Christ Episcopal Church

Columbia, MD

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 16, 2021 | 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

You may stream this service from Christ Church's **Website**, **YouTube** or **Facebook** pages.

Youth Sunday

A Light In The Darkness



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MD

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 16, 2021 | 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

Covenant for Regathering

In response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, I promise, with God's help and to the best of my ability, to abide by the guidelines of the Diocese of
Maryland for participation in the life of my congregation according to
the regathering phase in which my congregation is authorized to carry out its mission and ministry.

In fulfillment of the Baptismal Covenant (*BCP* p. 304-305), I will strive to:

Love my neighbor as myself, I will...

- Wear a mask or scarf over my nose and mouth at all times in church buildings, except momentarily to receive the sacrament or lead worship through an assigned speaking part, and follow public health guidelines for hand sanitizing and disinfecting
- Only attend worship and receive communion if I am non-symptomatic for the COVID-19 virus or any other transmittable disease that could compromise the health of another congregant
- Will abstain from attending if doing so would put me at greater risk due to my own health status

Respecting the dignity of every human being, I will...

- Make no physical contact with people beyond the members of my own household
- Maintain a six foot or more distance from other members of the congregation
- Respect any requests for distance, masking, and cleaning, to ensure the safety and comfort level of others

Seek and serve Christ in all people...

- Trust and support the decisions of both my diocesan and congregational leaders
- Stay connected with others in my community by telephone, video chat, or mail

May 2020

The Word of God

Opening Hymn

Oceans — *Hillsong United (Hannah Boyer on Violin)*

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

Read in unison

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

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

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

Opening Collect

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

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.
People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON — Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days, Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

The following Psalm is read responsively by half verse.

PSALM 98 — ***Beatus vir qui non abiit***

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water;
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked, *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgement comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

THE EPISTLE — 1 John 5:9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: god gave us ternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN *You Raise Me Up* *Josh Groban (Setutsi Abdallah on Viola)*

THE GOSPEL John 17:6-19

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

Jesus prayed for his disciples, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are int eh world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is the truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they may be sanctified in truth."

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

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

SERMON Diya Jackson & Brian Kamanda, *Juniors*

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

All: **We believe in one God,**
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

On this Youth Sunday, we are reminded of the past year, the things we have had to give up, the changes we have had to make in our lives and the faith we've had to find to lead through this difficult time, saying: **"Help us to be God's light in times of darkness."**

We pray for the leaders of the world, that they may be guided by your compassion toward all people. We lift up Joseph, our President, Kamala, our Vice President, Larry, our Governor, and all our elected leaders. May they be guided by your wisdom, knowledge and understanding. We pray: **"Help us to be God's light in times of darkness."**

We pray for the worldwide Church leaders, to be wise, welcoming, supportive, compassionate, and cooperative. Within the Anglican Communion, we remember, Christ Church, Port Republic, Middleham & St. Peter's, Lusby, and St. Andrew the Fisherman, Mayo. We also lift up our leading clergy: our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishops, Eugene, and Robert; our Rector, Emmanuel; our Deacon, Denise and our retired Rectors, Richard, and James. We pray: **"Help us to be God's light in times of darkness."**

In this difficult time of the pandemic, we pray for countries with the high rates of transmission of COVID-19. For those who are struggling, we pray that they get better soon especially Farris, Chad, Alta, Alfred, Ana, Theresa, Nell, Dave, Victoria, Jim, Roberta, Kathleen, Meghan, Caleb, Ashley, Ron, Patrick, Jeanette, Ellen, and Charles. We pray that they remember that times will get better. We pray that God will replenish caregivers and give them strength. **"Help us to be God's light in times of darkness."**

We pray for those who have passed away: including Mikael Crier. Provide comfort for loved ones who have lost someone. We pray that those left behind know that it is okay and normal to grieve and be sad. **"Help us to be God's light in times of darkness."**

We pray for those celebrating birthdays especially Phillip, Milnes, Leigh, Linda, Alex, jr., and John as we enjoy times of joy with family and friends in our small communities. **"Help us to be God's light in times of darkness."**

We welcome visitors and newcomers who have come to today's service. We embrace the new members who have joined the congregation. We look forward to the coming summer: to warm weather, pools, picnics, and spending time with our friends in the sunshine. We are thankful for: good health, our families, food, vaccines, nature, and our pets.

We celebrate saying, Help us to be God's light in times of darkness.

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 HYMN *Innocence* *Burgmüller (Diya Jackson on piano)*

DOXOLOGY **Please hum or mouth the words only.** *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.

EUCHARISTIC 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:

All: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,**
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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."

