



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, September 21, 2025 | Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

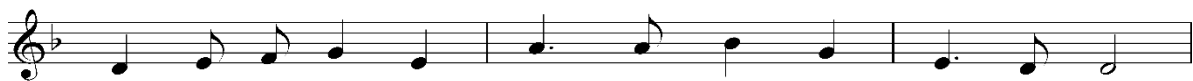
This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone is welcome to receive communion at God's table, and the clergy are happy to speak with you at any time.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE |

OPENING HYMN 605 | What Does the Lord Require

Sharpthorne



- 1 What does the Lord re - quire for praise and of - fer - ing?
- 2 Ru - lers of earth, give ear! Should you not jus - tice show?
- 3 Still down the a - ges ring the pro - phet's stern com-mands.
- 4 How shall my soul ful - fill God's law so hard and high?



What sac - ri - fice de - sire, or trib - ute bid you bring?
Will God your plead - ing hear, while crime and cruel - ty grow?
To mer - chant, work - er, king he brings God's high de - mands.
Let Christ en - due our will with grace to for - ti - fy.



Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk hum - bly with your God.
Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk hum - bly with your God.
Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk hum - bly with your God.
Then just - ly; in mer - cy we'll (hum - bly walk with God.)



hum - bly walk with God.

OPENING ACCLAMATION |

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY |

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

GLORIA S 280 |

Robert Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 | Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Reader: A reading from Jeremiah.

My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people
from far and wide in the land:

"Is the Lord not in Zion?
Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?")

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved."

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?
Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people
not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water,
and my eyes a fountain of tears,

so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of my poor people!

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 79:1-9 | *Deus, venerunt*



O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance;
they have profaned your holy temple; *

they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.

They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the air, *

and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.

They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem, *

and there was no one to bury them.

We have become a reproach to our neighbors, *

an object of scorn and derision to those around us.

Antiphon

How long will you be angry, O Lord? *

will your fury blaze like fire for ever?

Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known you *

and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your Name.

For they have devoured Jacob *

and made his dwelling a ruin.

Remember not our past sins;

let your compassion be swift to meet us; *

for we have been brought very low.

Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; *

deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's sake.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE | 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Reader: *A reading from 1st Timothy.*

First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

who gave himself a ransom for all

-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN 655 | O Jesus I Have Promised

Nyland

1 O Je - sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end:
2 O let me hear thee speak-ing in ac - cents clear and still,
3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom-ised to all who fol - low thee,
be thou for ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
a - bove the storms of pas-sion, the mur-murs of self - will;
that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be;
I shall not fear the bat - tle, if thou art by my side,
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
and, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;
nor wan - der from the path - way, if thou wilt be my guide.
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard-ian of my soul.
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

THE GOSPEL | Luke 16:1-13

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'

(continued)

So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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-eous-ness,

5 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

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

13 mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

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

THE SERMON | The Rev. Yehinuel Oshokhai Odidi

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED |

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

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

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

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE |

Lord, You continually guide Your people through very difficult times where Your grace abounds. Generosity and provision are ever present in Your Love. We each encounter times of doubt in our own personal wilderness. Let us place our faith and trust in You. **Search for the Lord and His Strength**

The worldwide Church welcomes all as workers in God's kingdom: the new, the established, the unpolished, the overzealous, the introverted, the doubtful, the givers, the needy, the prepared and the unprepared. Jesus modeled inclusiveness in an age of very separate cultures. None were turned away. We encourage all visitors and newcomers to be a part of our Christ Church community in Columbia. We would love to share our worship, praise and opportunities to minister to others. We are enriched by your presence. **Lord, we praise you for your faithfulness**

(continued)

In the Anglican Communion, we pray today for Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan. We pray that people's hearts will be opened to bring help and hope to those people affected by armed conflicts throughout the world. In the Diocese of Maryland, we ask special blessings for the Parishes of: St. Andrew the Fisherman, Mayo, St. James', Lothian & St. Marks, Deale and St. Paul's, Prince Frederick. We ask for the Lord's guidance for our spiritual leaders: the Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard & Marcia, and Seminarian, Yehinuel. We also ask that our governmental leaders receive wisdom, insight and strength to find solutions to many problems facing our nation and the world. **Let our hearts rejoice in the Lord**

