

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Fourth Sunday in Lent

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday, March 19, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. • 10:30 a.m.

Welcome Home!

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

Prelude | We Now Implore the Holy Ghost

Dietrich Buxtehude
Ola Oladipupo, Organist

Opening Hymn 150 | Forty Days and Forty Nights

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Opening Acclamation |

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;
People: His mercy endureth forever.

The Collect for Purity |

Celebrant: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie S 91 | Lord, have mercy upon us

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

***People:* Amen.**

The people may be seated.

Reader: A reading from 1 Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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



The ¹LORD is my ¹shepherd; *
I ¹shall not ¹be in ¹want.

He makes me lie ¹down in green ¹pastures *
and ¹leads me be ¹side still ¹waters.

He re ¹vives my ¹soul *
and guides me along right ¹pathways for his ¹Näme's ¹sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall ¹fear no ¹evil; *
for you are with me;
your ¹rod and your ¹staff, they ¹comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of ¹those who ¹trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my ¹cup is ¹running ¹over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all
the ¹days of my ¹life, *
and I will dwell in the ¹house of the ¹LORD for ¹ever.

A Reading from Ephesians 5:8-14 |

Reader: A reading from Ephesians.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



and in your wea - ri - ness lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, stoop down and drink, and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 and in that light of life I'll walk till pil - grim days are done.

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

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

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

Sermon | The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The people stand as able.

The Nicene Creed | BCP 327

All: I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of his Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father;
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation
 came down from heaven,
 and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered and was buried;
 and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
 and ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
 and he shall come again, with glory,
 to judge both the quick and the dead;
 whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,
 who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
 who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead:
 and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessor: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Diocesan Bishops; Emmanuel, our Rector; Marcia, our Associate Priest; Denise, our Deacon; Mike, our Seminarian Associate; and Rebecca, our Deacon postulant.; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph, our President: Wes, our Governor; and Calvin, our County Executive; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Shirley, Louise, Danny, Roberta, Fr. Ginnever, Samuel, Catherine, Caroline, Alfred, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, Sherry, Nell & Kathleen, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

The People may add additional petitions and thanksgivings.

We give thanks for the birth of Emilliano Antonio Stokes to Antonio Stokes and Ellie Lemus.

Intercessor: And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

People: Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.
Amen.

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

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, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Peace |

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

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

Welcome and Announcements |

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem | As the Winter Days Grow Longer

Welsh folk song, text by Mary Louise Bringle

Presentation 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.**

Eucharistic Prayer I | BCP 333

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
— in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant:

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Celebrant:

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer | BCP 365

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: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

on us. O Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

world, grant us thy peace.

Agnus Dei |

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
All: have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
All: have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
All: grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access |

All: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
 * 3 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,
 4 Just as I am: thou wilt re - ceive; wilt wel - come,
 5 Just as I am, thy love un - known has bro - ken

1 blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me
 2 con - flict, man - y a doubt; fight - ings and fears with -
 3 heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in
 4 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve, be - cause thy prom - ise
 5 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

1 come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 2 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 3 thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 4 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 5 thine a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am, of thy great love
 the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
 here for a season, then above:
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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

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

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

Please stand as able.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty and everliving God,
 we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us,
 in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us;
 and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son,
 the blessed company of all faithful people;
 and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.
 And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father,
 so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
 and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost,
 be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing |

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

Closing Hymn 147 | Now Let Us All With One Accord

Bourbon



1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in
 2 The cov - e - nant, so long re - vealed to
 3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has
 4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in
 5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so



1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our
 2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -
 3 not re - turned, but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,
 4 your own i - mage were we made; help us, lest in anx -
 5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for



1 heaven - ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion and his fast.
 2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in love sub - lime.
 3 turn your face and grant re - pent - ance for our pride.
 4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to be be - trayed.
 5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.

The Celebrant dismisses the People, who respond:

Thanks be to God!

(The Alleluias are omitted in Lent)

Postlude | Postlude in C Major

Mary A. Laselle

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Joan Harvey

Ushers: Nancy Winchester, Yetti Lipede

Chalicerist: Joan Harvey

9:00 a.m. Service

Ushers: Eva & Hope Oladipupo, Yetti Lipede

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Lynn Foor

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

Acolytes and Crucifer: Gavin Couch, Jonah Aribiah, Setutsi Abdallah

Chalicerist: Mary Vail

Sunday School Breakfast:

6:00 p.m. Service

Dianne Azu

Robin Bradley

Leah Chrest

Pam Pruitt

Altar Guild

Sonni Aribiah

Ivy Amponsah

PARISH CALENDAR: MARCH 19 TO MARCH 25

Sunday, March 19

8:00 – 8:45 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast – New Brick, lower level
8:45 – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 – 9:30 am	Family Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 – 10:15 am	Sunday School – Parish Hall & New Brick, lower levels
9:30 – 10:30 am	Bible Study – Parish Hall, conference room
9:30 – 10:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick
10:30 – 11:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Jazz Vespers – New Brick, upper level

Monday, March 20

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

Tuesday, March 21

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 2:00 pm	Japanese Play Group – Outside New Brick

Wednesday, March 22

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
10:00 – 11:00 am	Take Off Pounds Sensibly – Parish Hall, lower level
6:30 pm	Lenten Supper Series – New Brick, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, March 23

8:00 – 8:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lenten Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 8:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, March 24

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Taizé Service – Old Brick
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Christ Church Book Club – Zoom
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, March 25

9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Crab Kickers Soccer – Field
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Event Rental – New Brick, lower level
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Small Delusions Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
1:00 – 3:00 pm	Lumen Christi Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication, email to by Tuesday evening.

For a digital copy of this service leaflet with working links, etc., visit the main page of our website.

Lent IV at Christ Church

The Fourth Sunday in Lent has three worship services - join us for our Old Brick Eucharist at 8:00 a.m., Family Worship in New Brick at 9:00, or the 10:30 service with music and choir in the New Brick Sanctuary. As always, we'll livestream our 10:30 worship, which you can watch on our [website](#), [YouTube](#), or [Facebook](#) pages.

Youth Formation

Every child is welcome to take part in Youth Formation at 9:30, and you can find the details on [our website's Youth Formation page](#). Also on that page is a link to the Sunday School registration form, so please sign your children up so we can plan accordingly (use one form per child, please). If you have any questions, email Jennifer Atkins at sundayschool@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Christ Church Youth Group (grades 5-12) also meets Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the basement of the Church Office building. If you are interested in having your child join the CECYG, please email Todd for more information - youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org

And you adults! Have you considered a calling to help nurture the youth of Christ Church? We are in need of more teachers and assistants now than ever! No experience is required - we will provide all the materials and you will be on a team with an experienced leader. If you are able to help - even just once a month - with this important ministry, [please email our Youth Minister, Todd Domer](#).

Adult Formation

Our Parenting Group gathers in the New Brick Vestry Room (lower level). Bible Study will meet in the Parish Hall Conference Room. And during this season of Lent, Sunday Circle is exploring other faith traditions' perspectives on sin. We have lead practitioners of various faiths come and talk with us about how sin is perceived and understood in their respective faith traditions, and this week we are blessed to have followers of the Islamic faith share their perspectives with us. We gather in Old Brick at 9:30 a.m., and virtually. [The Zoom link is here](#), the Meeting ID is **847 9910 4117**, and the Password is **AFSC**. There are several options, and you're welcome to join any of them any Sunday. [See our Adult Formation page on the CEC website for more information](#).

Jazz Vespers - Sunday Evening

If you haven't joined us for Jazz vespers yet.... why not? Come and take part in this unique service, an hour-long liturgy of Evening Prayer that combines scripture readings, prayer, silent meditation, and rich, live music provided by The Leister Quartet. There will be light refreshments after each worship, and all ages are welcome. Please join us Sundays at 6:00 p.m. for ninety minutes of music, reflection, and prayer.

Easter Altar Flowers and Gifts

Easter Sunday is a time that we honor, remember, or give thanks for someone or a blessing in our lives by donating flowers to adorn our worship spaces as we celebrate our risen Lord. If you would like to present Altar gifts this Easter, you can find our online Easter Offering form at <https://onrealm.org/christchurchcolumbia/-/form/give/lenteaster>. Be sure to place the dedication name(s) in the *MEMO* line. You can also drop your donation in the plate on Sunday or to the Church Office during the week; include the same dedication information on the *MEMO* line of a check, please. [Email the Church Office](#) with any questions.

Strategic Plan Review - March 20 - NEW LINK

Everyone is welcome to join us on Zoom at 7:30 p.m. next Monday, March 20th for our Strategic Plan Review, as we'll go over everything the Strategic Planning Committee has worked very hard on over the last several months. We want everyone to be able to have a voice, so please join us for this if you are able for this important review and discussion. **The Zoom link is HERE**, the Meeting ID is **892 0053 2779** and the Passcode is **Planning**

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Centering Prayer takes place next Monday, March 20th on Zoom, but we have great news - we will soon go hybrid! Later this month, you'll be able to join us in person in Old Brick or virtually on Zoom. What is Centering Prayer, you ask? It is a unique method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God, moving us beyond conversation with Christ and towards communion with Him. Everyone is welcome to join us for this reflective gathering on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom link is **here**, the Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340** and the Passcode is **Centering!**

Lenten Supper Series – Wednesdays

After a very successful and well-attended first session, we are returning next week for the second installment of this popular series, offering five weeks of insightful and life-enriching seminars on our theme for this year, ***Be an Instrument of God's Peace*** - taken from St. Francis of Assisi's beautiful prayer. The guest presenter for this week is Monique Ellison, Priest-in-Charge at St. Matthias Episcopal and Church of the Messiah in Baltimore, and Chaplain to the Bishop Search Committee. We begin at 6:30 p.m. with a communal supper in the Great Hall – this week, food is provided by the Spiritual Life Committee - followed by the evening's presentation and a brief Eucharist.

Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

Each Thursday at 12 noon during Lent, Christ Church offers midday worship in Old Brick. This service includes readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. Parishioners and non-parishioners are all welcome to join in a prayerful time in the presence of God, and to share in the wonderful mystery of God's love whilst we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in for a service held in our beautiful, historic chapel.

Christ Church Choir - Thursday Evenings

C'mon, all of you who like to sing! Adult Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m. and everyone is welcome to take part! **You can find links to the registration forms on our website's Music Ministry page**. 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 choir! If you're interested, please speak with Larissa on Sunday or email her at **music@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

CEC Book Club - Fridays

We are currently discussing a great book, *How Then Shall We Live? 4 Simple Questions that Reveal the Beauty and Meaning of our Lives* by Wayne Muller, and are always welcoming new readers to join us, so how about you? Take part for an hour or so on Friday evenings for a lively discussion of this book, as we are a friendly bunch and appreciate everyone's input and thoughts. The book can be purchased online at your favorite digital retailers, but we can set you up with a few pages to get you started. Interested? Email Ellen Hoke at **efboudreau1@gmail.com** or text her at 301-452-7115. Then simply log in to Zoom for an hour or so Friday evening - that link is **here**, the Meeting ID is **817 9855 4366** and the Passcode is **CECBooks**

April Newsletter Deadline - March 25

As spring approaches, many ministries and groups have activities and events coming up, so be sure to have yours included in the April *Gathered Together* newsletter! Please be sure to send any upcoming information about your ministry's activities or gatherings to Chris by the end of next Saturday, March 25th. You can email text and photos to **communications@christchurchcolumbia.org**

Small Delusions Performs in Honor of Some Incredible Parishioners - March 26

Come one, come all! Small Delusions will play a concert in honor of Ellen and Charlie Hoke on Sunday, March 26th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Everyone in the congregation is invited to attend to hear some folkie acoustic music that is sure to bring back some great memories.

Leave of Absence

We want to keep everyone informed that Deacon Denise will be away for several weeks to tend to an important family matter. She does not have an exact date when she will return, but she plans to participate in our common life as she is able to virtually. For further questions or information, please feel free to reach out to Father Manny.

WOCC Upcoming Events

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our March labyrinth walk at St. John's. You can read our recap and view photos at <https://www.christchurchcolumbia.org/post/wocc-our-march-labyrinth-walk>. We even have a way for you to create a simple labyrinth for yourself at home on that page.

Also, save the dates for upcoming events:

- **Saturday, April 1st** - A guided tour of the Harriet Tubman Cultural Center, in celebration of Women's History Month.
- **Monday, April 3rd at 1:00 p.m.** - April WOCC Meeting in New Brick and on Zoom.
- **April 7th, Good Friday** - Stations of the Cross labyrinth walk at St. Johns.

The WOCC calendar is posted in the Narthex in New Brick **and on our website** and contains all the fun events planned for this year. We have as many events as we could schedule on Saturdays so more women can attend who are not able to come on weekdays. Come and join us for these events, so speak to any WOCC member or email us at WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Office Volunteer Appreciation

Thank you to the volunteers - Gail, Dee, Mareli, Barbara, and Carolann - that helped out in the Church Office this past week. There are times when there are more tasks than we can handle as a small staff, so being able to count on others to lend a hand is very much appreciated. Thank you!

The 2023 Pledge Envelopes

The 2022 Christ Church pledge envelopes have arrived and are available for pickup now. They are located in the Narthex, but if you need to make other arrangements or have any questions, please **email the Church Office**.

Christ Church's 300th Birthday

We are presently seeking parishioners to help with planning Christ Church's 300-Year Anniversary. This celebration is an important milestone for our church, and we want as much participation from each of us as possible. There are lots of committees that you can serve on and so we would like to encourage everyone to consider being a part of this historic occasion. If you have ideas, are interested in assisting, or would like more information, please contact Fr. Manny at revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org. Thank you.

Our Sunday Services Need Your Assistance

We are in need of more ushers, chalcists, and lectors for the 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services. You will serve on rotational schedules (not every week) and during select events. There are no age requirements or limits, and personalized training will be provided so please consider helping out!

- **Ushers:** welcome, seat, and direct parishioners during the service
- **Chalcists (Lay Eucharistic Minister):** assist the clergy in the distribution of the Eucharist
- **Lector (Lay Reader):** read aloud to the congregation throughout the year.

Please contact Yetti at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

Altar Guild Schedule

The schedule for the first half of 2023 - including Holy Week - is now on our website. **Just visit here** to see when you're scheduled to help prepare the Sanctuary for worship.

Like Coffee? Let's Enjoy Some Together! You Can Help

The 8:30 a.m. Old Brick Coffee Hour is in full swing (thank you!), but we really need people and ministries to help set up for the 9:30 a.m. gathering in New Brick's Elevator Room. This is an excellent opportunity for fellowship and fun, and a great way to get to know your fellow parishioners. You can work by yourself, in groups, or with another family. Perhaps a group or ministry can offer to host the occasional Coffee Hour, as well. All you need to do is provides snacks, brew the coffee, stay for the coffee hour, and help tidy up. Training will be provided. Questions? Please contact the church office at **office@christchurchcolumbia.org** or 410-381-9365.

Christ Church Podcast - Later in 2023

Our podcast idea is gathering steam, but we are looking for a few more people to team up with! Father Manny's desire to create a Christ Church Podcast - a homegrown, varied, multimedia collaboration - will celebrate our parish and its people's many qualities, talents, and interests. We hope to launch later this year, but we need to involve some more people to help make this the best it can be. If you enjoy writing, would like to learn about the 300-year history of Christ Church, like to photograph or makes videos on your phone or computer, enjoy composing, singing, or playing music, have a particular topic you'd like to share with others, love to draw or paint... well, we can find a place for each of you! If you'd like more information or are interested in joining us on this exciting new venture, please speak with **Fr. Manny, Ann Barnes**, or email Chris at **communications@christchurchcolumbia.org**

Election of Bishop Co-Adjutor, Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

This important election is scheduled for next Saturday, March 25th at St. John's Episcopal Church in Ellicott City, and the slate of candidates is as follows:

- The Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, Canon to the Ordinary for Transition and Church Development, Diocese of Central New York
- The Rev. Alissa Newton, Canon for Congregational Development and Leadership Formation and Vicar, St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Kent, WA, Diocese of Olympia
- The Rev. Gregg Morris, Rector, St. Andrew's, Downers Grove, IL, Diocese of Chicago
- The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander Jr., Rector, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, Alexandria, VA, Diocese of Virginia

You can learn more about this process at **https://episcopalmaryland.org/bishop-search**

Columbia Community Care Recruits Gardening Volunteers and Plans a Spring Fun Run/Walk as It Marks Three Years Since Its Founding

As Spring 2023 arrives, **Columbia Community Care**(CCC) is looking back at its establishment during the early days of the pandemic and calling attention to plans for outdoor activities on upcoming weekends.

On Saturday, April 8 at 9 a.m., volunteers will converge on the CCC pantry building to help kick off a gardening project that will allow CCC to grow its own healthy produce. The **Community Ecology Institute** has partnered with CCC on the project. It has installed a series of raised garden beds on the grounds of the former Columbia Flier building that Howard County made available to CCC for its pantry and headquarters.

Please come to 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia to learn what will be planted and help out as needed. "Come learn what we will be growing at our community garden and how to contribute your gardening skills and time to growing our own produce for our CCC families," CCC posted last week on the **CCC Group on Facebook**. It contains a link to a CCC **signup form** with slots throughout the year and says: "We appreciate you lending your gardening expertise."

On Saturday, April 22, CCC will hold a Spring Fun Run/Walk starting at 9 a.m. with a kickoff party at the Columbia Flier building. The run/walk start time is 10 a.m. Advance registration costs \$20 or \$10 for children ages 12 and under. Same-day registration for adults is \$25. Registration is preferred by April 15. To register, go online to **CCC events**.

All registered participants will get discount cards to Feet First Sports, located at 5305 Village Center Dr., Suite 110, in Wilde Lake Center. The course ends at the center, where the Wilde Lake Village will be holding a village board election party. Wilde Lake is also the site of one of CCC's three distribution centers where, as usual, volunteers will be distributing goods to less fortunate neighbors. The Wilde Lake Interfaith Center is located at 10431 Twin Rivers Rd. Free groceries, produce, baby supplies, and household essentials also are distributed on Saturdays at Long Reach Village Center, Suite 9, 8775 Cloudleap Ct., and at The Barn in Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, all in Columbia.

Recipients are welcomed from 10 a.m. to noon, or when supplies run out, and volunteers are encouraged to register for their slots at each location. Those shifts last from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Signups for volunteers are posted through the end of the year according to site: **Wilde Lake**, **Long Reach**, and **Oakland Mills**.

CCC started as an all-volunteer organization that came together in 2020 at the outset of the pandemic. Last year, Howard County honored CCC with a "Rise to the Challenge Award for "dedication and resiliency" in response to the coronavirus. CCC Executive Director Erika Strauss Chavarria posted on the **CCC Group on Facebook** on Tuesday, March 14 as she looked back on the fear and uncertainty at the outset of the pandemic. The founder of CCC was then a teacher at Wilde Lake High School who first posted on March 11, 2020 about her concerns that students would go hungry if schools closed.

This week she wrote: "I cannot believe I am writing this, but Happy 3rd birthday to Columbia Community Care!!! THREE YEARS AGO TODAY this FB group was created and it has been a whirlwind since then. So much growth, so much pain, so much love, so much care. Thank you to every single person who has contributed to CCC and allowed us to continue supporting HoCo families. A special shout out to Meg Dacey Feroli (CCC administrator) without whom CCC would not exist."

Since its founding in 2020, CCC has gained more than 8,000 members on Facebook and has attained 501(c)(3) status. In 2022, Christ Church parishioners played a part in refurbishing its pantry building and stocking the shelves so that home deliveries could resume after a hiatus.

At Christ Church, Leigh Smith is our representative who takes parishioners' donated items to CCC. 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. Put them in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sunday.

SLYC Invites Christ Church Volunteers to "Help Spruce up the Place"

A cleanup day will be held by St. Luke's Youth Center (**SLYC**) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 25. "SLYC is sprucing up the place. Join us to help clean up the St. Luke's campus and West Baltimore community," leaders said in an invitation to Christ Church. The location is 217 N. Carey St., Baltimore, MD 21223. For information, please email **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Christ Church is among the area congregations that support SLYC, which is the former St. Luke's Episcopal parish. The **Episcopal Diocese of Maryland** is among the partners, and its reparations task force **awarded a grant** to SLYC and five other organizations in 2022.

Donate Snacks, Crackers, and Cookies to FISH in Bin on our Breezeway

Organizers for **FISH of Howard County** are continuing to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill their shopping lists. The yellow bin is between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your contributions to our neighbors in need.

In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org. Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.

...and don't forget to join us for

A promotional poster for 'Jazz Vespers' featuring a close-up, warm-toned photograph of a double bass and a lit red candle. The text is overlaid in white serif font.

JAZZ VESPER
WITH THE
LEISTER QUARTET

SUNDAYS AT 6 P.M.
IN NEW BRICK

CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG/LENT



WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF CHRIST CHURCH

Because of your genuine and overwhelming acts of selflessness, kindness, grace, compassion, and love, you continue to give immensely to support and build our common life at Christ Church. You inject life into Christ Church so that we may be able to serve the world. It is your giving that has made it possible for us to accomplish some of the work that God has given us. The truth is that we have been able to minister and serve countless people because of your faithfulness, and for that, we thank God for each one of you and thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

We also want to thank YOU.

Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables our parish to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us. We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness. Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving.

Text Giving

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

Online Giving

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

Pledge for 2023

At Christ Church, we are so blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who continually support our ministry of faithful service, and we pray that each of you will prayerfully consider your contribution to Christ Church for this calendar year. You can bring your pledge cards to church with you at any time, pick up and complete a pledge card in the Narthex, or **pledge online** (choose "Pledge for 2023" in the *FUND* dropdown menu). Thank you very much for your support of our vital common life.



Christ Episcopal Church

6800 Oakland Mills Road

Columbia, MD 21045

(410) 381-9365

www.christchurchcolumbia.org

office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Jan DeBoissiere (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Denisa Abdallah • Jane Adams • Tim Beaty • John Curley • Sara Kirkpatrick

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