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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **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,
for ever 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.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

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

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

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

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

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

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

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)

All: **In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church,**
where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,
I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving.
I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection;
I await your coming in glory.
And since I cannot receive you today
in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.
Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus,
and let me never be separated from you.
May I live in you, and you in me,
in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN **Please hum or mouth the words only.** *Amazing Grace*

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
was blind, but now I see

Was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that Grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
We have already come
Twas Grace that brought us safe thus far
And Grace will lead us home
And Grace will lead us home

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

THE BLESSING

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

CLOSING HYMN **Please hum or mouth the words only.** *We are Marching in the Light of God*

We are marching in light of God (2ce)
We are marching in the light of God (2ce)
We are marching, marching
We are marching, oh-oh
We are marching in the light of God

We are living in the love of God, (2ce)
We are living in the love of God (2ce)
We are living, living
We are living, oh-oh
We are living in the love of God

We are moving in the power of God, (2ce)
We are moving in the power of God (2ce)
We are moving, moving
We are moving, oh-oh
We are moving in the power of God

We are singing in the light of God, (2ce)
We are singing in the light of God (2ce)
We are singing, singing
We are singing, oh-oh
We are singing in the power of God

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

This Sunday at Christ Episcopal Church | Join us this Sunday morning as we worship at 8 a.m. in Old Brick and at 10:30 a.m. in New Brick. Father Manny is our Celebrant for this Sunday's services. The 10:30 a.m. worship will be broadcast on our Christ Church website, YouTube, and Facebook pages for those who are doing so remotely. We'll also have Virtual Coffee Hour on Zoom after the 10:30 service, and will send the link on Saturday. If you'd like to worship in person, just complete the brief attendance form on our website, and please wear your mask while on campus. See you on Sunday!

Christ Church Sunday School | Online Sunday School classes for preschoolers and elementary school children take place from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. Please fill out a registration form so that we are able to provide you with the Zoom codes. Our curriculum is *"Weaving God's Promises"* and we are in *Year 3: Weaving God's Community*. To learn more about our Sunday School offerings, please visit our website, and if you have any questions or are able to help facilitate classes, please contact Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkins@verizon.net. We also host weekly Sunday School classes for middle & high schoolers on Zoom from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please fill out the registration form so that we can provide you with the Zoom codes. If you have any questions, please contact Yetti Lipede at theodociayl@gmail.com.

Confirmation Class - Sunday Afternoon | This is the final Sunday for Confirmation class, an opportunity that we have to explore the varied and rich components that shape and inform our faith. Confirmation will take place during the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, May 23rd with Father Manny, Deacon Denise, and Bishop Sutton.

From the Director of Music | As we regather, and especially when we gather for worship outdoors, please feel free to be in touch with me with any specific comments or questions about the musical selections in worship. Your feedback is essential for the success of the music ministry here at Christ Church. You can e-mail me at music@christchurchcolumbia.org, or grab me after church. Please don't be shy! ~Adam

Morning and Evening Prayer – Weekdays | Each week, we host morning prayer Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m., and evening prayer is offered on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7:00 p.m. We invite you to worship live via Facebook or the main page of our website, and join in the centering and healing Anglican practice of observing daily offices. You can also watch each service afterward. And if you're interested in helping us lead a virtual prayer gathering in the future, please email us.

Conversations on Race: R.A.G.E. Ministry - Tuesday Evening | Christ Church's own Racially Aware Group of Episcopalians—or RAGE—will meet again on Tuesday, May 18th at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. We will spend time discussing a mission statement around intentional work in areas such as reconciliation and healing, community peace and justice, advocacy, and education and awareness. This mission statement will serve as the foundation for how we invest our time and energy as a Christ Church ministry.

Meetings will continue every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. throughout May and June, with the exceptions of next week (May 25th) and Tuesday, June 22nd. Future meetings will feature guest speakers and discussions of a short video or a short reading, along with planning for ministry activities. Please join us in engaging in this important work, as shaped by our Baptismal Covenant. All are welcome and encouraged to join us for this virtual gathering. Email us if you have any questions - info@christchurchcolumbia.org. Join us on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Our Zoom link is here, the meeting ID is 814 3122 0554 and the password is CECcor.

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Lectionary Bible Study - Wednesday Morning | Bible Study takes place on Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and is a discussion on the readings for that coming Sunday. The readings for our next gathering can be found here. You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join us online and let's all study together. If you're interested, simply gather with us online next Wednesday; the Zoom link is here, the meeting ID is 854 7191 2087, and the password is BibleStudy.

Centering Prayer - Thursday Evening | Come join Kathy and Adrian in Old Brick on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. for this contemplative prayer gathering. Each session begins with a reading from scripture or from the writings of spiritual leaders and teachers. After the reading, the group sits for periods of ten minutes of silence in which each individual meditates on a word, phrase, or thought from the reading. The silence in a group setting allows for shared energy and connectedness that fosters an openness to God's presence. Centering Prayer can move us beyond conversation to communion with God. All attendees wear masks and sit at an appropriate distance from each other. You are welcome to participate as their schedule permits, whether it's every week or once in a while.

