

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, September 8, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



Welcome Home!

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

We are delighted you're here – welcome home!

Opening Hymn 535 | Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

Paderborn

1 Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2 God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
 4 Then let us a - dore, and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful Name;
 and still he is nigh: his pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud, and hon - or the Son.
 All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

the Name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol:
 The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 and hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious; he rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
 fall down on their fa - ces, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er - ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.

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. **Amen.**

Gloria S 280 | Glory to God

Robert Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty 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 |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The people may be seated.

A Reading from Isaiah 35:4-7a |

Reader: A reading from Isaiah.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

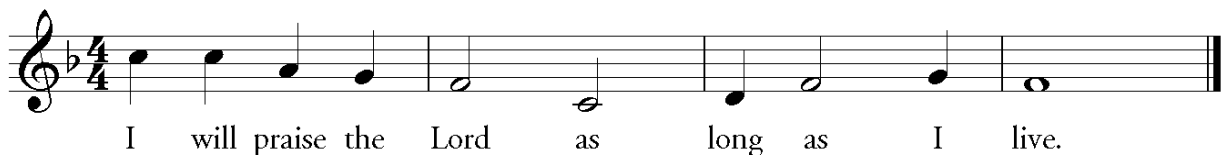
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The following Psalm is read responsively by half verse at 8:00 a.m. service and sung at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Psalm 146 | *Lauda, anima mea*



Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! *

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise forever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger; *
**he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

The LORD shall reign forever, *
**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!**

A Reading from James 2:1-10, [11-13], 14-17 |

Reader: A reading from the Epistle of James.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.[For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!____ O what a
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light,____ Vi - sions of
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest,____ I in my

1. fore-taste of glo - ry di - vine!____ Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
2. rap - ture now burst on my sight;____ An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
3. sav - ior am hap - py and blest;____ Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

1. God,____ Born of His spir - it, washed in His blood.____
2. bove____ Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.____
3. bove,____ Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.____

This is my sto - ry, this is my song,____ Prais - ing my

sav - ior all the day long;— This is my sto - ry, this is my

song,— Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long.—

The Gospel | Mark 7:24-37

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

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eous-ness,

5 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

Optional Ending

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

13 mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

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

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 |

Lord and Teacher, we ask for your blessings on our church school students and teachers as we start another year of learning about you. Help us all to be open to your lessons and hear your Good News, so we may bring it with us into the world and make it a better place. On the anniversary of 9/11 this week, we remember all those who perished, we pray for those who survived, and we ask your blessings upon our nation, that in our differences and divisions, we find a way to unify for the common good. **May the Holy Spirit guide us on Your path.**

We give a warm welcome to those who are new to Christ Church and those who are visiting this morning. We thank you for sharing in our worship and look forward to meeting you. We pray for Joseph, our President; Wes, our Governor; and for all the leaders around the globe, that they may work toward a world of peace and dignity for all. We pray for our Church Leadership: for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; for our Presiding Bishop-Elect, Sean; for our Diocesan Bishop, Carrie; and for all our clergy and staff at Christ Church. Today, we give thanks for the incredible and truly wonderful ministry of Deacon Denise. We have been truly blessed as a community in Christ with her time and dedication to us all. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for our sister parishes. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we remember The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma). **We who are many are One Body in Christ.**

We pray for those in need: the poor, the homeless, the unemployed, the refugees, and the imprisoned. We pray for our friends at the Route 1 Homeless center and at Grassroots. We pray for all outreach and mission ministries locally, nationally and abroad. We pray for all those who are sick, and for those who care for them, especially Tammy, Edvon, Kitzel, Claudia, Sarah, Jay, Rachan, Ian, Ron, Jerry, Dick, Kristin, Dawn, Kim, Sabrina, Jim, Erica, Marilyn, Carolyn, Mary Ann, Barbara, Cindy, Tim, Sherry, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Mildred, and Nell, and those you now name. We pray, **Lord, may Your healing touch ease their pain and restore them.**

We ask God our Creator to accept in his loving arms all those who have departed this life, especially Anne Eaton, and those you now name. We pray for all who mourn them, that they may heal in the warmth of your love. **Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of eternal life.**

We thank you Lord, for the many occasions we have to celebrate. We are blessed to have a wonderful and supportive congregation. We rejoice with all those members of our church family who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and other milestones, especially Danny, Noah, Traci, Lynn, Joan, William, Momodu, Dorothy, Ralph & Bill, David & Kimberly Mosier and Momodu & Marinda Sonii, and Marjorie. **May we grow together in gratitude.**

Help us to be good stewards of your world here on Earth, using the wealth of our talents and love to help the poor, needy, and oppressed. In Jesus name we pray, **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. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People: **Who made heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly entreat your sovereignty to consecrate with your blessing this ambry, made to contain the body and blood on your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; through the same Jesus Christ who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God in glory everlasting.

