



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:30 A.M.

Sunday, October 26, 2025 | Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Baptism



Welcome Home!

Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church: www.christchurchcolumbia.org.

This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone is welcome to receive communion at God's table, and the clergy are happy to speak with you at any time.

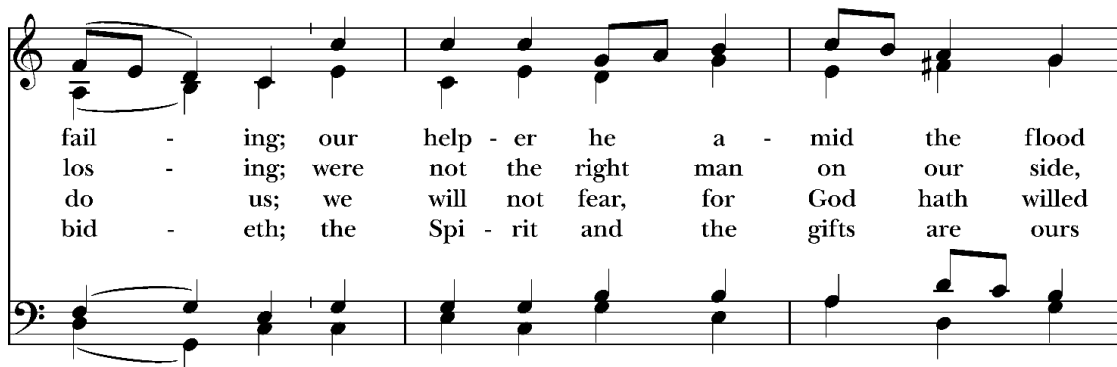
PRELUDE |

OPENING HYMN 688 | A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

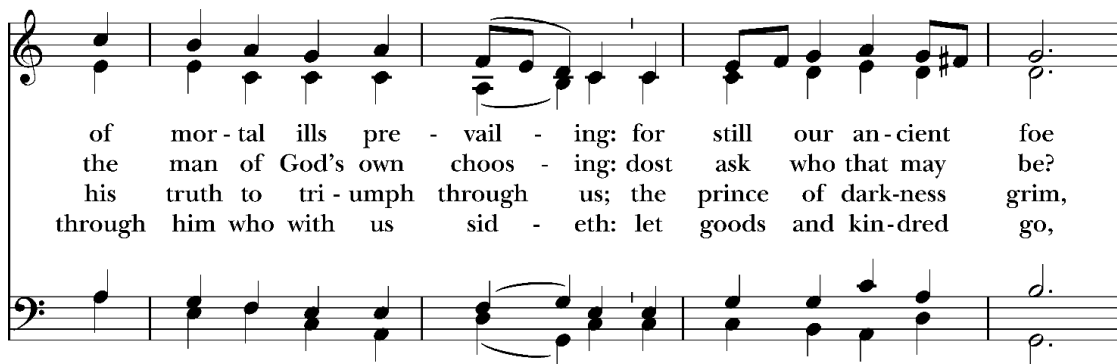
Ein Feste Burg



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -



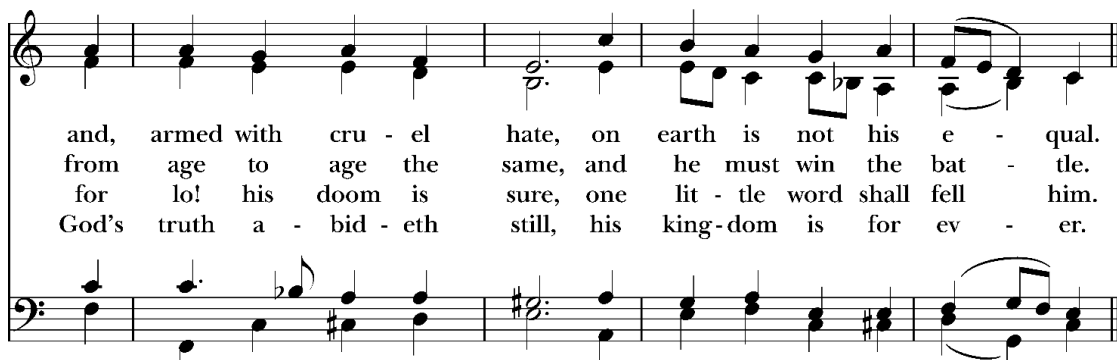
fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side,
 do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed
 bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours



of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing; for still our an - cient foe
 the man of God's own choos - ing; dost ask who that may be?
 his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,
 through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,



doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
 Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:



and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for ev - er.

OPENING ACCLAMATION |

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
***People:* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**
Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;
***People:* There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
***People:* One God and Father of all.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY |

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

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | | Joel 2:23-32

Reader: A reading from Joel.

O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the Lord your God;

for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,

the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.

(continued)

And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

Then afterward
I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;

your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.

Even on the male and female slaves,
in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

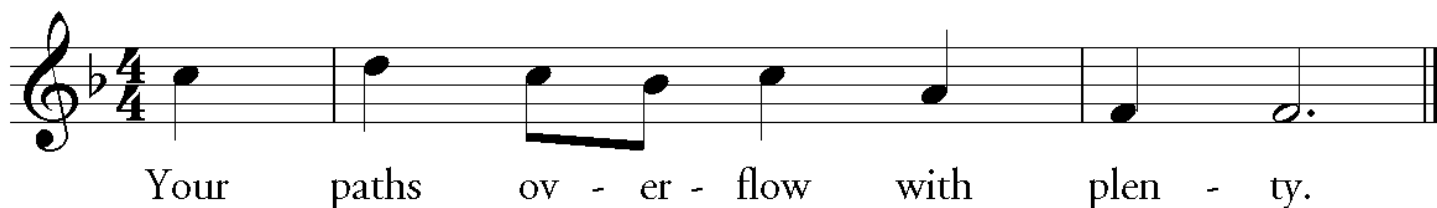
I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 65 | *Te decet hymnus*



You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, *
because of their transgressions.

Our sins are stronger than we are, *
but you will blot them out.

Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
**they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
by the holiness of your temple.**

Antiphon

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation, *
**O Hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away.**

You make fast the mountains by your power; *
they are girded about with might.

You still the roaring of the seas, *
**the roaring of their waves,
and the clamor of the peoples.**

Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

Antiphon

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE | 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

Reader: *A reading from 2nd Timothy.*

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN 527 | Singing Songs of Expectation

Ton-y-Bote

1 Sing - ing songs of ex - pec - ta - tion, on - ward
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence, o'er his
3 One the strain the lips of thou - sands lift as

goes the pil - grim band, through the night of
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the
from the heart of one; one the con - flict,

doubt and sor - row, march - ing to the prom - ised land.
gloom and ter - ror, bright - ening all the path we tread:
one the per - il, one the march in God be - gun:

Clear be - fore us through the dark - ness gleams and
one the ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the
one the glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the

burns the guid - ing light: trust - ing God we
faith which nev - er tires, one the ear - nest
far e - ter - nal shore, where the one al -

march to - geth - er step - ping fear - less through the night.
look - ing for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.
might - y Fa - ther reigns in love for ev - er - more.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HYMN | Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

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

Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

Optional Ending

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

mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

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

THE SERMON | Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Associate Rector for Children and Family Ministries*

The people stand as able.

HOLY BAPTISM

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE: Sinobichukwu Lotanna Nwandu

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.
Parents and Godparents: **I present Sinobichukwu to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents:

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?
Parents and Godparents: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?
Parents and Godparents: **I will, with God's help.**

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children:

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the Spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
Answer: **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
I renounce them.

Do you renounce all the sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
I do.

The celebrant then addresses the congregation:

Celebrant: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in their life in Christ?

***People:* We will.**

Celebrant: Let us join with Sinobichukwu and all who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

***People:* I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***People:* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***People:* I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE

Celebrant: Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Intervessor: Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

***People:* Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor: Open his heart to your grace and truth.

***People:* Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor: Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

***People:* Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor: Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

***People:* Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor: Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

***People:* Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor: Send him into the world in witness to your love.

***People:* Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervessor: Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

***People:* Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who pours water upon the candidate, saying:

Celebrant: Sinobichukwu, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The celebrant continues:

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the candidate's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying:

Sinobichukwu, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

BAPTISM SONG | This Little Light of Mine

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

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 |

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Beginning to End)

*One Sonic Society
Michael Weaver*

Please scan to give.



DOXOLOGY HYMN 380 (v. 1) |

Old 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



THE HOLY COMMUNION



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, - ho-ly, ho - ly - ho-ly - Lord God - of hosts -

- Heav-en and earth - are - filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in - the -

high - est - ! Bless-ed is the One who - comes in the name - of the Lord, -

- of the Lord Ho - san - na - in the high - est, Ho - san-na

in - the - high - est. -

The Celebrant continues

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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

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

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER |

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

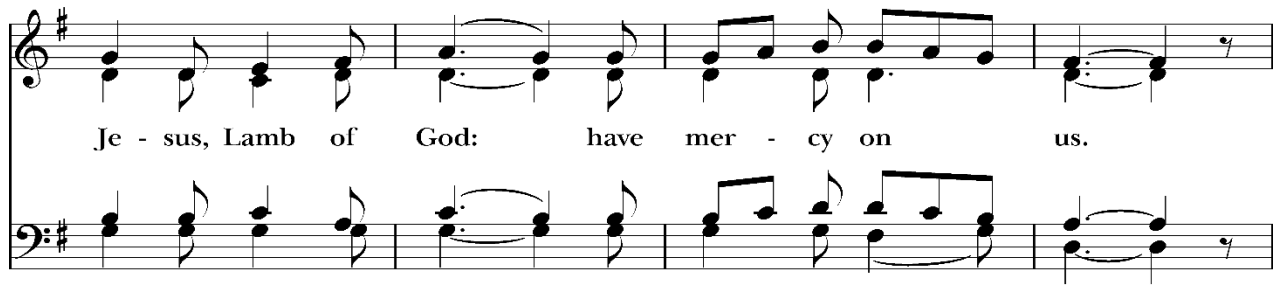
All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD |

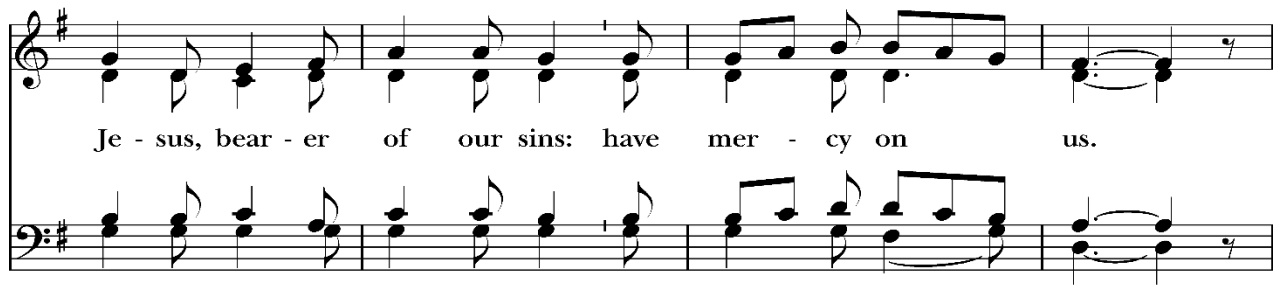
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

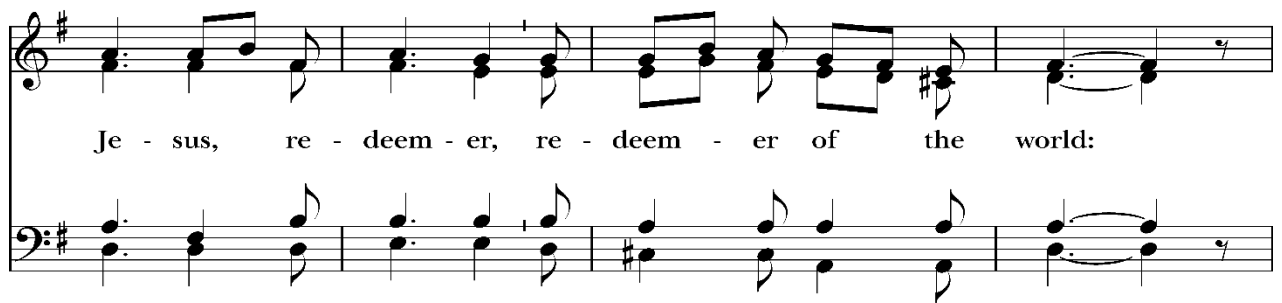




Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



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



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



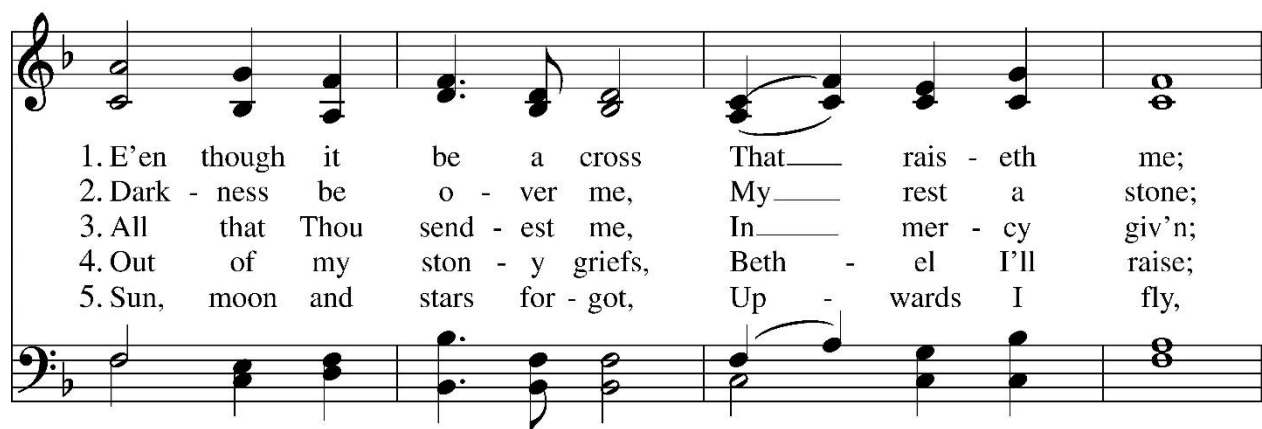
give us your peace, give us your peace.



*The Gifts of God
for the People of God*



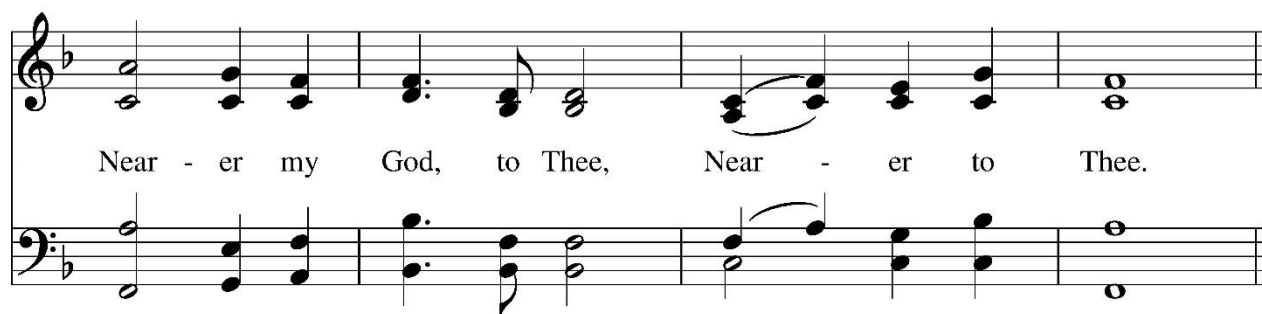
1. Near - er, my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee!
 2. Though like the wan - der - er, The sun goes down,
 3. There let the way ap - pear, Steps un - to heav'n;
 4. Then, with my wak - ing thoughts, Bright with Thy praise,
 5. Or if on joy - ful wing, Cleav - ing the sky,



1. E'en though it be a cross That rais - eth me;
 2. Dark - ness be o - ver me, My rest a stone;
 3. All that Thou send - est me, In mer - cy giv'n;
 4. Out of my ston - y griefs, Beth - el I'll raise;
 5. Sun, moon and stars for - got, Up - wards I fly,



1. Still all my song would be
 2. Yet in my dreams I'd be
 3. An - gels to beck - on me Near - er, my God, to Thee,
 4. So by my woes to be
 5. Still all my song shall be



Near - er my God, to Thee, Near - er to Thee.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER |

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

EUCHARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER | 8 & 10:30 a.m. service

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

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

THE BLESSING |

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

CLOSING HYMN 438 | Tell Out My Soul, The Greatness of the Lord

Woodlands



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

THE DISMISSAL |

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

POSTLUDE |

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Assisting in Worship Today

10:30 a.m. Service

Acolytes: Wynstan Eguakun, James Mercer, Lesley Lokko
Altar Guild: Ivy Amponsah, Sonni Aribiah, Jai Jones, Kathy Simms
Chalicerist: Steve Alpern
Lector/Reader: Steve Alpern
Tellers: Mary Oladipupo, Sarah Mugo
Ushers: Cherry Williams, Isaac Olajide, Jane Adams, Yetti Lipede

PARISH CALENDAR OCTOBER 26 – NOVEMBER 1, 2025

Sunday, October 26

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 am	Family Worship – New Brick
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:30 – 10:20 am	Sunday School, Sunday Circle
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, UL
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David – Old Brick
1:00 – 5:00 pm	Education for Ministry (EfM) – Parish Hall, CR & Zoom
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Confirmation Class – Zoom

Monday, October 27

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Vestry Meeting – New Brick, LL

Tuesday, October 28

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 – 4:00 pm	HC Homeschool – New Brick, LL
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Christ Church Yoga Summer Camp – ONLINE
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Vestry Meeting – New Brick, LL

Wednesday, October 29

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Amanda Cheong Education Training Program – New Brick, LL

Thursday, October 30

All Day	Auction Prep – New Brick, LL
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 – 4:00 pm	HC Homeschool – New Brick, LL
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Christ Church Yoga Summer Camp – ONLINE
6:30 – 9:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
6:30 – 9:00 pm	Education for Ministry (EfM) – Zoom
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, LL
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club – Zoom

Friday, October 31

All Day	Auction Prep – New Brick, LL
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream

Saturday, November 1

All Day	Auction Prep – New Brick, LL
9:00 – 3:00 pm	Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo Dia Fidelidad – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
2:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, LL
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Altar Guild Prep
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Auction <i>bella Italia</i> – New Brick, LL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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



The Auction is Around the Corner - Next Saturday, November 1

Get ready, because it's almost here - just one week remains until the spectacular, fabulous, best-ever Christ Church Annual Auction! The doors open next Saturday, November 1st, at 6:30 p.m.

We have some pretty spectacular stuff this year, the likes of which you've never seen auctioned here before, as well as those familiar and much sought-after goodies. And we have two NEW features this year - credit card acceptance and childcare! That's right - we are providing two services that are sure to make it easier for you to have a fun night out!

Taizé Vespers: THANKSGIVING - Next Sunday, November 2

Taizé Vespers is a liturgy of Evening Prayer that combines scripture readings, prayer, silent meditation, and rich music. On the first Sunday evening of each month, Christ Church offers this truly beautiful service of contemplative prayer and music in the tradition of the Taizé community of France. This community promotes peace and justice through prayer and meditation.

November's Taizé Vespers reflects on *Thanksgiving*, which is appropriate, given the season. Emphasizing attention to silence, prayer, and singing, Taizé offers an opportunity to give praise and thanksgiving for God's love and presence in one's life, to offer prayer for oneself and others, and to share in a supportive community. Gather with us at 6 p.m. in New Brick on November 2 for this powerful and peaceful worship.

First Wednesday Fellowship - November 5

Christ Church's popular First Wednesday fellowship series brings the heat! Come join us as we take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to share a meal with our fellow parishioners, meet new ones, and enjoy a fun activity or two. It's the perfect way to connect and spend a few hours with friends, both old and new.

November's FWF on Wednesday, November 5th will be a chili and game night, so bring a pot of chili to share. Maybe you have a recipe you've tuned to perfection—if so, we want to taste it! You can also bring a salad, side, or dessert, if you wish. And bring your favorite game so that we can have some fun after dinner. Donations to defray the cost of pizza are always appreciated (write "FWF" in the memo line), but the most important part is having you there, so we hope to see you!

Fall Film Series - November 7 & 8

On Friday night, November 7th at 7 p.m., bring some movie treats to share and head to the lower level of the Parish Building for the suspenseful film *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* - [watch the trailer here](#). Then at CSN on Saturday morning, you can catch *Same Kind of Different as Me*, a film about an unlikely friendship forged from unconditional love. You can [view that trailer here](#). If you'd like to host a movie night at CEC, let us know, and we'll get you on the calendar - info@christchurchcolumbia.org

Center for Spiritual Nourishment - November 8

Join seekers of a deeper relationship with the Divine at the Center for Spiritual Nourishment. The 2nd Saturday CSN offers free experiences that engage the mind, body, and spirit by providing safe spaces to explore a range of opportunities for spiritual growth. It is a series of gatherings for anyone interested in spiritual nourishment, regardless of religious affiliation or spiritual beliefs, and you can come for one session or the entire morning. Next month's CSN takes place on Saturday, November 8, and the session outline and schedule will be in next week's announcements. Stay tuned!

Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God, a gathering that takes place every Monday. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. We are a hybrid gathering, so be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings.

Yoga Camp Online - Tuesdays and Thursdays

Parishioner and certified yoga instructor Jane Adams held Yoga Camp at Christ Church this past summer, and now she continues to offer it in a new way—join her from the comfort of your own home! Yoga Camp Online is held for an hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays from now through November 25, and starts at 5:30. It's open to everyone interested in improving their body, mind, and spirit through movement, meditation, and breathing. To make yoga a part of your path towards improved physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, email us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org, and Jane will send you the details. But email her now - space is limited.

Join the Christ Church Choir - Thursdays

If you ever thought about giving Choir a shot, how about now? We have rehearsals in New Brick on Thursday evenings—Handbell Choir at 6:45 and Adult Choir at 7:30—and all adults are welcome to join us.

Whether you read music or not, have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit full-time or not, there's a place for you to give it a shot in our handbell &/or vocal choirs. If interested, please speak with Larissa at church on Sundays, email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org, or stop by New Brick on any Thursday.

CEC Book Club is Back - Thursdays

The CEC Book Club has started a new season, and you're welcome to join us! We have just begun *The Heartbeat of God* by Katharine Jefferts Schori (former Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church of the United States).

If you're interested in reading and discussing great books with a friendly, engaging, and welcoming group of readers, then this is definitely for you—we choose a book together, read a chapter or two each week, and then gather virtually for an hour or so on Thursdays to share our thoughts. If you've considered taking part or if this is your first time hearing about us, now's the time to join! Email us with any questions - bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Find a Ministry that's Right for You

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

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

Youth Group Planning Session - October 29

The Christ Church Youth Group leaders are hosting a virtual gathering later this month, one that invites all of our youth's parents to join us as we discuss our plans for Christ Church Youth Group. We also want to hear your thoughts and ideas so we can collectively design a calendar for the coming year of Youth Ministry. Join us on Zoom on Wednesday, October 29th at 7:30 p.m. so we can collaborate on the development of a fantastic plan for your kids!

Upcoming Diocesan Events for Youth of All Ages

The Diocese of Maryland's Youth Ministry has a lot of upcoming events and gatherings listed on their website, [and you can find them here](#). From the upcoming Diocesan Convention next month, to the 2026 Happening Retreat and Nightwatch NYC in next year, many gatherings are taking place for youth of every age.

We will be taking part in most of them, but if you see one that you're particularly interested in learning more about, please email Diya Jackson, Christ Church's Youth Ministry Assistant, and she'll get in touch with you - you can email her at christchurchassistant@gmail.com

Now's the Time to Sign Up for Our Fall Food Drive at Dorsey's Search Giant on Saturday, Nov. 8th from 1 to 5 p.m. to Help Feed Hungry Families

Be a part of one of the most rewarding ways to help feed the hungry. Please sign up for a shift during the Fall Food Drive on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., at Dorsey's Search Giant supermarket, 4715 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City, Md., 21043. Walk-ins and children are welcome as Christ Church continues a hands-on, family friendly activity that occurs twice a year, in spring and fall. Look for a signup sheet in the Narthex or in Old Brick. Please volunteer for a one-hour shift. To learn more, email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Groceries collected from shoppers will go to two food pantries. One is the Howard County Food Bank, which is operated by the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC). The other is SAFE, its partner pantry that provides free gluten-free and allergy-safe foods to low-income families and individuals.

Most importantly, the access to food and necessities is a lifeline for people struggling to make ends meet. In Howard County, the number of these households has grown due to inflation and the federal government's shutdown and workforce reductions.

Two Heart-Warming Ways to Help the Baltimore International Seafarers Center

The Women of Christ Church (WOCC) will deliver donations to the Baltimore International Seafarers Center in mid-November. The Seafarers Center helps seamen and women whose ships come into the Baltimore Harbor. The Center appreciates receiving any of the following items for the mariners: calendars for 2026, warm hats and scarves (no fringe or woolen balls), warm gloves, hand-warming packets, stationery, magazines (e.g., current affairs, sports, and activity magazines, National Geographic, Smithsonian, etc.). Please, no toiletries will be accepted. Donations should be placed in the designated bin in the Tower Room by Monday, Nov. 10. This will be our last trip to the Center before Christmas. Let's try to brighten the holidays for those who are so far from home. If you have questions, please speak with Carolann Sawyer or Cindy Read.

The Seafarers Center will hold its first ever fun run on Saturday, Dec. 6, the feast day of St. Nicholas of Myra. The St. Nicholas Fun Run 2025 is named after the patron saint of sailors, who is remembered today for his generous spirit and care for those in need. On that day, plan to drop in any time between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Center, 1430 Wallace St., Baltimore, Md. 21230, and proceed to nearby Ft. McHenry National Monument to do three laps around the fort, 2400 E. Fort Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21230. Runners are promised snacks, swag and other surprises. Alternatively, you can participate virtually and run wherever you would like. Virtual runners can pick up their swag by stopping at the Center between Monday, Dec. 1, and Saturday, Dec. 6. Each registered runner will receive a custom running hat featuring the Center's logo. Please register [here](#) whether you plan to participate virtually or in person. The price is \$54 plus a \$4 signup fee. The registration deadline is Nov. 30.

Thanks to Your Support, LEMS Teachers Have More Classroom Necessities To Use Today

Thanks to your support, we were able to assemble and distribute 60 bags of classroom supplies to teachers at LEMS today. Teachers are always paying for classroom necessities like facial tissues, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, and Band-Aids. At the end of the school day, we visited the teachers' classrooms, and they were thrilled to receive their "health bags." A special thank you to Jan DeBoissiere and Diana Hall for their help, as well as Cindy Drummond and several LEMS students. The next Kindness Pantry is scheduled for November 19th so you'll hear from us shortly about the Signup Genius for the needed items. There are ways that you can get involved at the school, as well. For example, Jan has been enjoying being a lunch room monitor, and there are still requests for tutors both during and after school, so please talk to us if you are interested in what is involved - LEMS@christchurchcolumbia.org

ONE WEEK TO GO! **CHRIST CHURCH'S** **AUCTION is SATURDAY,** **NOVEMBER 1**

Get ready now, because it's almost here - just one week remains until the spectacular, fabulous, best-ever Christ Church Annual Auction!

The doors open on Saturday, November 1st, at 6:30 p.m., and the Live Auction begins at 7:30. The first phase of the Silent Auction will run from the start until 8:00, and part two will run until 8:45. And for additional excitement, we'll draw the 50/50 Raffle winner at 8:00 p.m., so don't forget to buy your tickets when you get there - the more tickets are bought, the higher the pot, the more you take home!

We have some pretty spectacular stuff this year, the likes of which you've never seen auctioned here before, as well as those familiar and much sought-after goodies. What a great opportunity to knock out some of your Christmas shopping, help your college-bound kid pick art to deck out their own, one-of-a-kind dorm room, surprise your spouse or loved one, or buy tickets to a baseball game or the theater - something your family can do together or maybe as a date night with that special someone.

And bring your cash, checks, or credit cards. YES! That's right - we will accept credit cards this year so that checkout will be faster and easier than ever. Come early, sign in, get your mask, and get a glass of wine and some refreshments. Peruse all the wonderful items we'll have for sale. Enjoy the food, the music, camaraderie, the entertaining auctioneers, and some good shopping. Bid! Bid! BID!

But wait - there's more! Childcare will be available. YES!! That means EVERYONE can come, participate, bid, and buy great stuff. And you'll know where your kids are. And to top it all off, we've arranged for Daylight Saving Time to end that night, so you can all set your clocks back and enjoy an extra hour of sleep. You're welcome!

And thanks to all of you who donated! You can drop them off during this coming week:

You may drop off your donations in the Lower Level of New Brick.

Thursday, October 30 between 5 and 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 31 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 1 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Any questions? Reach out to Robin Bradley at auktion@christchurchcolumbia.org or speak with her at church.





Christ Episcopal Church

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

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*

Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipede, *Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator*

Diya Jackson, *Office & Youth Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

Vestry

- Diane Phillips-LaGuerre • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Shreya Chrzanowski (*Youth Liaison*)
- Ronald Baran • Greg Schuckman • George Toth • Sara Kirkpatrick • Ed Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms
- Jay Abbott • Denisa Abdallah • David James • Katie Adams • Jim Berkson