Christ Church Book Club - Friday Evening | The CEC Book Club continues our discussion of C.S. Lewis's *Mere Christianity* through the month of May. These are conducted via Zoom each week from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. and you'll find the Zoom link here, with the meeting ID 858 3414 8580 and password CECbooks. As always, we welcome newcomers at any time, so come and join us if we're covering a book that interests you. If there are any questions, please contact Ellen Hoke by calling or texting her at 301-452-7115, or by emailing her at efboudreau1@gmail.com.

WOCC June Meeting | The WOCC's next monthly meeting will take place on Monday, June 7th, at 1:00 pm. Once again, we will be meeting via the Zoom meeting app, which is free and available for sign up on www.Zoom.us. Please go to their site and sign up prior to the meeting. Feel free to join us! The Zoom link is here, the meeting ID is 843 0204 4790 and the password is cecWOCC.

WOCC Birthday Cards | Effective January 2021, WOCC started sending Birthday e-cards for those WOCC members interested in receiving an e-card rather than one via USPS. Don't forget to check your SPAM folder. If you would prefer to receive a card in the mail, instead of an e-card, please send us an email (email address is below). Please ensure that Christ Church has your correct email address and birthdate (month/day) in your Church's REALM account. If you do not have a REALM account, email Yetti at office@christchurchcolumbia.org so that she can send you a link to set up an account.

Prayer Shawl Ministry | Christ Church has created a Prayer Shawl Ministry, so grab your knitting needles and yarn, and join us. Don't have time to knit a whole shawl? Think about knitting some Prayer Squares, with each measuring 5" x 5". These are easily and quickly made and will be appreciated by those who are ill or grieving. If you are interested in making shawls or squares, contact Rosemary Hubbard at rhubbard553@gmail.com or 410-730-2985.

Vacation Bible School is at Christ Church this Summer | Summer is coming... and so is Vacation Bible School, back at Christ Episcopal Church for 2021! At VBS, children will enjoy a week of Bible stories, music, science, crafts, games, and friends! Snacks and refreshments will be served daily. VBS will be held the week of June 28th to July 2nd from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for all children ages 3 (must be potty-trained) through 5th grade. After the 10:30 a.m. July 4th service, we'll have a celebration with ice cream and snacks for all participants. Registrations are due by Sunday, June 20th, so download our VBS registration form on our website or pick up a copy from the church office. The cost is $20 per child or $50 per family, and scholarships are available for those in need. Email us if you're interested, or if you have any questions.

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Bridges' "Taste of Wine, Splash of Charity" to be held on June 10th | Supporters of Bridges to Housing Stability are invited to a dine-in dinner and wine tasting accompanied by a fundraiser or, for those who wish to avoid in-person outings, a takeout opportunity. Tickets must be ordered by June 6th for the event, which will be held at the Iron Bridge Wine Co. on June 10th.

The goal of the nonprofit organization is to prevent and end homelessness in Howard County. Each ticket purchased, whether for takeout or in-person dining, results in a $20 contribution to Bridges' efforts. The cost is $85 for the 5-course dinner and wine tasting or $70 for a three-course take-out meal and bottle of wine. To learn more about the event and buy tickets, go here. Those who attend in person will be able to take part in a silent auction to be displayed at Iron Bridge. The auction is expected to include six to eight baskets of leisure activities, vacation packages, wine, and more. Iron Bridge is located at 10435 Rt. 108, Columbia, MD 21044.

Several parishioners participated in a recent Bridges fundraiser and celebration of its "Heroes for Housing," a virtual program that also featured a Howard County resident who is among the Bridges' success stories. Nadia introduced herself as a grateful, single mother of four daughters. She said, "I got behind in my rent due to being laid off from my job due to COVID-19 and then getting very sick with COVID-19 and pneumonia along with my all kids. I would not have been able to catch up with my rent, and I would have been homeless with my four kids. But thanks to Bridges, I received a fresh start with my rent. My deepest gratitude and appreciation from the depths of our hearts."

Christ Church has a warm relationship with Bridges that dates to 2019 when we participated in its countywide chili cook-off, *Holier Than Thou*. Parishioner James Collins, a Bridges board member, was the master of ceremonies. That fundraising and camaraderie were surpassed during our own cook-off in February 2020, which raised $1,000. And that, in turn, led to Christ Church winning a Silver Ladle Award during the Chili & Challenge virtual fundraiser last fall.

Join Us Monday, May 17th to Help Feed the Hungry at Grassroots | It will soon be the third Monday of the month and parishioners are looking forward to hands-on volunteerism. Please consider preparing a side dish or dessert for the monthly meal that we provide for 50 residents of Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center's live-in facility. You can also bring sealed pantry items such as granola bars.