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 Anthem | Day By Day

K. Lee Scott

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

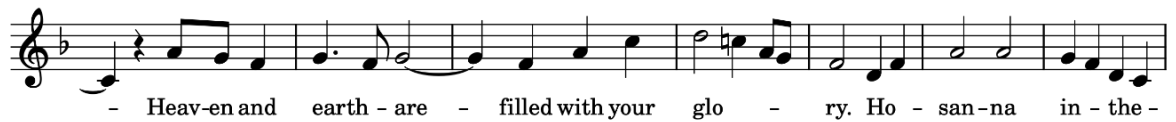
***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

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:



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: 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.
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.**

organ

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Communion Hymn 325 | Let Us Break Bread Together

John B. Foley

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____
Refrain
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,
O Lord, have mer - cy on me. _____
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____
Refrain
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,
O Lord, have mer - cy on me. _____

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.**

Diocese of Maryland Liturgy to Conclude a Deacon's Service |

After the post communion prayer, the deacon, altar party, and wardens move to the front of the congregation.

The congregation is seated.

Blessing of the gifted stole from the Refugee Ministry

Conclusion of Service

Deacon Deacons are placed in various ministries for a period of time to serve the needs of the Diocese under the Bishop. In July of 2020, I was assigned by Bishop Eugene Sutton to serve at Christ Church Columbia, in the Diocese of Maryland. With God's help and to the best of my abilities, I have exercised my diaconal responsibilities and privileges here as you have entrusted them to me. After much prayer and careful consideration, Bishop Carrie Schofield-Broadbent has discerned that it is time for me to serve in another ministry setting; therefore, my service as deacon among you ends this day, September 8, 2024.

Presider Do you the people of Christ Church recognize and accept the conclusion of this ministry relationship?

***All:* We do.**

*Deacon presents the warden(s) a letter of resignation, the Gospel book, the keys to the parish,
and any other symbols of ministry that have been given.*

Deacon I present to you this letter of resignation, signifying the end of this ministry relationship.
Wardens We receive your letter.

Deacon I present to you this Gospel book that represents one of my primary roles as the deacon – to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and call the people forth to do his work.
Wardens We receive this Gospel book.

Deacon I present to you the keys of this parish that were given to me in trust that the doors would remain open to all people.
Wardens We receive these keys.

Prayer of Leaving |

The congregation stands (as able).

Deacon Lord, we have been bound together for a time as deacon and people to work for the advancement of your kingdom in this place. We give you humble and hearty thanks for the ministry which we have shared these years now past.

People **Be with those who leave and with those who stay.**

Deacon We thank you for your never-failing presence with us through these past years and for the deeper knowledge of you and of each other which we have attained.

People **Be with those who leave and with those who stay.**

Rector We thank you for those who have been joined to Christ's family through baptism. We thank you for opening our hearts and minds again and again to your Word and for feeding us abundantly with the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of your Son.

People **Be with those who leave and with those who stay.**

Blessing of Stole |

Celebrant: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People: **Who made heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, giver of all good things and bountiful bestower of all graces, we humbly beseech You to endow us with the power of Your blessing. May it also please You to bless, by the work of the Holy Spirit, this stole, made ready for divine worship. May you kindly let the grace of your Holy Spirit descend on Deacon Denise and all who are to use this stole, so that they may appear holy, pure and blameless in Your presence, and may be aided by Your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Concluding Collect |

Rector O God, our loving Creator, whose glory fills the whole world, and whose presence we find wherever we go. Preserve and guide Deacon Denise, who is leaving this community. Surround her with your loving care; protect her from every danger; and bring her safely to the journey's end. We give thanks for her time with us and for all the ways she has supported this community. Bless her steps in this time of transition and remind her again and again of your presence and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Blessing |

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



1. What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine,
 2. O how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,

1. Lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; What a bless - ed - ness,
 2. Lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; O how bright the path
 3. Lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms; I have bless - ed peace

1. what a peace is mine, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 2. grows from day to day, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 3. with my Lord so near, Lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms;

Lean - ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus,

Lean - ing, lean - ing, Lean-ing on the ev-er - last-ing arms.

Lean - ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus,

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

Postlude | Processional March (Marche de procession), Op. 41, No. 5

Alexandre Guilmant

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Kayode Fatodu

Ushers: Nancy Winchester, Michon Semon

Chalicerist: Greg Schuckman

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Greg Schuckman

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

Acolytes and Crucifer: Shreya Chrzanowski, Nevaeh Wilmot, Lucinda Banks

Chalicerists: Ivy Amponsah, Mary Vail

Altar Guild

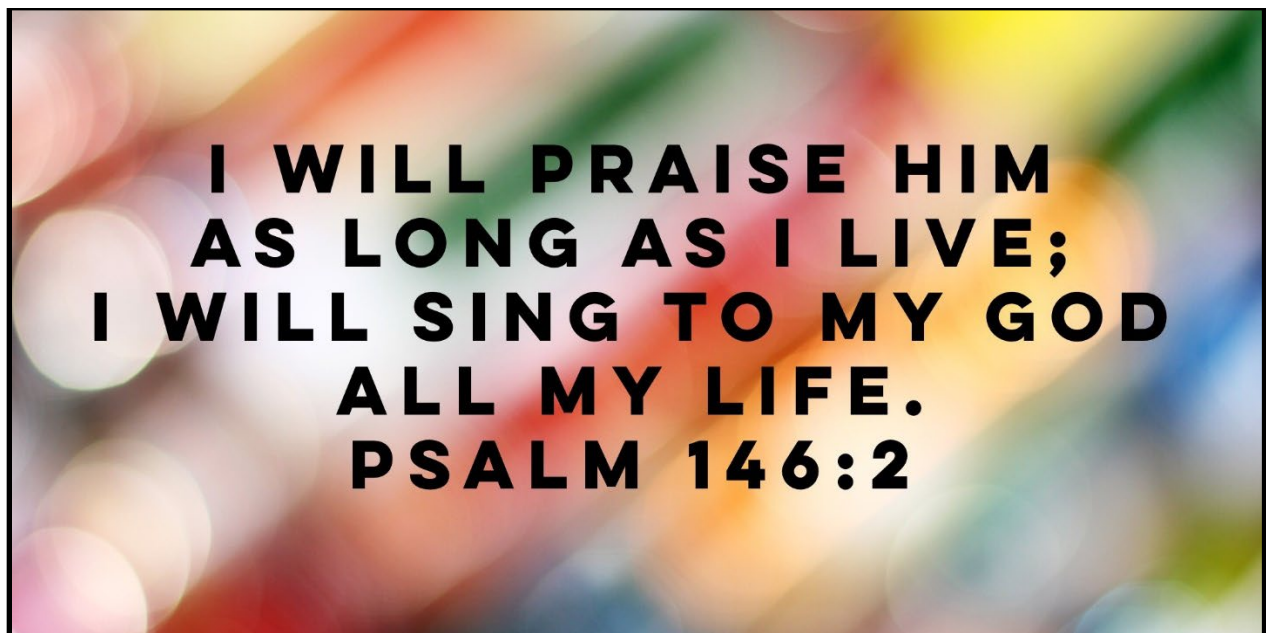
Pam Foreman, Cheryl Lucente, Sarah Mugo

Tellers

Pam Foreman, Cheryl Lucente, Sarah Mugo

CELEBRANT FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*



PARISH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 8 TO SEPTEMBER 14

Sunday, September 8

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – New Brick, upper level
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 am	Family Worship Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick & Zoom
9:30 am	School School – New Brick & Parish Hall
9:30 am	Parents Group – New Brick, lower level
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:00 pm	Deacon Denise Farewell Luncheon – New Brick, lower level
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
1:00 – 4:00 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room & Zoom
1:15 – 5:45 pm	Sundays at Three Concert – New Brick, upper level
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

Monday, September 9

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:45 – 1:00 pm	Dorsey Center Meal Drop-off
3:15 – 3:30 pm	Grassroots Drop-off
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Center for Spiritual Nourishment Planning Meeting – Zoom
7:00 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Outreach Meeting – Zoom
7:30 – 10:00 pm	Columbia Conjurers – Parish Hall, lower level

Tuesday, September 10

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Homeschool – New Brick, lower level
11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 9:30 pm	Buildings and Grounds Meeting – New Brick, lower level & Zoom

Wednesday, September 11

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Refugee Leadership Meeting – Zoom
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, September 12

8:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Homeschool – New Brick, lower level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Auction Planning Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
6:45 – 7:30 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club – Zoom

7:30 – 9:00 pm Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, September 13

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream

7:00 pm Evening Prayer Livestream

8:00 pm – 12:00 am Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, September 14

9:00 – 2:00 pm Flea Market

2:00 pm AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

7:00 – 11:00 pm Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

IN CELEBRATION

OF HER MINISTRY AND LEADERSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH



WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE CONSIDER
CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS OUR GIFT OF THANKS
FOR DEACON DENISE.



WRITE "DEACON DENISE" IN THE MEMO LINE
ON REALM OR A CHECK.

Thank you!

THIS SUNDAY AT CHRIST CHURCH

Pentecost XVI

Christ Church begins its fall schedule with three services. The first service takes place in Old Brick at 8 a.m. and does not contain music. Our Family Worship resumes in New Brick at 9 a.m. and is focused on the younger members of our church. Then at 10:30, we have Holy Eucharist with music and choir, and it's also in New Brick. Whichever you choose, we hope to see you because YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. All formation gatherings also begin, including the start of Father Manny's recap of his summer sabbatical during Sunday Circle.

Visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/sundays for the details.

Sunday School & Youth Formation Begins

Children and Youth Faith Formation is open to all ages pre-k through 12th grade and is designed to develop and enrich their spiritual lives and deepen their relationship with God. Throughout the year, we will offer Bible-based teachings and also have time to explore some of the interests and/or issues our younger parishioners face. It's an important program that's relevant and engaging, and we're looking forward to an exciting year! Visit our website for more details and registration form links: tinyurl.com/CEC-YouthFormation

Deacon Denise Celebration

We'd rather not think about this, but we have to... Deacon Denise's service at Christ Church is concluding this Sunday, and she will then prepare for her new ministry at St. Peter's in Ellicott City. Before she does, we are having a huge celebration in her honor this Sunday after our 10:30 worship. It's a potluck so please visit www.tinyurl.com/CEC-DeaconDenise and sign up to bring something for our meal together, or sign up on the sheet that's in the narthex. We are also gathering donations to go towards a "thank you" gift, so if you wish to contribute please [visit Realm](#) or place donations in the collection plate on Sunday - be sure to write "Deacon Denise" in the *MEMO* line of either method. She would also appreciate donations in her name to the Refugee Ministry. Thank you.

Nametags are Back!

We are thrilled to have quite a few people join our parish family recently, and since we've found all the parishioner nametags used a few years ago, we are wearing them again so that no one feels like a stranger. If you need one, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex and we'll make one for you. Others can find their old nametag in the Narthex and we hope you'll wear it at Sunday services and other CEC events. Let's get to know one another this summer!

Altar Flowers and Gifts

If you would like to present altar flowers and gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on any upcoming Sunday, you can do so by using our [Realm Online Giving Form](#); just choose "Altar Flowers and Gifts" from the *FUND* dropdown menu, and place the dedication name(s) and service date in the *MEMO* line. Then please email or call the church office and let them know, and we'll be sure to place an acknowledgment in the Sunday service leaflet for that day.

SEE YOU AT CHURCH!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication,
email to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.
For a digital copy of this service leaflet with working links, etc., visit the main page of our website.

Vestry Candidates

Christ Church's Vestry has approved the following candidates for election during the Annual Meeting this October. They are (in alphabetical order): Ed Chrzanowski, Sara Kirkpatrick, Isaac (Gbenga) Olajide, Kathy Simms, and George Toth. More information about these candidates will be published soon.

But there's still time to submit nominations!

This year, there are four (4) slots open for election, and if you are a baptized Christian who is 16 years or older and are a giving member of record at Christ Episcopal Church, you are qualified to become a candidate. Additional candidates can be accepted by submitting a document containing at least ten (10) parishioner signatures. This must be delivered to the church office or given to one of the Wardens, Jan or Isaac, by Sunday, September 22nd at 5:00 p.m. The election will be held at Christ Church's Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for Sunday, October 20th. Sincere thanks to our Nominations Committee - Steve Alpern, Sonni Aribiah, JB Hanson, and Sara Kirkpatrick - for all their work. If you have any questions, please email nominations@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Register Now for Sunday School

Children and Youth Faith Formation, beginning this Sunday, September 8th, is designed to develop and enrich their spiritual lives and deepen their relationship with God. Throughout the year, we will offer Bible-based teachings and also have time to explore some of the interests and/or issues our younger parishioners face. It's an important program that's relevant and engaging, and we're looking forward to an exciting year! You can learn more on our website at tinyurl.com/CEC-YouthFormation.

Youth Group is Back!

We are gearing up for another Christ Church Youth Group year and pray that it is full of fun, meaning, and purpose! Please register your youth by using this [link](#). Then gather with us this Sunday, the first day of Faith Formation, for a welcoming brunch starting at 9:30 a.m. in the Lower Level of Parish Hall. We hope you can come and enjoy food, catch up with each other, and hear about all the events, fundraisers, and fun we will be having this year. If you have any ideas or questions, please contact Chaplain Kiona Lookingbill - you can speak with her on Sundays or email kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Centering Prayer is a weekly evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God and a more powerful experience of God's presence in our lives. 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.

Christ Church Choir - Thursdays

C'mon, all you singers and music lovers! The choir is rehearsing again in New Brick on Thursday evenings, and people of all ages are welcome to join us. Whether you read music or not, whether you have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit or not, there's a place for you in our handbell &/or vocal choirs. If you're interested, please speak with Larissa on Sundays or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org

Second Annual Community Health & Wellness Fair - Saturday, September 21

Our Health Ministry is proud to announce the second annual Community Health and Wellness Fair, and on Saturday, September 21st from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., everyone is welcome to gather in the Great Hall as many booths and presentations will address a wide range of health and wellness topics and concerns. This event can show you many ways to improve your mental, physical, or family health. Visit tinyurl.com/CEC-2024HealthFair for more details and email health@christchurchcolumbia.org if you'd like to help or have any questions.

Movies - September 27, 28, & October 4

The WOCC presents the movie *Cabrini* and this screening is open to the public, so join us on Friday, September 27th at 7:00 p.m. or Saturday, September 28th at 9 a.m. in the Parish Hall's lower level. The film chronicles the story of Francesca Cabrini, who had founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and successfully established charity and hospital work and took care of many children, while encountering resistance to her work, sexism, and racism. Bring movie munchies! Then come back on October 4th for George Toth's screening of the documentary *The Privileged Planet*. Through stunning computer animation, interviews with leading scientists, and spectacular images of Earth and the cosmos, the film explores a startling connection between our capacity to survive and our ability to observe and understand the universe.

Ministry Calendar Meeting - October 5

Once again, it is time to hold Christ Church's next calendar planning meeting, and we'll cover events scheduled for the remainder of this year and 2025. This is a hybrid meeting, and we ask at least one representative from each ministry to attend - breakfast from Bob Evans will be served on-site. Gather with us in the Great Hall or on Zoom (link to follow) on Saturday, October 5, at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please email the **Church Office**.

WOCC at Olive Garden - October 7

The WOCC will host their monthly meeting at Olive Garden on October 7. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for great food and conversation. No sign-up is necessary - just meet us there!

"Leading in Divided Times" - October 8

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and the **One America Movement** are excited about the upcoming series of workshops: "Leading in Divided Times." This four-part series will allow both clergy and lay leaders to gather and will be broken into four sections. Each session will be livestreamed on Zoom beginning on the evening of Tuesday, October 8th and everyone is welcome to take part. If you would like more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/3xMcq8L>.

Christ Church's Annual Auction - Begins October 26

GET READY - the 35th Annual Christ Church Auction is going to Paris! Well... not quite, but we *are* giving it a bit of French flair, and we hope you'll gather with us for what's surely to be the event of the year! Once again, we will hold the online portion for one week, with everything culminating in a fun- and fellowship-filled evening with our Silent and Live Auctions and Raffle Drawing. Start thinking about great gifts and ideas that you can donate to help raise funds that support many of our ministries and activities - the success of our Auction is dependent on YOU!

Save these important dates:

- Enter donations on the Auction website by Sunday, October 6 (no deliveries just yet!)
- Drop off items needing to be photographed by the CEC Auction team between October 6-13
- The online auction runs from October 26 - November 2; silent and live auctions on November 2
- Drop off all other donations Friday, Nov 1 (noon to 7 pm) and Sat. (9 am to noon)

The Auction page on our website is up and running - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/auction - and you can find the Donation portal link there now. And check back often, as we'll provide more details over the coming months. If you would like to volunteer to help or have any questions, please email auction@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Our Altar Guild Needs Your Assistance

The Christ Church Altar Guild will have two members moving away (we'll miss you!) and so they are looking for a few more people to help them in our ministry by providing clean linens and liturgical items for every worship service. We currently have three teams, but if we can create one more, then each only has to manage one week a month. If you are interested in signing up, please speak with Pam Foreman or any Altar Guild member, or visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/altar-guild.

Help Us Plan Christ Church's 300th Birthday!

The new landing page for the 300th Anniversary celebrations is live on our website now, so visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/300 and see how we are gearing up for a year-long series of special gatherings, activities, and parties! We'll add new details all the time, so please bookmark it and revisit it often. As you'll see, there are a variety of committees taking shape. We are always looking for more people to provide their input, and hope that you'll consider joining us. This celebration is a massive milestone for our church, and we encourage everyone to consider being a part of this historic occasion. If you are interested in assisting, please speak with Robin Bradley at church, [complete the brief contact form on our website](#), or email 300@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Inviting You to Join Our Monthly Outreach Meeting next Monday, September 9

Learn many ways to help others by joining us remotely for the Outreach Commission meeting on Monday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. Our mission has a local, national, and international scope. Look for our Monday email for the link.

Help the Homeless on Monday, Sept. 9, by Preparing a Dish for Grassroots' Live-In Facility or Serving a Meal at Its Day Resource Center

On the second Monday of each month, Christ Church provides a hot midday meal for the homeless at the Day Resource Center (DRC) and drops off dinner at a live-in shelter for 50 residents, and last participated on August 12th. Both organizations are operated by the [Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center](#).

A team led by parishioner Shahra Toth makes side dishes and desserts that we serve in person after carpooling to the DRC. To join us on Monday, Sept. 9, please sign up by Sunday, Sept. 8. If you wish to volunteer or bring food for the midday meal, our [DRC online signup form](#) describes the procedure. Drop-off time is 12:45 p.m. in the parking lot near Old Brick for DRC's side dishes. Thanks to all for an outpouring of supplemental items such as drinks, fruit, granola bars, and pantry staples. That load filled a truck bed. Please keep up the good work!

Later, parishioners who cook or shop for the evening meal at Grassroots' Live-In Facility arrive in the Old Brick parking lot between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. Get details in our [Grassroots online signup form](#). Grassroots staff serves the evening meal at its Freetown Road facility. It's efficient to provide for both venues on the same day. Your donations and Vestry-approved funds pay for the fried chicken entrees. The diners are grateful!

Recently, your giving helped ease life for our homeless neighbors. Those in Jessup rely on sundries from the DRC pantry. To replenish its shelves, the staff requested reusable bags and disposable razors. In response, the Outreach Commission approved spending \$105 for the goods. Meanwhile, the Live-In Facility had depleted its supply of shampoo and conditioner, and we spent \$40 to buy 10 bottles of each. These personal-care essentials were purchased with funds donated to the church by parishioners who give to "General Outreach" or specifically to DRC or Grassroots. A hearty thanks!

Donate Items to the Flea Market, and Help Support Our Refugee Ministry

Please donate your in-good-condition rummage sale items to the Refugee Ministry table at the September 14th flea market. We'll take just about anything that's in good condition (but not clothes and not furniture that won't fit in a car's back seat or trunk). Please bring your donations to the parish hall between 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., any weekday

through Friday, September 13. If you need us to pick up your items, have any questions, or would like to help (you'll get first pick!), please email parishioners Paula Rees (cprees@comcast.net), Diana Hall (dbhallmd@gmail.com), or Ann Barnes (annbarnes001@comcast.net), or speak with them at church. Thank you for your support.

Enter a Golf Tournament on Friday, Sept. 20, to Help Bridges to Housing Stability

Advocating for affordable housing and helping people to keep a roof over their heads is the mission of **Bridges to Housing Stability**. Golfers can support this good cause on Friday, Sept. 20 during the third annual **Sheehy Toyota Bridges for Birdies Golf Tournament** at The Timbers of Troy, 6100 Marshalee Dr., Elkridge, MD.

The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. and features a full day of golf, food, and awards. The cost for a single golfer is \$200, or \$800 for a foursome, which covers greens fees, unlimited range balls, food, and beverages. The event raises crucial operating funds, says Bridges Executive Director Jen Broderick. "Every swing, every hole, and every cheer helps us make real change in our community." Christ Church has been a supporter of Bridges since 2019.

Howard County Walk to End Alzheimer's - September 21

The Walk to End Alzheimer's, an important annual drive at Centennial Park in Ellicott City, is on Saturday, September 21st this year, and your help to raise funds and awareness for Alzheimer's care, support, and research is needed and appreciated. **You can learn more about the event and how to register or donate on their website.** Whichever way you choose, it helps to remember those who have been lost to this disease and bring attention to the critical research needed to eradicate Alzheimer's and mental deterioration.

Home Sweet Home

The WOCC, in partnership with Grassroots, is providing new "Home Sweet Home" kits for those who have been homeless and now found an opportunity to have a home of their own. The kits include much-needed, common materials for anyone who needs assistance with starting such an important life chapter. **Please visit our sign-up sheet here,** which has specific items you can provide. From trash cans to gift cards, each item will make them feel more at home. Your item donations can then be deposited into the marked bin near the Outreach table in the Tower Room of New Brick. If you have any questions or need assistance, please speak with Jo Emily Knox or Sara Kirkpatrick. We hope you'll participate in this program, which ends on September 22nd.

Columbia Community Care Resumes Taking Home Delivery Requests

Columbia Community Care (CCC) announced on Tuesday that after overcoming a backlog of home delivery requests, it has resumed taking new orders from those who lack transportation to get to its distribution sites. At the same time, CCC posted a plea for volunteers to help with the tasks involved: "We ALWAYS need more help with pantry deliveries and translating/dispatch. Please sign up if you can help! Thank you as always! We could not do anything without your support!"

Go online to **learn how to volunteer** at distribution sites or as a translator or shopper at its pantry, which has relocated to the rear of the Long Reach distribution site. Those who need groceries and other necessities can find information by going online to **"Get Help"** on CCC's website. Find updates on the **CCC Facebook Group**.

Two of its three sites will be open on Saturday, Sept. 7, at Long Reach Village Center, Suite 107, 8775 Cloudleap Ct., and at Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd. The Oakland Mills site will be closed. Distribution goes from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. CCC continues to request baby-care items and diapers, especially sizes 4-6, and pullups in sizes 3T, 4T, and 5T. Put these along with sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sundays. The Christ Church point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bin and delivers items.

FOUR PARTING THOUGHTS

For the past several weeks, Christ Church parishioners have been coming up to tell me they'll miss me when I leave. Out of a state of denial, I've been replying that it's not yet time to say goodbye. I simply haven't wanted to face the thought of moving on from this beloved community. But alas, that time has come.

Christ Church is my first assignment as a deacon. Newly ordained, I arrived here in July of 2020 to an empty sanctuary, a modest scattering of masked worshippers out on the lawn, and all the questions and anxiety any new deacon would have, multiplied by the chaos and confusion borne of COVID.

These past four years, serving together, we have accomplished much. I am grateful to all of you for opening your hearts to diaconal ministry. I'm especially grateful to Father Manny for his steadfast collegiality, respect, and trust. I carry so many wonderful memories of my time here—too many to recall here. Serving at Christ Church has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. As I go, I take with me the seeds of the Spirit we've sown together, along with many lessons I hope to build on in the future. And as I go, I leave you with four parting thoughts:



#1 - We are not meant to stay in one place. I mean that both literally and metaphorically. Deacons, by design, move from one parish to another. Our diocese comprises just 19 deacons serving in congregations. With more than 100 parishes, you can do the math and realize: we don't have enough deacons to go around. But aside from the numbers, in our respective small corners of the world, we deacons follow Jesus's command to go forth and make disciples of all nations. And so, we serve at the discretion of our diocesan bishop, who sends us to a new place every few years to be the bridge between the Church and the world and help empower the laity in their mission and ministry.

Beyond how deacons serve, I would like to suggest that not staying in one place is, metaphorically speaking, a good tenet for all of us. I hope that more than anything else, I've left you all with the mindset that change is necessary for growth, pushing boundaries and taking risks are good things, and we should be constantly reexamining where we are in our lives at church, at work, and in our communities, taking stock of where God has brought us and where God is calling us to be.

#2 – We do not attend church—we *are* the Church. As members of the Body of Christ, we are more than worshippers in pews each Sunday. We are more than consumers of the Word and the sacraments and the beautiful music and our wonderful Sunday school and youth offerings. We are the hands, feet, eyes, ears of Jesus in the world—called to live out the Gospel, in thought, word, and deed, to build God's kingdom. When we see ourselves this way, then we care for this part of our life as much as we do our finances, our health, our careers, our hobbies, and our social connections. The Church is not a place, it's a community—your community—and it needs you to take ownership of it and bring your gifts, however meager you might believe them to be, to make a difference.

#3 – There are no perfect churches, *but*...there are communities of vulnerable, faltering human beings who can help us to live into the image of Christ and be our best selves. We can stubbornly insist on getting our way and become angry when people fail to meet our expectations. Or we can choose to be in a committed relationship with our siblings in Christ, recognize that we will disappoint each other, forgive when that happens, respectfully agree in our disagreements, and find common ground to work together to spread the love of God throughout the world.

(continued)

#4 – In the face of injustice and hatred, you are not helpless—boldly claim your power as disciples of Christ. God has called each and every one of us to strive for justice and peace, as stated clearly in our baptismal covenant. That cannot be done from a position of apathy, passiveness, or simple observation. It can only be done through love in action. Amid all the ugliness and divisiveness and violence of today, you may wonder what you can do that would actually make any impact. I submit that's not the question we should be asking. Instead, we should ask: How can I use my unique, God-given gifts to stand up for those oppressed, persecuted, and silenced? What do I bring as one member among many in the Body who can collectively act to bring reconciliation to this broken Creation?

If you feel uncertain about those gifts, talk to the people with whom you're in community, like your siblings at Christ Church. They may see your gifts better than you can see your own, and they can help you discern how you might use them. And then, *be bold* in taking those gifts out beyond the threshold of the sanctuary. Be bold in your call as Christians to serve those on the margins. Be bold in the knowledge that the Spirit is working in and through all the good works we endeavor to carry out.

Finally, I encourage you to take a look at the article, "**Engaging the Diakonia of all Believers.**" It's something I shared with you in the very first piece I wrote for *Gatherings*, and it feels fitting to leave with you now.

This is both goodbye and not goodbye, as I know with certainty I'll see you all again at some point. Though I will no longer serve alongside you, I will be looking for ways to partner and collaborate with this wonderful community. And I'm excited to hear about the continuing impact and growth of your ministry. Thank you for being such beautifully fruit-bearing, Spirit-filled members of the Body of Christ here in Columbia, Maryland.

Your Sibling in Christ -
Denise +



We Are in Desperate Need of More Volunteers for the Flea Market.

The Christ Church Flea Market and Craft Fair, presented by the WOCC, is next Saturday, September 14th, and we are **STILL** in desperate need of volunteers in order to make this event safe and joyous for everyone, including many from our community who are visiting our campus for the first time. We have a great need for people of all ages, so if you can help - even if only a few hours - please email the WOCC or speak to any member.

REMEMBER: the more people participating, the safer this event will be for everyone.

Donations

Thanks for your donations! Book donations may be dropped off in the lower level of the Parish Building and placed in the left-side classroom. The White Elephant items can be placed in the Teller Room on the upper level of that building. Both types of items can only be received during office hours, so call ahead to make sure someone's there. Baked goods must be dropped off the morning of the event by 9 a.m. at the breezeway between Old Brick and the Parish Building. Thank you to all who donated!



Christ Episcopal Church

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office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev. Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*

Kiona Lookingbill, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

Vestry

Jan DeBoissiere (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*)

Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Deepti Jackson (*Youth Liaison*)

Denisa Abdallah • Ronald Baran • Tim Beaty • John Curley • Simone Kolnik • Ray Lyon • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre

Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Cherry Lynn Williams