We pray for those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit, that they may be restored to health and wholeness, especially Abel, Rachan, Sherry, Erica, Emmy & Danielle. We give thanks for the love and care of family and friends, who bring happiness to those in need. We pray for those who have entered the Kingdom of Heaven, especially Stanley Ennis, Roberta Akillian and those you now name. May the light of God shine forever in their hearts. May the presence of Christ comfort those who mourn. **Glory in His Holy Name**

We give thanks for the occasions of joy in our Church family. Today we celebrate the birthdays of Zion, Malcolm, Praise, tom, Shannon, Becky, Emily, and the baptismal anniversary of Johanna. We are blessed with these gifts of God throughout our lives. **Our Lord is gracious and full of compassion**

Let us stand firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith.

AMEN

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION |

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

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 | I Got Me Flowers

Daniel Burton

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:



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.**

FRACTION ANTHEM S 164 | Jesus, Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) from *Deutsche Mass*

Franz Schubert
arr. Richard Proulx

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.

There_ is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed

whole; There_ is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul. **Fine**

1. Some - times I feel dis-cour-aged, And_ think my work's in vain, But_

2. If you can-not preach like Pet - er, If you can-not preach like Paul, You can

3. Don't_ ev - er be dis-cour-aged For_ Je - sus is your friend, And_

1. then the ho - ly spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain. **D.C.**

2. tell the love of Je - sus, And say He died for all.

3. if you lack for know-ledge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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 435 | At the Name of Jesus

King's Weston



1 At the Name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,
2 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a Name
3 bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
4 Name him, Chris - tians, name him, with love strong as death,
* 5 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
* 6 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



1 ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
2 from the lips of sin - ners, un - to whom he came,
3 through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
4 name with awe and won - der and with bat - ed breath;
5 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;
6 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;



1 'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord
2 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
3 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast;
4 he is God the Sa - vior, he is Christ the Lord,
5 crown him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
6 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



1 who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
2 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;
3 filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
4 ev - er to be wor - shiped, trust - ed, and a - dored.
5 let his will en - fold you in its light and power.
6 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

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

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Joan Harvey

Chalicerist: Joan Harvey

Ushers: Jo Emily Knox

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Cheryl Lucente

Chalicerist: Ivy Amponsah

Acolytes: Mikailu Sheriff, Anya Sheriff, Lesley Lokko

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

Altar Guild

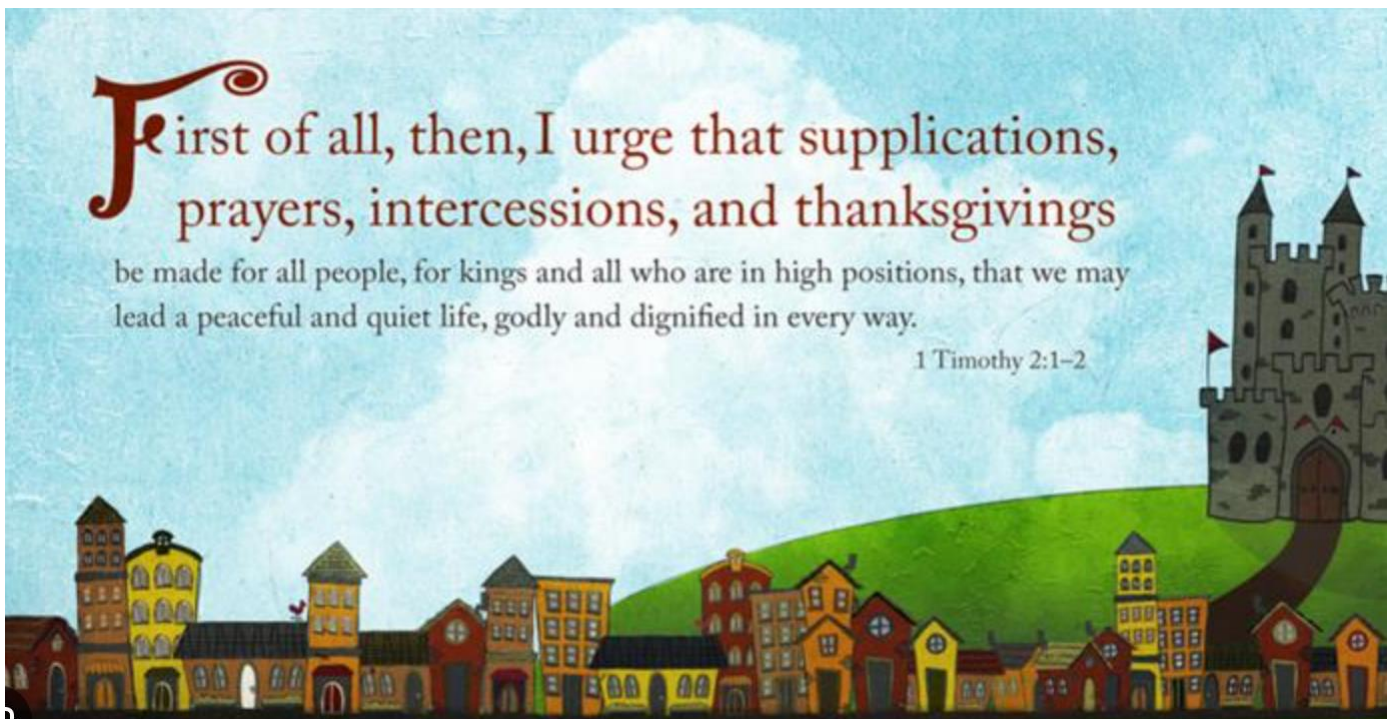
Pam Foreman, Cheryl Lucente, Leigh Smith

Tellers

Brian Farnandis, Jenny Cecil

Vestry Table

Alfred Titus-Glover



PARISH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 21 – 27, 2025

Sunday, September 21

All Day	Fr. Manny out (Day 8/11)
8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am– 9:30 am	Coffee Hour
9:00 am– 9:30 am	Children & Family Worship – New Brick, upper level
9:30 am– 10:30 am	Sunday School
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Taize Vespers – New Brick, upper level
12:00 – 2:00 pm	3 rd Sunday Brunch – Stanford Grill
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Confirmation Class – Parish Hall, conference room

Monday, September 22

All Day	Fr. Manny out (Day 9/11)
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Refugee Ministry Meeting – Zoom

Tuesday, September 23

All Day	Fr. Manny out (Day 10/11)
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Summer Yoga Camp – Sanctuary
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Wednesday, September 24

All Day	Fr. Manny out (Day 11/11)
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, September 25

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Summer Yoga Camp – New Brick, lower level
6:30 – 9:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, September 26

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
11:30 am – 2:30 pm	Sundays @ 3 Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club

Saturday, September 27

9:00 – 3:00 pm	Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo Dia Fidelidad – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Beth Johnson Memorial Service – New Brick, upper level
12:00 – 2:30 pm	Beth Johnson Memorial Repast – New Brick, lower level
2:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Altar Guild prep – Old Brick
8:00 pm – 1:00 am	Okrahmarfo Event – New Brick, lower level

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

This Sunday, Please Welcome Anna Katz, a Grassroots Visitor Who Will Speak during Sunday Circle on the Theme of “Generosity”

Many parishioners are involved in volunteer roles each month helping the [Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center](#), so it's fitting that we'll hear directly from a Grassroots visitor today, September 21. Join us at Sunday Circle from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. in Old Brick or on Zoom.