On Monday, May 17th, please plan to arrive between 3:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. outside Old Brick. Also please sign up online no later than noon on Sunday, May 16th so coordinators will know what you plan to bring. Click on the Christ Church Grassroots Meal link on SignUpGenius to learn which items are still open on our menu. We welcome additional participants — and the resulting side dishes, desserts, and fruits — to complement our main course.

The drop-off continues to be outdoors. Co-coordinator Nancy Winchester acquires fried chicken at Weis and meets the other volunteers as they enter the Christ Church parking lot (see photos in our April 23rd blog post). Nancy then transports the food to Freetown Road for handoff to the staff of Grassroots.

Save the date for the subsequent meal, which will be on June 21st. The time and place remain the same, and please arrive no later than 3:30 p.m. because the departure for Grassroots is prompt. You'll find lots of information at the sign-up link, but for questions contact Nancy or co-coordinator Shahra Toth or email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

To further help our neighbors in need, some parishioners take it upon themselves to provide the evening meal for the 50 adults and children. Here is a link to the sign-up list which currently has available openings through June 30th. It's your choice to provide an entree and side dishes, or just the entree. You can cook in your own kitchen, or order out. Grassroots encourages an order of 12 pizzas -- four with cheese and the rest with meat (any kind), or rotisserie chickens (12 to make a meal), but discourages lasagna or other pasta entrees.

(continued)

Grassroots Offers Training in May in QPR Skills to Help Prevent Suicides | Once again, Grassroots offers Howard County residents, employees, or students a chance to learn skills that could help save a life from suicide. QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer — the three simple steps anyone can learn to help save lives, just as individuals trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver learn what to do. Thanks to the Horizon Foundation, the online seminar is free for adults on one remaining day this month: Monday, May 17th from 7:30 to 9 p.m. To register, go here, and to learn more, email amanda@grassrootscrisis.org to speak with Amanda Ganoe, the organizer.

Collection Drive Continues to Provide Diapers, Personal Care Items for CCC | At Christ Church, our Racially Aware Group of Episcopalians (R.A.G.E) and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to support Columbia Community Care (CCC). So far we have been collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items and we're now passing along a request for a few adult diapers such as Depends. Please put any of these items in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," just inside the Parish Hall door. You can drop off items on weekdays until 2 p.m., but we ask that you call the church office at (410) 381-9365 ahead of time.

Donate Spring Cleaning Supplies for FISH in its Yellow Bin | Organizers for FISH of Howard County request household cleaning supplies such as liquid dish soap, bleach, and cleanser. Also, the families who call on FISH during times of crisis could use personal items such as deodorant, shampoo, and bath soaps. At the present time, the pantry has an adequate supply of groceries.

SEAFARER'S Donation Requests | We could use your help in gathering the following items. Delivery is made and the date announced when the number of collections gets reasonably accumulated. Contact Carolann Sawyer with any questions.

- Bible in modern English (or Tagalog, Russian, or Chinese)
- Times/Newsweek/etc. up to 3 months old
- Sports Ill/People/etc. up to 6 months
- Cars/Computers/Consumers up to 1 year
- Reader's Digest up to a couple of years
- National Geographics post-2000
- Books (except for Bibles) are less often requested, but some seafarers do appreciate action novels, as well as picture books about Baltimore or the U.S.
- Action/adventure DVD's. Recent popular CDs.
- Religious books (in easy English), DVDs, CDs; rosaries.
- Clothing - men's jeans, other sturdy pants (no bigger than XL) or shorts, T-shirts, warm outerwear, and non-skid shoes/boots (in good condition only), and gloves, hats, scarves, and warm socks

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.

Please Consider a Contribution to Christ Church

Recent world events have been challenging for us all. It has also affected how we are able to continue to help others. Our Stewardship Committee would like to thank you all for your wonderful and generous support to our beloved Christ Church. Your generosity sustains life and ministry. In as much as we give thanks for your pledges - especially during these difficult times - we also want you to know that we are still quite far from our targeted goal for 2021. We, therefore, appeal to all who have not as yet turned in their pledges to kindly consider submitting a pledge online. We are still carrying out an amazing ministry for a moderate-sized church - even through this very challenging time - but it does require everyone's assistance. Each contribution helps greatly.

Text Giving

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

Online Giving

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

Our 2021 Pledge Form is Online

The 2021 Pledge Form is on our website, for your convenience. You can complete the form by clicking here or use the Realm form located here, and if you have any questions, please email stewardship@christchurchcolumbia.org

THANK YOU.



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev'd Denise Schiavone*, Deacon*
Adam Detzner, *Director of Music*
Yetti Lipede, *Interim Parish Administrator*
Kareem Mack, *Staff Bass*
Simone Brown, *Staff Soprano*
Rebecca Warlow, *Licensed Lay Preacher*

Vestry

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