CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MD

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 15, 2021 | 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

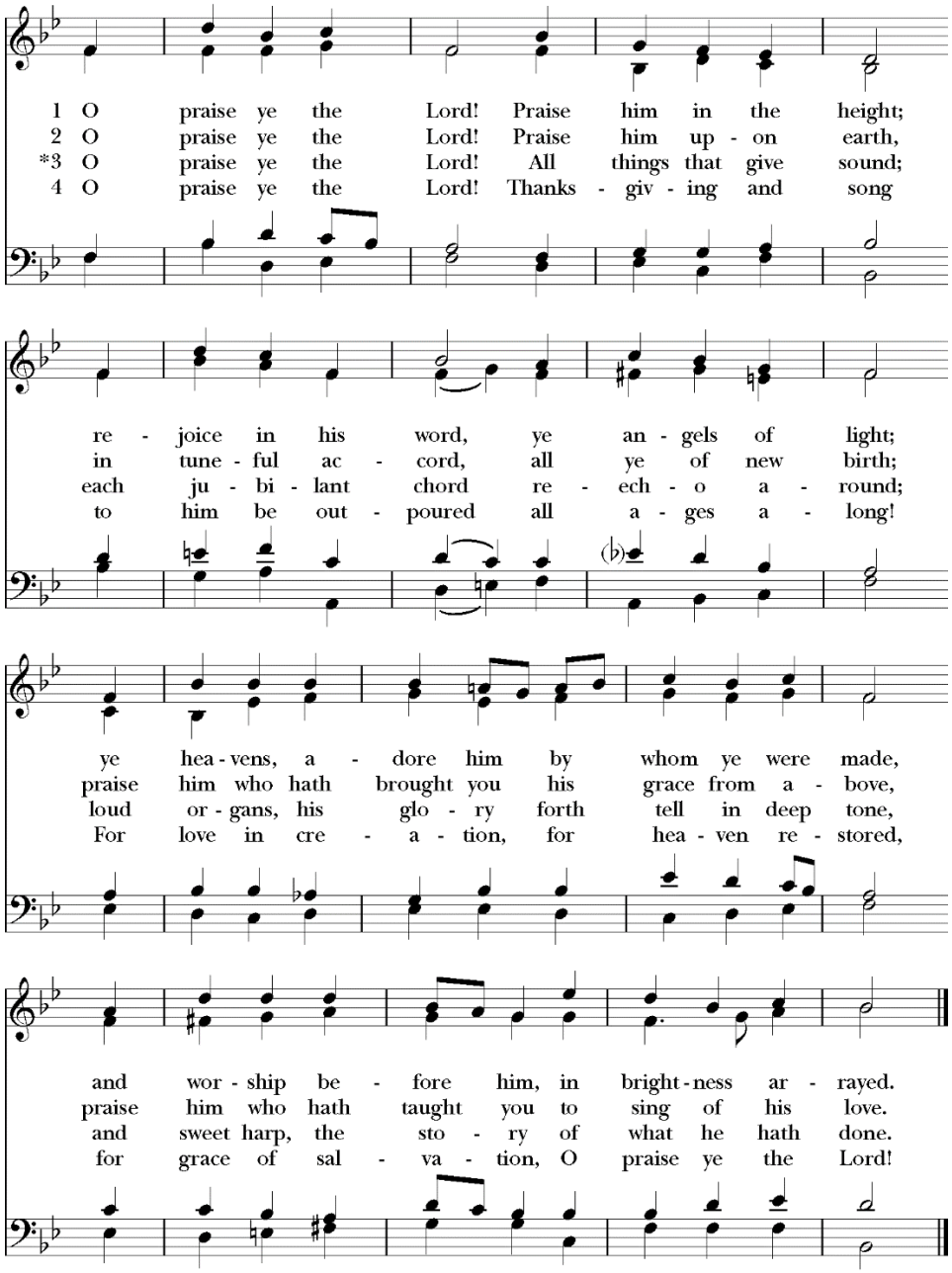
You may stream this service from Christ Church's website, YouTube, or Facebook pages

At the 8:00 a.m. service, all music is omitted.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN *Laudate Dominum*



Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

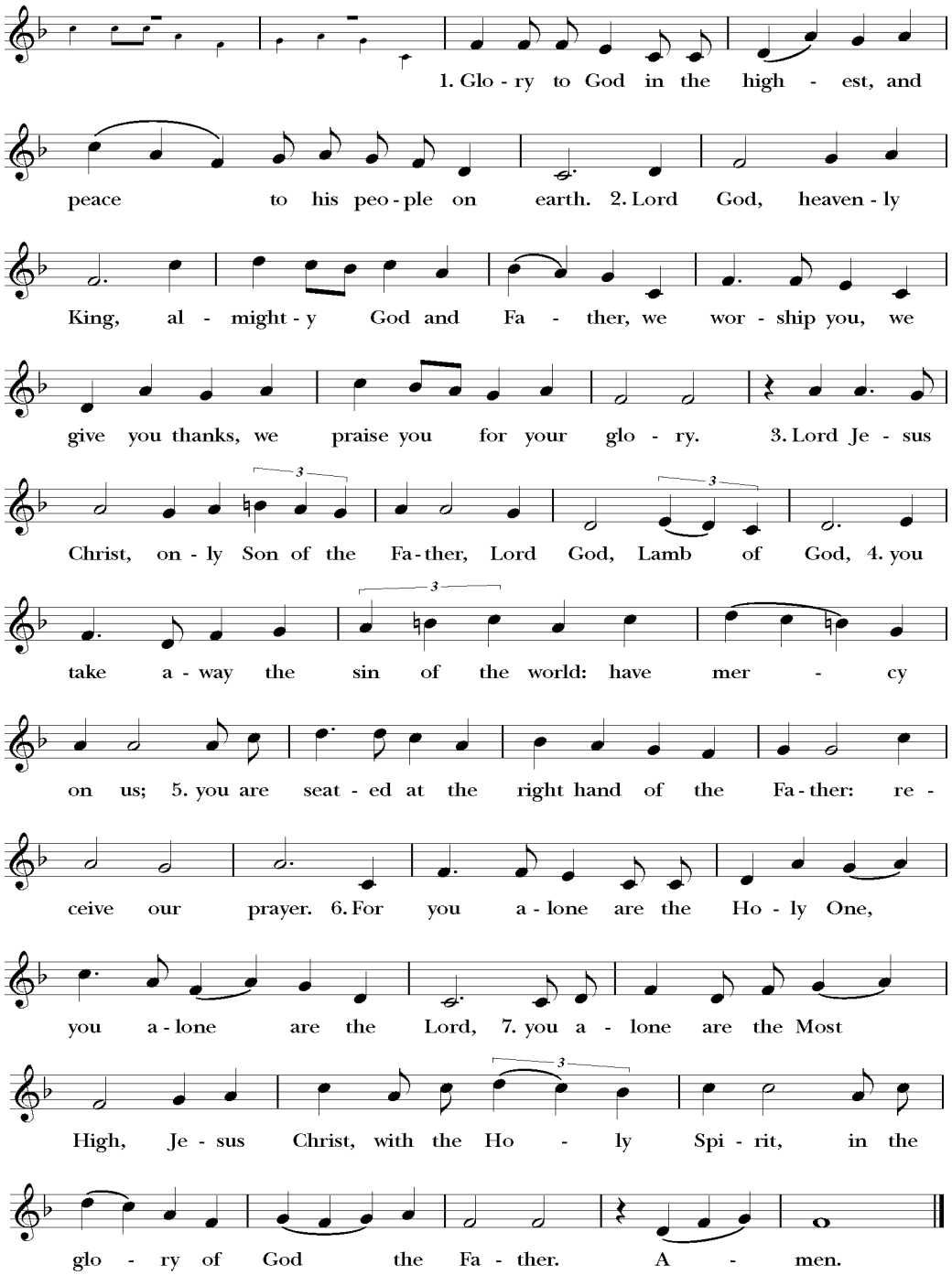
The Collect for Purity

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.**

Gloria

Robert Powell (1932-)



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

David slept with his ancestors, and was buried in the city of David. The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.

Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

PSALM 111 ***Confitebor tibi***

Hallelujah!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the LORD! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

He gives food to those who fear him; *
in giving them the lands of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people; *
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

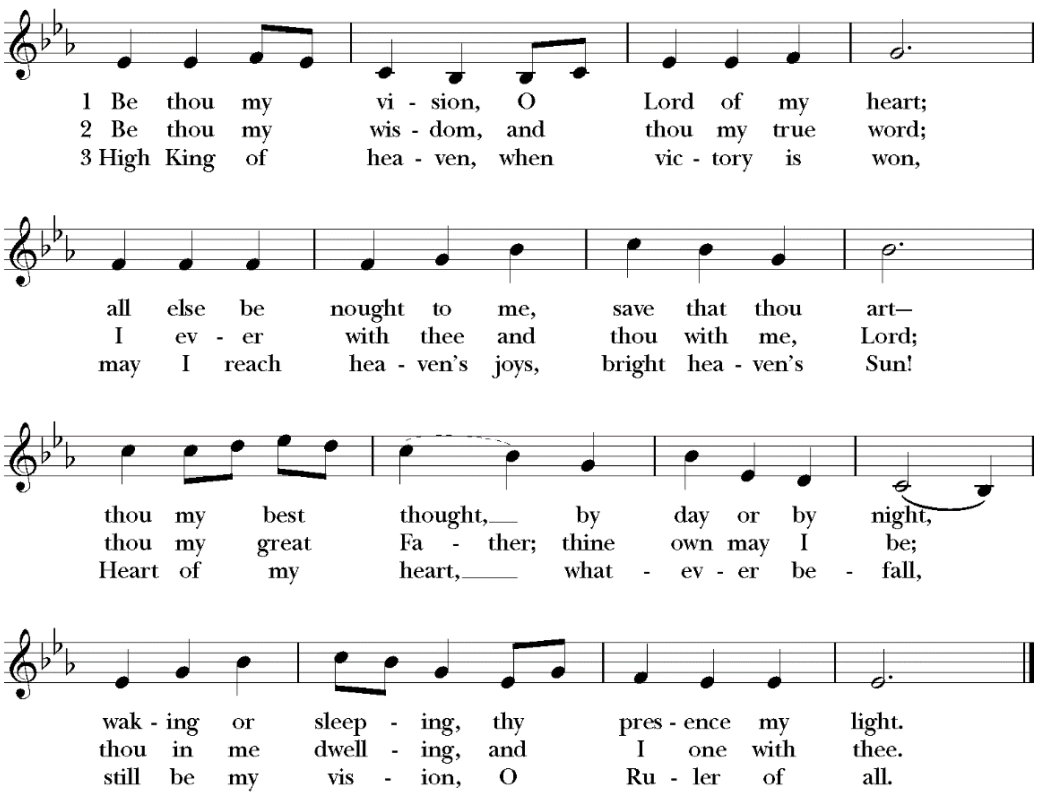
THE EPISTLE Ephesians 5:15-20

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN *Slane*



THE GOSPEL John 6:51-58

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

Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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 Emmanuel Ato Mercer

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

We know that without bread and water we cannot survive. Help us to understand that spiritual nourishment requires bread and water from the source of life itself, and only then can we faithfully do our work and reflect the image of Christ to all who cross our paths. In faith we pray, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

The Spirit and our spiritual leaders provide the guidance we seek with words founded in wisdom and inspire us to act in accordance with Your will. We specifically pray for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishops, Eugene and Robert; our Rector, Manny; our Deacon, Denise and our Rector in emeritus, Richard. We pray for all churches, especially within the Diocese of Maryland: St. John's In-the-Village, Baltimore; St. Katherine of Alexandria, Baltimore; and St. Mary the Virgin, Baltimore.

We extend our prayers to the Anglican communion, especially The Anglican Church of Southern Africa. In faith we pray, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We pray for governmental leaders throughout the world, that they listen to the guidance of the Spirit and lay aside their self-interest, to focus on the welfare of the people they serve with grace, mercy, and love. We pray for community and business leaders to support freedom of choice, voice, and worship, knowing that improving people's lives will bless their labors more than any other design possibly can. We pray, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

We pray for those who suffer, especially those affected by our careless and self-centered designs. We pray for those struggling with the consequences of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, drought, and volcanoes, especially when the recovery effort is inadequate to provide housing and food to the affected people. We pray for those suffering from economic hardship and those struggling with mental, physical, or emotional illness. We pray for the restoration of health to those close to us, especially Lourdes, Errick, Frantz, Tiffany, Cherryllynn, Tanis, Sam, Faris, Chad, Alta, Alfred, Ana, Theresa, Nell, Victoria, Jim, Roberta, Kathleen, Ashley, Ron & Jeanette, and those you now name. May those who suffer the loss of a loved one find peace and comfort in the knowledge that they rest in the company of those bound by the arms of Christ in Love eternal, especially James Shields, priest; Irene Lucente; Jerry Olsen & Ben Dawson; and those you now name. In Jesus name we pray, ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

We give thanks to those in our community and the countless blessings poured upon us. We welcome those joining us today in worship and hope you find opportunities to serve others and participate in community ministries. Today we give special thanks for the birthdays of Joy, Mary & Ben, and the anniversaries of Cindy & Denis Read, Joan & Lee Harvey, & Cheryl & Earle Cummins.

In thanksgiving we say, ***Gracious Lord, we thank you for your many blessings, but above all for the inestimable love of Jesus Christ.***

Let us never forget the words of our Lord, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life," for He alone is the bread of Life. ***AMEN.***

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: 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.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People: **Amen.**

The Peace

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

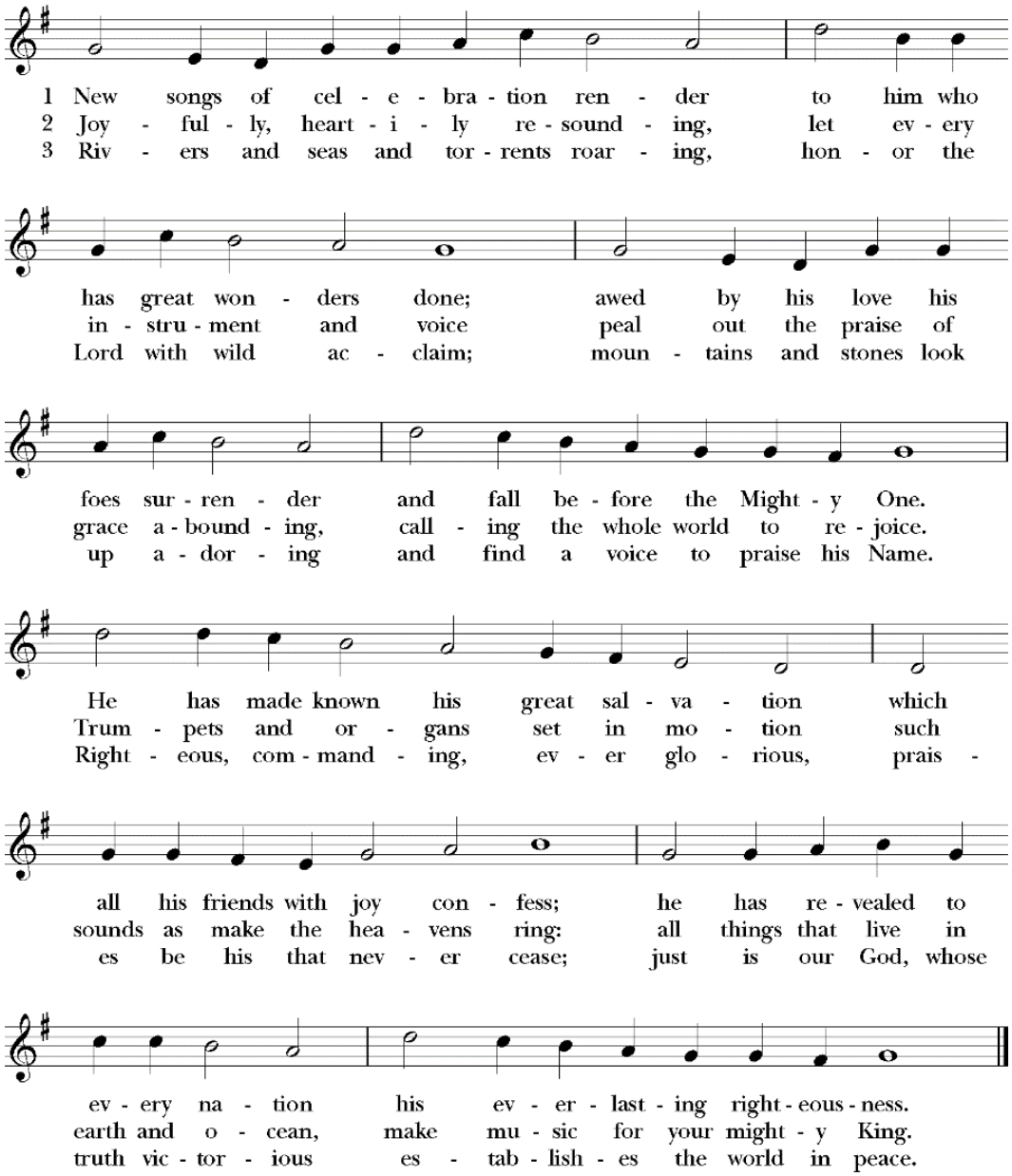
The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

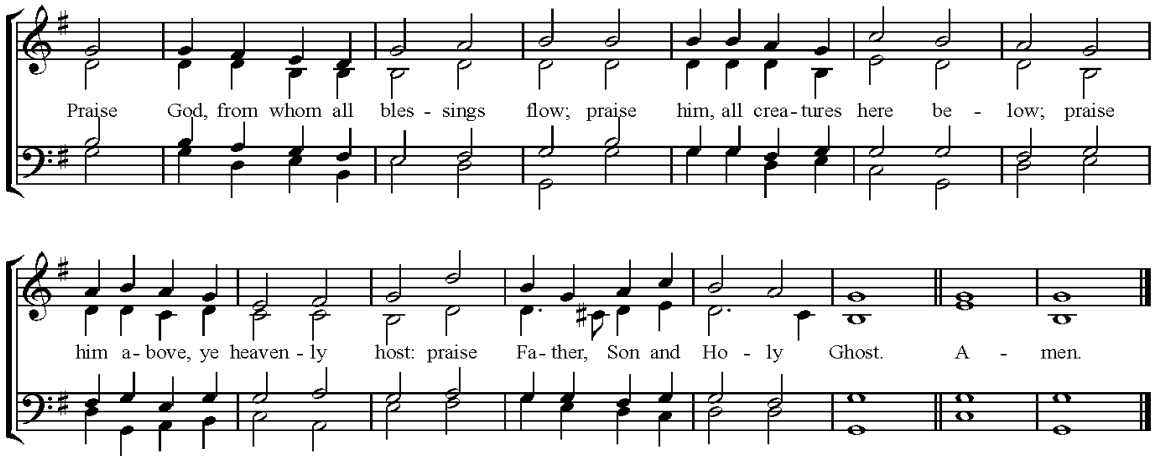
The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn

Rendez a Dieu



DOXOLOGY *Old 100th*



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 for ever 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."

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."

Celebrant: 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 for ever.

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.

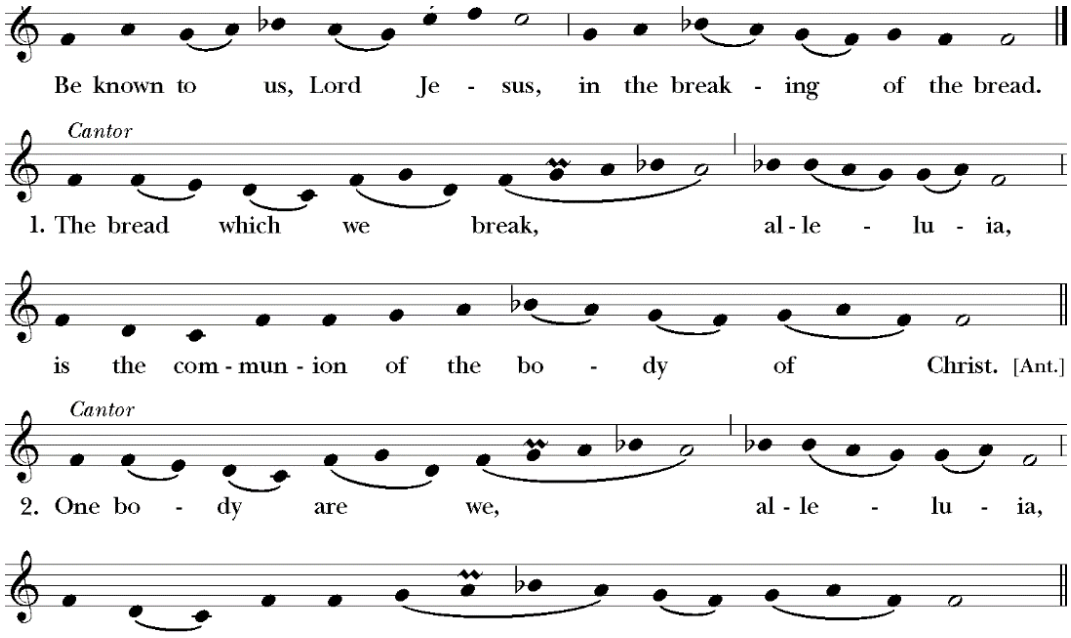
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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

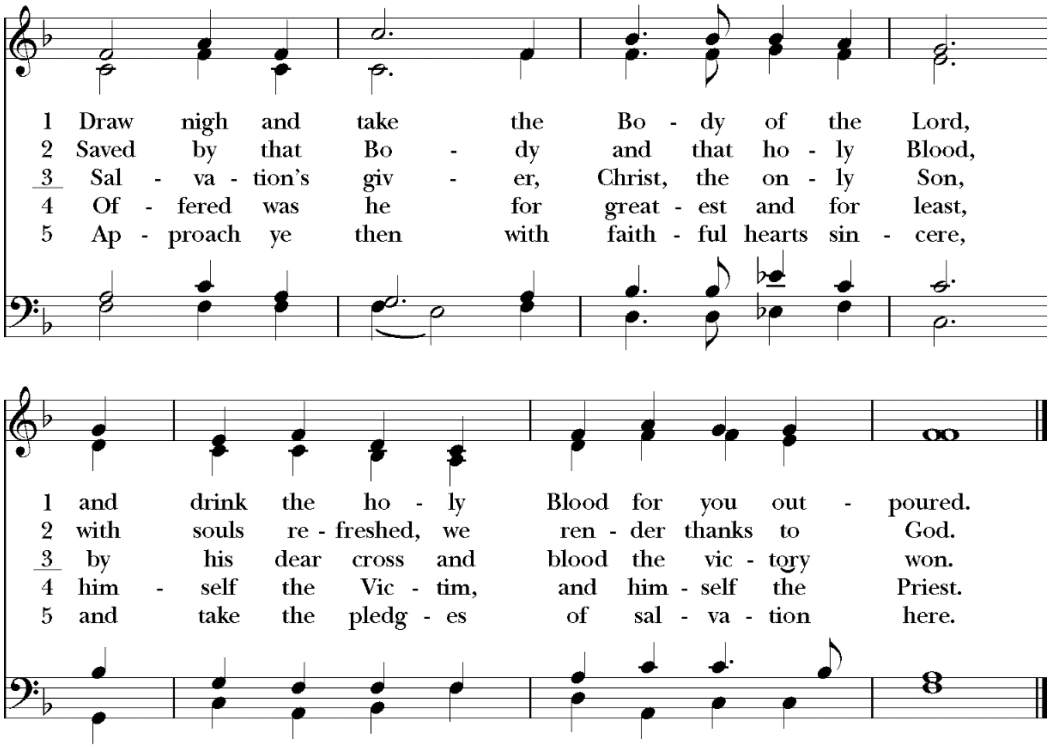
Fraction Anthem

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



Communion Hymn

Song 46



6 He that his saints in this world rules and shields
to all believers life eternal yields;

7 with heavenly bread he makes the hungry whole,
gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

8 Alpha-Omega, unto whom shall bow
all nations at the doom, is with us now.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

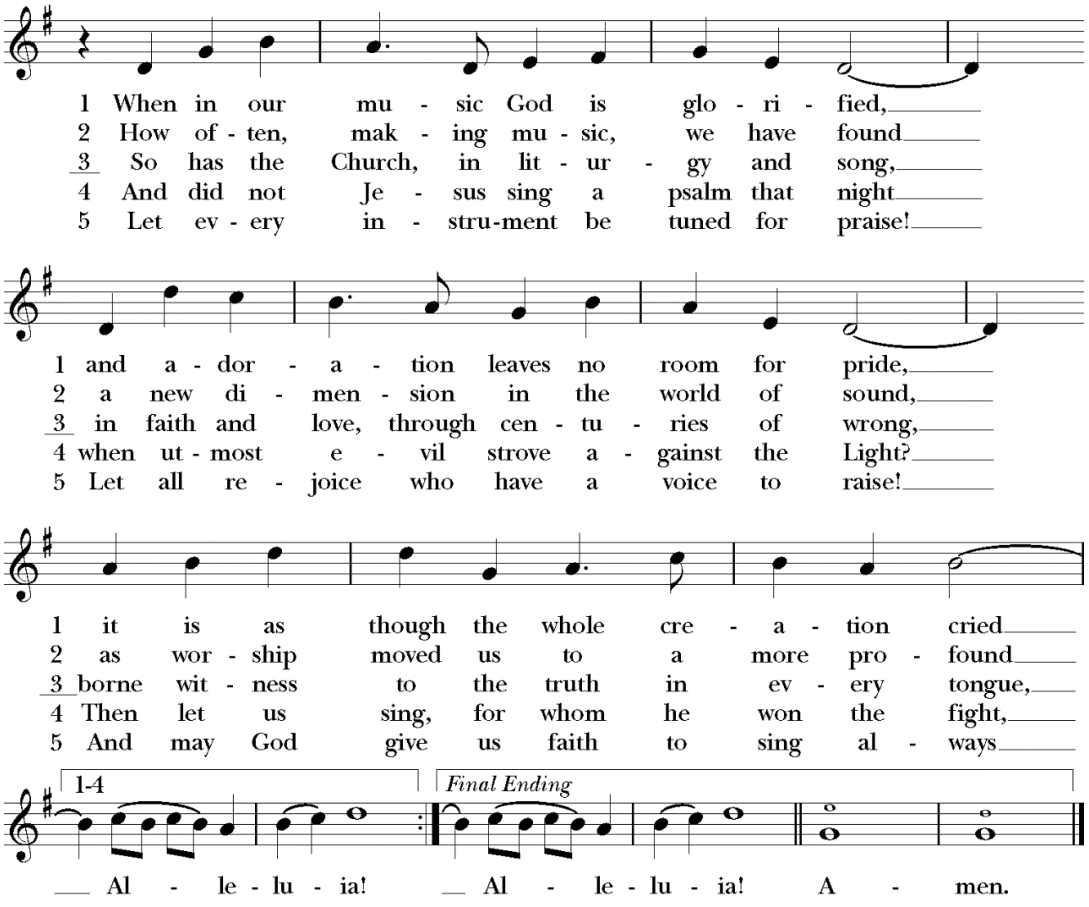
All: **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with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

The Blessing

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

Closing Hymn

Engelberg



DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

The Organist for today's 10:30 worship is Nelda Clelland

The altar flowers are dedicated to the memory of Adebowale B. Lipede, Adedoyin Lipede & Olufunke Lipede by The Lipede Family

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PERMISSIONS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Pentecost XII at Christ Church | Join us this Sunday morning, the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, as Holy Eucharist takes place at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. We'll livestream the 10:30 service on our **Christ Church website**, **YouTube**, and **Facebook** pages for those who are worshipping remotely. If you'd like to be there in person, just **complete the brief attendance form on our website**, and please wear your mask at all times while indoors.

Altar Flowers and Gifts | If you would like to present Altar gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on an upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and sign-up sheet online at **https://tinyurl.com/CECaltargifts**.

Diocese of Maryland's Latest Update | The Diocese of Maryland has provided a new update on their website, and **you can read that here**. We remain in the Yellow Phase at this time, but we'll continue our dialogue with the appropriate organizations and ease restrictions with care and consideration as conditions warrant.

Summer Coffee Hours Need Your Help | Sign-ups are open! We have had a few people sign up for hosting Coffee Hour receptions each Sunday this summer, but we need more. At this time, the Diocese has instructed parishes to provide pre-packaged, individual servings of foods and beverages in order to maintain a safe environment for all participants, and so we are interested in having a few volunteer parishioners help make these gatherings a regular occurrence. You can sign up to help host a Coffee Hour at **https://tinyurl.com/CECcoffeesignup** and can email the church office if you need refreshment suggestions or have any questions - **office@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Buildings and Grounds Clean-Up Day - Saturday, August 21st | Mark your calendars! We'll gather together on Saturday, August 21st from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to prepare the campus for our Parish Festival. Be sure to bring your work gloves, and stay tuned for more details in upcoming communications.

A Message from Christ Church | We regret to announce the passing of our beloved Rector Emeritus James Shields. Memorial arrangements will be communicated in due course.

Ministry and Event Leaders, Submit an Article for our Fall Newsletter | It's been a while, but it's coming back - we are planning to publish Christ Church's next *Gathered Together* newsletter soon! Lots of items and events are taking shape this autumn, and we want you to all know about them, so we encourage all groups, ministries, and special event committees to write a paragraph or two so we can include it in our publication this September. All submissions, photos, and questions can be sent to **communications@christchurchcolumbia.org** and the deadline is **Wednesday, August 25th**.

Want to Try Leading a Morning or Evening Prayer? | We are looking for a few new faces to help with prayer livestreaming. It only takes 30 minutes of your time each week, so if you have a personal Facebook account and are interested in helping please email Deacon Denise at **deacondenise@christchurchcolumbia.org**. It's a simple process - you can either record it ahead of time or livestream it - and we'll be sure to set you up with the details that keep it straightforward! Christ Church leads morning prayer at 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday and evening prayer is offered on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7:00 p.m. Whether you join us live or pray using the recording later, 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.

Fall Adult Formation | Help wanted! Would you like to meet people and have conversations? Do you want to be more involved in the life of your church? Have you ever led or taught a class... or want to try? Prayerfully consider a leadership opportunity. The Adult Formation Committee is currently seeking volunteer facilitators for classes during the fall of 2021. If you are interested in occasionally leading an adult class on Sundays between worship services, please contact Jenn Todd Lavanish at **jltlavanish@gmail.com** or call 706-570-5425 for information. We have an exciting year planned to grow and learn together.

Help Make an Impact at Christ Church - Join the Vestry | Well, it is that time of year again! Time to decide on a slate of candidates to submit their names for election to the Vestry. Vestry service is rewarding and makes a difference. If you are a voting member of Christ Church (see eligibility qualifications below), you are eligible to submit your name for election to the Vestry. If you meet the qualification, please consider making a contribution of your gift and talent by serving in a leadership position. Vestry service consists of attending a Tuesday evening once each month. Preparation for these meetings require the reading and familiarization with meeting documentation that includes minutes, financial reports and other reports from different officers and ministries. Other obligations may be an assignment as a liaison to one of our many ministries, where you can track and report back to the Vestry when scheduled to do so. These are the minimum requirements, but just to be sure, there are many other opportunities to become involved.

As with normal years there are four Vestry positions opening up due to the regular three-year Vestry terms ending for four current members. With four positions opening up, the Vestry nominations committee has a goal of fielding 6 to 8 candidates for the Vestry election at the Annual Meeting in October. If you submit your name to run, we will take your picture to be posted on our website and in the Narthex, and we will ask you to write a biography about your story, how you came to Christ Church or the Episcopal Church in general, what involvement you have had in our church, and why you want to run for Vestry. If you put yourself out there, you need to campaign a bit. The biography is basically your opportunity to do that.

We invite all eligible members to please consider the calling you may feel in your heart to offer your gifts and talents to serve Christ Church. You may please notify the church office at: **office@christchurchcolumbia.org** or Fr. Manny: **revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org**

Here are the qualifications for Vestry service:

Every person who

1. is sixteen (16) years of age or older, and
2. has been a member of Christ Church and has been regular in worship fòr at least three months preceding the day when he or she may wish to vote, and
3. is a giver of record, or, if under the age of twenty-one (2 1), is a member of a household which is a giver of record, and
4. has been baptized, confirmed, or received at Christ Church or has transferred his or her baptismal records to Christ Church shall be a Voting Member thereof, with the right to vote in the election of Vestry Members and upon all other matters having to do with the affairs of Christ Church.

Come to the CEC Fall Retreat – October | The Spiritual Life Commission is pleased to announce that the Christ Church Fall Retreat is back for 2021! Once again, we'll gather at the A. Felix duPont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach. We've reserved the weekend of October 1-3 for us, so if you're interested please speak with Ellen Hoke or Donna Campagna so they can answer your questions or reserve a space for you. **The details are on our website** and you can email Ellen at **efboudreau1@gmail.com** or Donna at **donnacam100@gmail.com** for more information. The CEC Fall Retreat is a unique and enriching parish gathering, and a great opportunity to get acquainted with one another and deepen our faith.

Register Your Items for the Christ Church Auction – November | Now is your chance to participate in the **32nd Annual Christ Church Auction**, by rummaging through your basement shelves or attic looking for pristine treasures, or by offering a basket filled with surprises of your choice. You can also donate vacations, dinners, day trips, a bottle of wine, handmade artworks... endless possibilities!!!

If you donated Auction items last year, you should have already received an email from the 2021 CEC Auction Team. If you donated and did not already receive a message, please contact Suzanne Ziobro directly

at **dziobro2@gmail.com**. New Auction donors are asked to use the following link (one form per item): **https://christepiscopalchurch.schoolauction.net/auction2021/donate_items/new**

The CEC 2021 Auction Team will decide which items should appear in the Silent Auction that's taking place from 7:00 p.m. on October 30th through 3:00 p.m. on November 6th. We'll also decide which items will appear in the Live Auction that takes place in New Brick at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 6th. There will also be a 50/50 drawing available for both the online and in-person portions.

This is Christ Episcopal Church's major fundraiser for the year, and we hope you will all plan on participating. The Auction's success depends entirely on each and every one of us! No item is too small, or too large to donate - please start searching your home now! And then **log in to the site** and donate. Thank you!

Children at "Camp Inspiration" Benefit from Christ Church Parishioners' Donation to General Outreach Funds | During four weeks of summer camp at a church in West Baltimore, families could choose to pick up their children at 6 p.m. rather than earlier. That option made it much easier for working parents, and it enabled their kids to enjoy fun and summer learning opportunities for as long as possible. The extended care was funded in part by a contribution from Christ Church.

Camp Inspiration is held by St. Luke's Youth Center, which operates from the former St. Luke's Episcopal parish on N. Carey Street as the nonprofit **SLYC**. On August 6th, parishioners Michon Semon and Nancy Winchester were in the audience to applaud the end-of-camp presentation hosted by St. James, Lafayette Square.

"Camp Imagination is a place where imagination, creativity, fun, and education come together," says SLYC. "Camp experiences inspire a love of learning through mindfulness and the arts."

The day camp serves 28 youth from ages 5-13 and involves 11 teen leaders and six professional art instructors. Children receive more than 60 hours of reading and academic enrichment.

As a member of the Outreach Commission, Michon had obtained facts on the worthy efforts by SLYC, and the commission responded by approving a $500 donation for the camp. The funds came from the Christ Church parishioners' contributions to General Outreach. So thanks to all on behalf of the SLYC participants and each child's extended family.

Camp Inspiration is part of SLYC's year-round community engagement program whose supporters include the **Episcopal Diocese of Maryland**, among others. SLYC holds after-school academic and youth leadership programs for youth ages 6 to 17 and involves families in the West Baltimore neighborhood through its "Moms on a Mission" program. To get information or to become a supporter, contact SLYC Director Amanda Talbot at **amanda@bmoreslyc.org**.

Save the Dates: Grassroots Meal Drop-Offs on Monday, Aug. 16th; Monday, Sept. 20th | Once again, parishioners and volunteers who join their efforts are looking ahead to the monthly meal that we provide at **Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center**. Save the dates: August 16th and September 20th, arriving between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. at the parking lot outside Old Brick. Plan to bring a side dish, a dessert, or items for their pantry to be enjoyed round-the-clock by the 50 residents of the live-in facility on Freetown Rd.

To sign up, use our electronic registry no later than noon on the Sunday prior to the meal on Monday. Click on the **Christ Church Grassroots Meal link on SignUpGenius** to view requested items and to tell coordinators what you'll bring. As usual, co-coordinator Nancy Winchester acquires fried chicken at Weis and meets the other volunteers. Nancy then transports the hot or cold foods to Freetown Road for handoff to the staff of Grassroots.

Christ Church continues to support Grassroots' Day Resource Center (DRC) at the Dorsey Center. The DRC has not yet resumed the hot meals that Christ Church had helped serve prior to the pandemic, but it fulfills other needs of our homeless friends.

Grassroots lists some other needs for curbside distribution at the DRC or for the pantry at the Freetown Road facility. Look for its attached file at our **sign-up link**. For any 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 at Freetown Road. It's your choice to provide an entree and side dishes, or just the entree. Cook in your own kitchen or order out. Or purchase 12 rotisserie chickens to make a meal. Grassroots continues to discourage lasagna or other pasta dishes. Here is **a link to the sign-up list** that has openings through August 31st.

Thanks to all who Supplied Kids' Gift Bags for Columbia Community Care | For a summer celebration, **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) brought cheer to children in Howard County on Saturday, August 7th. Parishioners at Christ Church pitched in as CCC's three distribution sites offered gift bags full of small toys, treats, and books for kids ages 3 to 10 years old.

Organizer Sue Sharff Castonguay, a member of the **CCC group on Facebook**, used that social media to express gratitude to Christ Church for its generosity in contributing gift bags and her thanks to Vestry and Outreach member Diane Phillips Laguerre and her brother for delivering them.

At Christ Church, members of R.A.G.E and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to continue supporting CCC by collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Please put any of these items in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. You can drop off items on weekdays until 2 p.m., but we ask that you call the church office (410) 381-9365 ahead of time.

Donate Personal Care and Cleaning Supplies for FISH in Bin on our Breezeway | Organizers for **FISH of Howard County** request household cleaning supplies such as liquid dish soap, bleach, and cleanser as well as personal items such as deodorant, shampoo, and bath soaps. At present, its pantry has an adequate supply of groceries. The bin is between Old Brick and the Parish Hall.

SEAFARER'S Donation Requests | We could use your help in gathering the following items. Delivery is made and the date is 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.

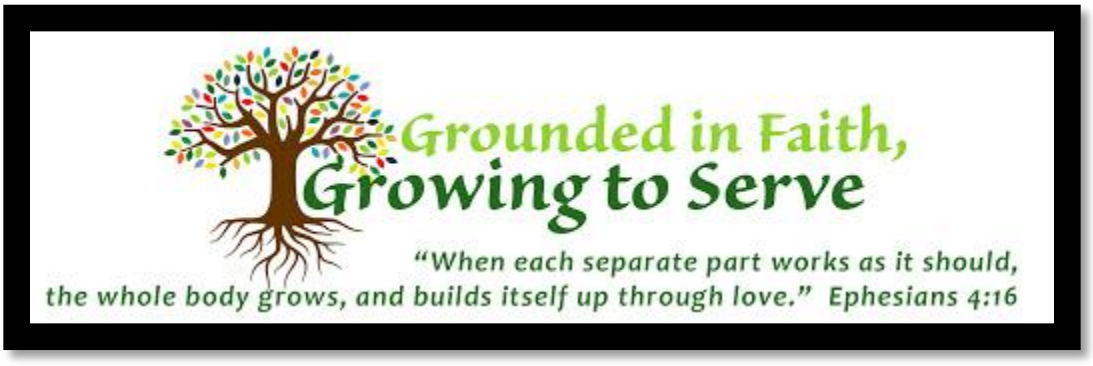


CEC Sunday School Summer Update:
We Need You!

Sunday school has taken a break from classes this summer, but it is our plan to have in-person Sunday school classes beginning on September 12th. In order for our program to be successful, though, we ***really*** need more adult volunteers to teach. The curriculum is very easy to follow and we teach in teams, so no one has to do all of the work. If you are called to this very rewarding ministry, please contact Jennifer Atkins at **dandjatkins@verizon.net**.

Classes for preschool – 5th grade will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. in the lower level of New Brick (breakfast will be served from 9:15 – 9:30). Children can then attend church services with their families after Sunday school. We will continue using *Weaving God's Promises* as our curriculum. Since this is a new model for our church, we will evaluate its' success in December and make changes as needed.

Be sure to watch the brief video on YouTube.



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*
Yetti Lipede, *Parish Administrator*
Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*
Simone Brown, *Staff Soprano*
Derrick Miller, *Staff Tenor*
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