Anna Katz, who is director of grants and support, will describe Grassroots' resources, which range from sheltering families to suicide prevention. The nonprofit organization answered more than 87,000 crisis calls on its hotline during Fiscal Year 2025, and provided substance-use-disorder services to more than 200 people. It helped more than 1,500 at the Day Resource Center (DRC), located at the Leola Dorsey Community Resource Center.

That's the location most familiar to many at Christ Church, where a team led by Outreach member Shahra Toth serves a hot midday meal on the second Monday of each month. Christ Church also funds the purchase of supplies for DRC's pantry, ranging from sports drinks for hydration during summer to handwarmers in the winter.

In response to a DRC request, the Outreach Commission at its Sept. 8 meeting approved a purchase of 300 pairs of socks at a cost of \$213. These will be greatly appreciated by DRC clients, many of whom live outdoors in a vehicle or in a tent in the vicinity of MD Rt. 1 in Jessup. The socks were purchased with Vestry-approved funds donated to the church by parishioners. A hearty thanks!

Our meals team also drops off dinner for residents of Grassroots' Emergency Shelter, which houses 71 people. The next date to volunteer to provide meals at either facility is Monday, Oct. 13. Check our [DRC online signup form](#) or our [Grassroots online signup form](#) for details. Throughout the year, the Women of Christ Church sponsor “Home Sweet Home” housewarming kits to help those served by DRC or the shelter to get started in a new residence.

As you respond to a call to help the less fortunate, keep in mind the scripture that underpins the mission of Christ Church outreach: ***And the King will answer them, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.”*** *Matthew 25: 40*

Register Now for Sunday School and Youth Formation

From Autumn through Spring, Faith Formation is thriving at Christ Church, and anyone ages pre-K to 12th grade is invited to gather with us next fall. It's a program of age-appropriate classes that's relevant and engaging, and we're looking forward to an exciting year!

Christ Church's Sunday School and Youth Formation ministry believes in growing a deep and wide faith in kids through education in the Gospel, serving our community, and fellowship with one another. From the earliest age, we want kids to know the basic truths of God's Word and how we can apply those in our daily lives. Our dedicated and trained Sunday School team provides age-appropriate groups where the kids can connect and learn with one another.

Registration is now open, so please learn more and complete our registration form here: cecevents.org/SundaySchool-2526 (one form per child, please), so we can reserve space for your children.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please email sundayschool@christchurchcolumbia.org

Elect Your Next Vestry Members – Their Info is on Our Website Now

Christ Church's Vestry has approved the following candidates for election during our Annual Meeting, taking place on Sunday, October 19th. That morning, we have one service at 10:00 a.m. followed by our Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections. You must be present to vote, but there are many other reasons to join us that day, as well (including a delicious lunch). The nominees this year are (in alphabetical order): Denisa Abdallah, Katie Adams, Jim Berkson, David James, and Denholm Kendall. If you'd like to learn more about these candidates, you can read a brief bio and message from each on our website at www.christchurchcolumbia.org/2025-vestry-candidates. Representing the Vestry is a three-year term that begins after the Annual Meeting, and this year, there are four seats to be filled.

Fall Film Series - September 26

Grab some movie snacks and head to the CEC campus for the Friday, September 26th film ***The Scarlet and the Black***, showing in the Parish Hall basement at 7:00 p.m. It tells the story of Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, a real-life Irish Catholic priest who saved thousands of Jews and escaped Allied POWs in Rome. We'll have a viewing and discussion of this film, one starring three Academy Award-winning actors - Gregory Peck, John Gielgud, and Christopher Plummer.

First Wednesday Fellowship is Back! - October 1

After a well-deserved break for the summer, Christ Church's popular First Wednesday fellowship series picks up again in October. Come and 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 - and have someone else do most of the cooking!

The first FWF of this season, on Wednesday, October 1, will feature a Homecoming theme, welcoming back the program year. The church will provide pizza for dinner, and you can bring a side dish or dessert to share. We'll then take a brief prayer walk on the beautiful pathways around the campus following 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!

Taizé Vespers: STEWARDSHIP – October 5

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. Our Taizé Vespers service reflects the Taizé style, emphasizing attention to silence, holy words, prayer, and singing, and offers an opportunity to meditate and reflect on God's love and presence in one's life, to offer prayer for oneself and others, and to share in a supportive community of fellow pilgrims - in our case, your friends and neighbors - on the journey. Gather with us for this uniquely powerful worship.

Come and See "Larissa and Friends" Recital - Saturday, October 11

We are proud to present our Music Director, Larissa Sanders, in her fall Christ Church recital - now an annual tradition. Larissa and her selection of incredibly talented musicians and vocalists will present a program of beautiful music spanning several centuries and cultures. This performance is a free-will offering, and light refreshments will be served at a reception following the performance, so come to the New Brick Sanctuary on Saturday, October 11 at 5:00 p.m. for a concert that's sure to entertain everyone. Save the date, and support excellent music performed by talented musicians.

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. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church, or by emailing centering@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Christ Church Choir is Back - Thursday Evenings

Get ready, all you singers and music lovers! The choir has resumed 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 you're interested, please speak with Larissa at church on Sundays or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Find a Ministry that's Right for You

We can always use some more people to keep Christ Church the well-run 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 - both 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.

Sign Up to Walk or Run in CAC's 'Steps Forward' Fall Fundraiser

The Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) has launched **Steps Forward**, a Walk/Run campaign to raise funds. In partnership with Howard County Striders, CAC is inviting individuals or teams to rack up the miles during September and October while soliciting donations. Participants will receive a special T-shirt and discounted entry into the "Run through the Grapevine 8K" hosted by the Striders in Mt. Airy, Md. on Nov. 2. On race morning, a non-perishable food drive will benefit the Howard County Food Bank, which is operated by CAC. As Howard County's designated anti-poverty organization, the CAC provides multiple services as described in its **2024 Impact Report**. These range from early childhood education to eviction prevention. At its Sept. 8 meeting, the Outreach Commission approved a donation of \$500 to CAC to help low-income households meet their utility bills at a time when rates are again rising in Maryland. The funds were drawn from a Vestry-approved budget based on parishioners' contributions to Christ Church. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

FISH and CCC Have Combined Pantries, and FISH Needs Phone Volunteers

Recently **FISH** and Columbia Community Care (CCC) partnered to provide food services for Howard County residents. The two organizations have merged their pantries. FISH will continue to pick up donated goods from Christ Church and others. CCC will continue making distributions at three sites on Saturday mornings and by home delivery. For information, go online to Get Help. Please put non-perishable food and personal care products in the altar basket or in a bin just inside the Parish Hall. Look for a combo label "FISH/CCC". Please keep bringing baby wipes and diapers, especially large sizes.

FISH continues to offer phone support to county residents to provide guidance and financial support because the personal touch is very important when people are in crisis. Please be the one to lend a helping hand, by lending an ear! Consider volunteering from home by giving just one day a month to assist those who could benefit from financial assistance. Training is provided. Please email parishioner and FISH treasurer Andy DeLong at andydelong.fish@gmail.com. Thanks for your support.

**PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL OF THIS WEEK'S
OUTREACH, YOUTH, AND OTHER PARISH NEWS**
including website and email links, and Zoom meeting details



FIRST WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP
presents

**A HOMECOMING
PIZZA
PARTY**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1
6:00 PM IN THE GREAT HALL**

**WE PROVIDE
THE PIZZA
YOU BRING A
DESSERT OR SIDE**

**FOOD!
FELLOWSHIP!
FUN!**



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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*

The Rev. Yehinuel Odidi, *Seminarian Associate*

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

Denisa Abdallah (*Senior Warden*) • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre (*Junior Warden*)

Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Shreya Chrzanowski (*Youth Liaison*)

• Ronald Baran • John Curley • Ray Lyon • Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Jay Abbott • George Toth
• Sara Kirkpatrick • Ed Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms