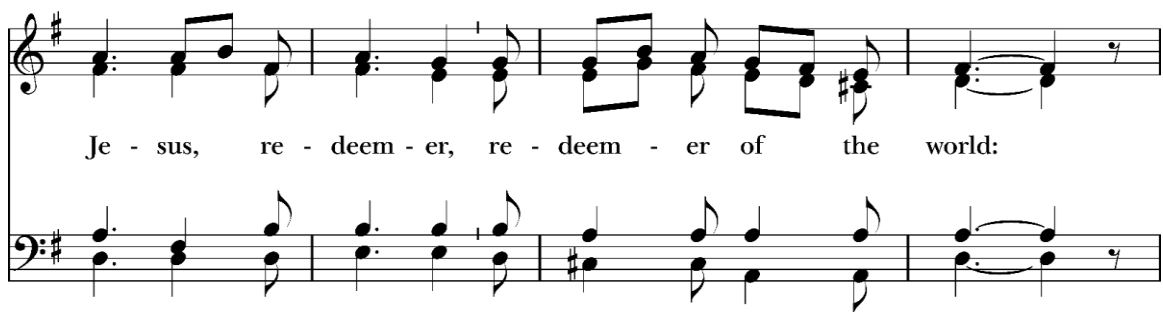




Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



give us your peace, give us your peace.



*The Gifts of God
for the People of God*

1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

1. There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee;
 2. Sun, moon and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 3. Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

1. Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not,
 2. Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness,
 3. Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

1. As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 2. To thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
 3. Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

(continued)

Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Great is thy faith - ful-ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed,

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

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.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER | 8 & 10:30 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.

CLOSING HYMN 398 | I Sing the Almighty Power of God

Forest Green

1 I sing the al-might - y power of God, that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, but makes thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.
he formed the crea-tures with his Word, and then pro-nounced them good.
and clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Lord, how thy won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye,
while all that bor - rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

the moon shines full at his com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
and ev - ery-where that I could be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The lyrics are arranged in three parts, with the first part having three verses. The music is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics.

THE DISMISSAL |

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

POSTLUDE |

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Assisting in Worship Today

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Sonni Aribiah

Chalicerist: Sonni Aribiah

Ushers: Kayode & Onyx Williams

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader:

Chalicerist:

Acolytes: Chloe Spencer, Hope Spencer, Eli Wasula

Ushers: Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams,
Cherry Williams, Betty Dagne, Alex Amponsah

Altar Guild

Ivy Amponsah, Jai Jones, Kathleen Simms, Sonni Aribiah

Tellers

Cathy Gold, Rhonda Tomlinson



Taizé Vespers is evening prayer that combines readings, meditation, and rich music, promoting peace and justice through prayer. Our Taizé Vespers offers an opportunity to meditate and reflect on God's love and presence in one's life, to offer prayer for oneself and others, and to share in a supportive community of fellow pilgrims on the journey.

Gather with us today at 6 p.m. in New Brick for this powerful worship.

PARISH CALENDAR

OCTOBER 5 – 11, 2025

Sunday, October 5

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am– 9:30 am	Coffee Hour
9:00 am– 9:30 am	Children & Family Worship – New Brick, upper level
9:30 am– 10:30 am	Sunday School
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Confirmation Class – Parish Hall, conference room
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Taize Vespers – New Brick, upper level

Monday, October 6

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom

Tuesday, October 7

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 – 4:00 pm	HC Homeschool – New Brick, lower level
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Summer Yoga Camp – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 9:00 pm	MS Support Group – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 9:00 pm	300 yr Race & Slavery Comm Meeting – Zoom

Wednesday, October 8

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Refugee Leadership Meeting – Zoom

Thursday, October 9

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 – 4:00 pm	HC Homeschool – New Brick, lower level
6:30 – 9:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club

Friday, October 10

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream

Saturday, October 11

8:00 – 12:30 pm	Center for Spiritual Nourishment – New Brick
9:00 – 3:00 pm	Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo Dia Fidelidad – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
2:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Altar Guild prep – Old Brick
5:00 – 9:00 pm	Larissa & Friends Concert – New Brick, lower level

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement to share with the church,
Please send to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL OF THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & LINKS

WOCC Monthly Meeting – This Monday, October 6

This month's WOCC meeting will be held over dinner, so join us at Famous Dave's, located at 6201 Columbia Crossing Circle in Columbia, MD 21045. We'll meet at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the schedule for the rest of this year, as well as recap our very successful Flea Market & Craft Fair in September. See you there!

Ministry Leaders! Please Send Us Your Annual Report Submissions by Next Saturday, October 10

At each year's Annual Meeting, we publish and distribute the Christ Church Annual Report, which outlines the parish's activities and ministries from the past year and shares plans for the coming year. We ask that each ministry group submit a brief description of their activities and achievements, as well as their upcoming plans, to Chris at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org, so he can include them in the report. If you have a special photo or photos you'd like us to include, send those, too. Email him if you'd like a copy of last year's Annual Report. The deadline for submissions is Sunday, October 10th. Thank you.

Fall Film Series - October 10 & 11

Grab some movie snacks and head to the CEC campus for the Friday, October 10th viewing of *Luther*, a film recounting the life of Martin Luther, the sixteenth-century priest who led the Christian Reformation. [Watch the trailer here](#) and join us. Then at CSN on Saturday morning, you can catch *War Room* and [view that trailer here](#).

If you'd like to host a movie night at CEC, let us know, and we'll get you on the calendar - info@christchurchcolumbia.org

Nourish Your Spirit - October 11

Join seekers of a deeper relationship with the Divine at the Center for Spiritual Nourishment. The 2nd Saturday CSN offers free experiences that engage the mind, body, and spirit by providing safe spaces to explore a range of opportunities for spiritual growth. The CSN is for anyone interested in spiritual nourishment, regardless of religious affiliation or spiritual beliefs, and you can come for one session or the entire morning.

This month's CSN includes free group sessions for Spiritual Direction, Contemplative Meditation, Community Bike Ride, Self and Spirit: Understanding Complex Trauma (discussion), and Spiritual Practices: Becoming Love (discussion). We will also be showing the movie *War Room*. The morning concludes with a short Reflection Circle Service.

LIVE! Be Sure to Catch Larissa and Friends in Concert – Next Saturday, October 11

We are proud to present our Music Director, Larissa Sanders, in her fall Christ Church recital, a beautiful annual tradition of music. Larissa and her selection of musicians will present a program of gorgeous pieces spanning several centuries and cultures.

This concert is a free-will offering, and light refreshments will be served at a reception following the performance, so come to the New Brick Sanctuary on Saturday, October 11, at 5:00 p.m. for a concert that's sure to entertain everyone.

Save the date, and support extraordinary music performed by talented musicians.

Lake Elkhorn Middle School Kindness Pantry Help, and an Invitation to Attend a Special Event

School is underway, and our church has maintained a partnership with Lake Elkhorn Middle School for many years, supporting the teachers, staff, and families to ensure students' academic success.

One way to do that is to ensure that families have access to enough healthy food. This year, on the third Wednesday of each

month from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., the Roving Radish delivers boxes of nutritious food that family members can take home. That's where we come in - volunteers from Christ Church are needed to help distribute those boxes. Additionally, the staff have requested that we bring specific food and household items for their Kindness Pantry. These items will be distributed by staff at their discretion when they observe a family in need.

You can help in two ways:

- Come to LEMS on Wednesday, October 15, between 2:30 and 4:30, and help distribute food boxes.
- Sign up for some of the items on the [SignUp Genius link](#) and put them in the blue LEMS box in the narthex of New Brick by Sunday, October 12, so we can take them to the school. You have a choice: pasta sauce, spaghetti, fruit, dish soap, trash bags, or cooking oil.

We also have a special invitation to join a dinner for families celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month next Tuesday, October 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Christ Episcopal Church will be supplying beverages, and all are welcome to this event. Please plan to attend and meet some of the Latino families whose children attend LEMS. Thank you for helping support the students and teachers of Lake Elkhorn Middle School!

MOCC Breakfast - October 18

Join us for French toast and fellowship! The MOCC breakfast is a monthly tradition, and this month it will take place on Saturday, October 18th, at Silver Diner, located at 8250 Gateway Overlook Drive in Columbia. We'll meet at 9:30 a.m., and all ages are welcome. See you there!

Christ Church's Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections - October 19

We will host our Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections on Sunday, October 19, and on this day, we have only one service at 10:00 a.m. in New Brick, with a potluck lunch and Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections to follow. As has been our practice, we invite parishioners to donate meals for our communal brunch, so stay tuned for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Please join us on this day, as we review our past year's ministries and activities while making plans for our leadership in the coming year. We will also learn about our future direction as a parish, so this is certainly one of the most important gatherings of the year. You can only vote if you attend, so please don't miss it.

The nominees this year are (in alphabetical order): Denisa Abdallah, Katie Adams, Jim Berkson, David James, and Denholm Kendall. You can view a photo and read a brief message on our website between today and October 19th, so visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/2025-vestry-candidates for those.

The Christ Church 2025 Annual Auction Goes to Italy! – Saturday, November 1

Buonasera! Soon, it'll be time for the largest fundraiser of the year, the 2025 Christ Church Auction. This year, we're traveling to Italia (in spirit, that is) for *Buonasera! - A Night Out in Italy* on Saturday, November 1.

There are a few differences of note this year. Most importantly, it will be held for one evening only, as the 2025 Auction will be a 100% in-person event. But fear not - **CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED!** That means **EVERYONE** can participate, bid, and buy great stuff!

But right now, we need to know about your auction item donations, so please get those item descriptions to us by next Saturday, October 10th. Send them to auction@christchurchcolumbia.org or scan the QR code on page 23 of this bulletin.

There will be lots more information coming throughout the fall, so stay tuned! Any questions? Reach out to Robin Bradley at auction@christchurchcolumbia.org or speak with her at church on a Sunday.

Last Chance to Join *EfM: Wide Angle*

The Education for Ministry program class, which has been at Christ Church for a few years, began its third year last Sunday. However, a second group with a new curriculum has launched, and you're invited to take part. *Education for Ministry: Wide Angle* is a less intensive, one-year program that provides an introduction to scripture, history, spiritual practices, ethics, and theological reflection. This group is also an online-only gathering, meeting on Zoom Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

(continued)

EfM: Wide Angle currently has individuals from a variety of age groups participating, including both women and men. If you are interested in learning more about this program, you can email Mother Marcia Davenport at EfM@christchurchcolumbia.org, and she will provide you with all the necessary information to get started. This group begins tonight, September 25th, but if you begin next week, you should be able to catch up without issue.

There Are Only a Few Spaces Still Available for Financial Peace University

As a community of faith, one of the gifts we can offer one another is guidance on how to manage our resources effectively. For those seeking better insights on enhancing their financial well-being, the Financial Peace University series can provide valuable guidance. This multi-week seminar aims to help parishioners manage their finances and become better stewards of their earnings. It's a life-changing program, but it is limited to ten people/families, ensuring a direct connection with each participant. The class will meet on Monday evenings, and the cost is \$100 per person/family. If you need more information, please speak with Fr. Manny at church or email him at revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God, a gathering that takes place every Monday. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. We are a hybrid gathering, so be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings. The Zoom link is here, the Meeting ID is 817 6254 3177, and the Passcode is CP. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church, or by emailing centering@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Join the Christ Church Choir! - Thursday Evenings

Get ready, all you singers and music lovers! The choir has resumed rehearsals in New Brick on Thursday evenings - Handbell Choir at 6:45 and Adult Choir at 7:30 - and all adults are welcome to join us. Whether you read music or not, have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit full-time or not, there's a place for you to give it a shot in our handbell &/or vocal choirs. If you're interested, please speak with Larissa at church on Sundays or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org - or just stop by New Brick any Thursday!

Find a Ministry that's Right for You

We can always use some more people to keep Christ Church the vibrant, active, dedicated parish that it is. You can be a Teller, Acolyte, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, or choose to assist the Christ Church Altar Guild, Inreach, or Buildings and Grounds ministries - and many others.

None of these requires weekly assistance - they only require a short amount of time every few weeks or so, but the impact you have on the entire parish is significant. For those interested in the Altar Guild, please email altarguild@christchurchcolumbia.org, or inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org for Inreach (or visit their website page), and if you're interested in assisting as a Teller, LEV, or Acolyte, please call the Church Office at office@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Register Now for CEC Sunday School

From Autumn through Spring, Faith Formation is thriving at Christ Church, and anyone ages pre-K to 12th grade is invited to gather with us starting this Sunday. It's a program of age-appropriate classes that's relevant and engaging, and we're looking forward to an exciting year!

Christ Church's Sunday School ministry believes in growing a deep and wide faith in kids through education in the Gospel, serving our community, and fellowship with one another. From the earliest age, we want kids to know the basic truths of God's Word and how we can apply those in our daily lives.

Our dedicated and trained Sunday School team provides age-appropriate groups where the kids can connect and learn with one another. Registration is now open. Please visit www.cecevents.org/SundaySchool-2526 to learn more and complete our registration form (one form per child, please), so we can reserve space for your children. And if you have any questions or need assistance, please email us at sundayschool@christchurchcolumbia.org

Sign Up to Walk or Run in CAC's 'Steps Forward' Fall Fundraiser

The Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) has launched Steps Forward, a Walk/Run campaign to raise funds. In partnership with Howard County Striders, CAC is inviting individuals or teams to rack up the miles during October while soliciting donations.

Participants will receive a special T-shirt and discounted entry into the Run Through the Grapevine 8K hosted by the Striders in Mt. Airy, Md. on Sunday, Nov. 2. The annual cross-country/trail race at the Linganore Winecellars loops through the grounds of the winery.

On race morning, a non-perishable food drive will benefit the Howard County Food Bank, which is operated by CAC. As Howard County's designated anti-poverty organization, the CAC provides multiple services as described in its 2024 Impact Report. These include early childhood education, eviction prevention, weatherization, and utility bills assistance.

Save the Date: Christ Church's Fall Food Drive to Benefit the Howard County Food Bank on Saturday, November 8

Once again, Christ Church volunteers will gather at a local supermarket to collect canned goods and staples for the Howard County Food Bank and its partner, SAFE Food Pantry.

The date for the 2025 Fall Food Drive occurs about a month later than in years past, but a slight chill in the air won't deter our volunteers. Consider taking a one-hour shift from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, November 8, outside the Dorsey's Search Giant Food supermarket, 4715 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City. A signup sheet will be available in the Narthex as the date of the drive approaches.

CAC's Food Bank uses a client-choice model just like a grocery store so that low-income residents can select the foods they prefer for their individual households. People who have gluten- and allergy-free needs can pick up their foods at the Food Bank or during a monthly distribution at SAFE's own site. SAFE also maintains a donation bin at Christ Church outside the rear of Parish Hall.

You can read about the most recent supermarket food drive for CAC and SAFE in the Outreach Blog of April 9, 2025. Times are hard for many local residents, so consider doing your part to fill some of the gaps.

As you respond to a call to help the less fortunate, keep in mind the scripture that underpins our mission: *And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."* Matthew 25:40

FISH and CCC Have Combined Pantries, and FISH Needs Phone Volunteers

Recently, FISH and Columbia Community Care (CCC) partnered to provide food services for Howard County residents. The two organizations have merged their pantries. FISH will continue to pick up donated goods from Christ Church and others. CCC will continue making distributions at three sites on Saturday mornings and by home delivery. For information, go online to Get Help.

Please put non-perishable food and personal care products in the altar basket or in a bin just inside the Parish Hall. Look for a combo label "FISH/CCC". Please keep bringing baby wipes and diapers, especially large sizes.

FISH will continue to provide telephone support to Howard County residents to provide guidance and financial support because the personal touch is very important when people are in crisis. You could be the one to lend a helping hand by lending an ear! Consider volunteering from home by giving just one day a month to assist those who could benefit from financial assistance from FISH. Training is provided. For information, ask parishioner and FISH treasurer Andy DeLong or email andydelong.fish@gmail.com. Thanks for your support.

**PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL OF THIS WEEK'S
OUTREACH, YOUTH, AND OTHER PARISH NEWS**
including website and email links, and Zoom meeting details





It's time to prepare your Auction donations!
Notifications are due by Friday, October 10.

SMALL ITEMS! BIG ITEMS! VACATIONS! GIFT BASKETS! SERVICES!
ALL ITEMS ARE APPRECIATED!

Tickets & Passes

- Sports tickets
- Theatre tickets
- Concert tickets
- Golf rounds
- Restaurant gift certificate
- Lotto tickets
- Ski passes
- Water park passes

Travel

- Airline tickets
- Vacations
- Vacation house/condo stay
- Motor home rental
- Golf vacation
- Fishing trips
- Hunting trip
- Bicycle tour
- Camping tour
- Casino stay & play

Themed Baskets

- Spa basket
- Gardener's basket
- Italian cuisine basket
- Beer samplers
- Dog owner's basket
- Chocoholic basket
- Griller's basket
- Wine basket
- Camper's basket
- Instant date night
- Car care bundle

Around the House

- Bicycle
- Yard tools
- Camera
- Rugs
- Blankets and quilts
- Ice cream maker
- Television

Services

- Carpentry services
- Pet grooming services
- Consulting services
- Decorating services
- Car detailing
- Landscaping
- Cleaning
- Catered meal by private chef
- Photo-shoot
- Super Bowl party

Lessons

- Music lessons
- Dance lessons
- Cooking lessons
- Fitness lessons
- Art lessons
- Language lessons
- Acting lessons
- Golf lessons
- Crafts lessons

It's Auction Donation Time!

Buonasera! - the 2025 Christ Church Auction is on Saturday, November 1st, and, as there's no online bidding this year, this one-night event is the place to be! It will be an evening of incredible fun as we are transported to *bella Italia* and enjoy wine, music, appetizers, and lots and lots of live and silent auction action. And with on-site childcare available this year, everyone can come, bid, and win great items!

But of course, the event - the largest fundraiser of Christ Church's year - is only as good as the items on offer, and that's where you come in - we need you to notify us of the details for your item donations by Friday, October 10th - which is only two weeks away, so don't delay! You can either email us at auction@christchurchcolumbia.org or [enter the details directly into the auction software](#) (or scan the QR code in the graphic above, which will direct you there).

Items don't have to be delivered until the end of October.

Lastly, mark your calendars - bidding begins November 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Great Hall.

Thank you!



Christ Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Associate Rector for Children and Family Ministries*

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*

The Rev. Yehinuel Odidi, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipede, *Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator*

Diya Jackson, *Office & Youth Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

Vestry

Denisa Abdallah (*Senior Warden*) • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre (*Junior Warden*)

Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Shreya Chrzanowski (*Youth Liaison*)

• Ronald Baran • John Curley • Ray Lyon • Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Jay Abbott • George Toth

• Sara Kirkpatrick • Ed Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms