

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, January 21, 2024 • 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Welcome Home!

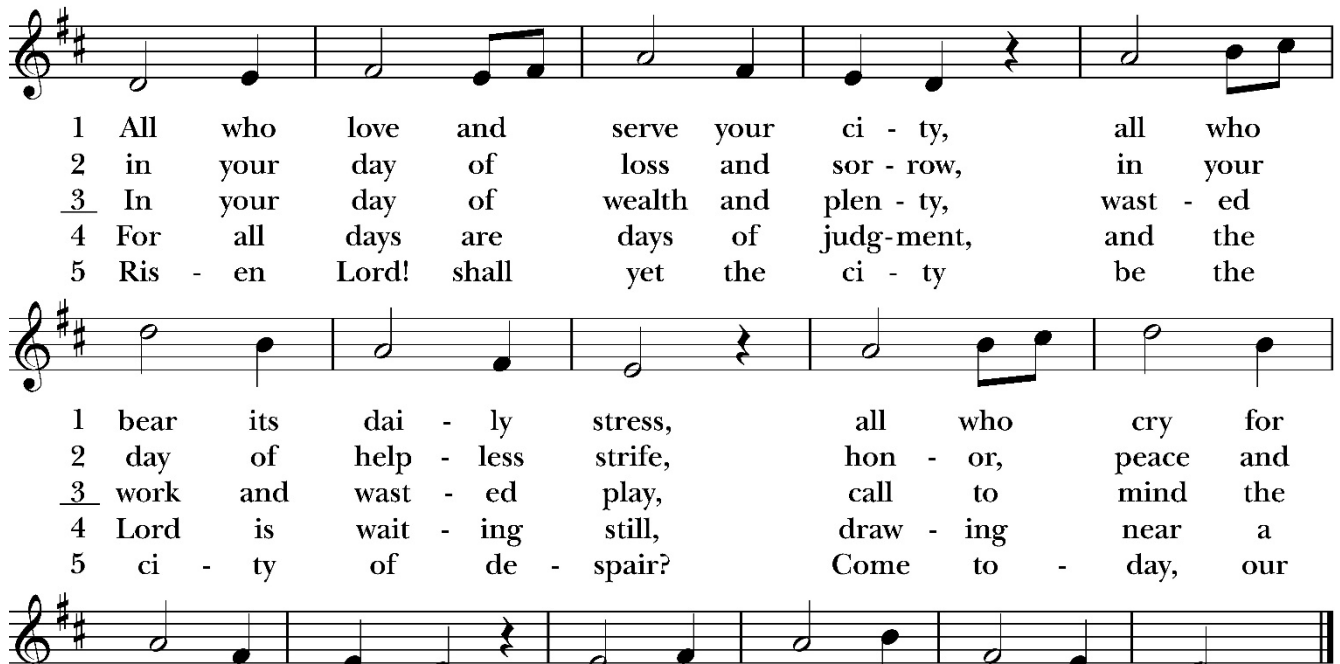
Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church community: christchurchcolumbia.org. This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone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

We are delighted you're here - welcome home!

Prelude |

Opening Hymn 571 | All Who Love and Serve Your City

Charlestown



1 All who love and serve your ci - ty, all who
2 in your day of loss and sor - row, in your
3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
5 Ris - en Lord! shall yet the ci - ty be the

1 bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for
2 day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace and
3 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the
4 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a
5 ci - ty of de - spair? Come to - day, our

1 peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,
2 love re - treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
3 word of Je - sus, "I must work while it is day."
4 world that spurns him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.
5 Judge, our Glo - ry; be its name, "The Lord is there!"

Opening Acclamation |

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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

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



The Collect of the Day |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading from Jonah 3:1-5, 10 |

Reader: A reading from Jonah.

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 62:6-14 | *Nonne Deo?*



For God alone my soul in silence waits; *
truly, my hope is in him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation, *
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

In God is my safety and my honor; *
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

Put your trust in him always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

Antiphon

Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *
all of them together.

Put no trust in extortion;
in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, *
that power belongs to God.

Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, *
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

Antiphon

A Reading from 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 |

Reader: A reading from the first Epistle to the Corinthians.

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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.

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 | Mark 1:14-20

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

Sermon | The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

The Nicene Creed |

All:

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

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

The Prayers of the People |

Giving God, in this season of Epiphany when we tell the ancient story of the wise men bringing gifts to the baby Jesus, we thank you for all the gifts you give to us.

We thank you that we have homes to live in, food on our tables, good education for our children, safe neighborhoods, warm clothes for winter weather – more than enough for our needs. Help us share what we have with those who do not have as much, whether they live next door, in our community, in our nation, or in other lands. **Inspire us, Lord.**

We thank you for the gift of parishioners and clergy in this church and in churches across the world who seek to use their gifts to help others. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, today we pray especially for the Church of South India (United). In our diocese, today we pray especially for Holy Trinity, Essex; Messiah & St Matthias, Baltimore; and Redemption, Locust Point. Here at Christ Church, we pray for our clergy, our staff, our parish leaders, our congregation, and our newcomers and visitors. **Be with us, Lord.**

We ask you, God, for the gift of peace, especially where wars are raging – in Sudan, in Ukraine, in Israel and Gaza, and in all other parts of our world where there is hatred and fighting. Raise up leaders on all sides of these conflicts who have the courage, strength, wisdom, and judgement to lead their people to find and enact right solutions to end these terrible divisions. For the innocent people caught in the middle of these violent conflicts, we ask you, God, for the gifts of comfort, safety, help, and solace so they may somehow survive these terrible days and may one day help each other build new lives. **Guide us, Lord.**

We ask you, God, for the gift of healing. During this month of Human Trafficking Awareness, we pray especially for the healing of all who have survived the evils of child exploitation, forced labor, and human trafficking, and for the release of those still entrapped. We pray for all who are ill in body, mind, or spirit, especially for Kim, Tim, Karen, Mollie, Nathan, Jim, Stephen, Doug, Mary Ann, John, Barbara, Sherry, Patricia, Cindy, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, and Nell, and those we now name. We remember those who have died, especially those we now name. May all who are ill, who are dying, who are in mourning know they are held in your embrace. **Hold us, Lord.**

We thank you for all the blessings of our lives, especially for the birthdays this week of Brian, Aislinn, Nathan, Barbara, Brandi, Preethi, Johanna & Cindy. May they look forward to many good things in the year to come. **Rejoice with us, Lord.**

In today's psalm, we read "In God is my safety and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge. Put your trust in him always, O people, pour out your hearts before him for God is our refuge." For these and all your many gifts, O God, we give you our heartfelt thanks. **AMEN.**

Confession of Sin |

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

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

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

You may step forward to the altar for a blessing from the Celebrant.

Choral Meditation | Grace Greater Than Our Sin

Julia H. Johnston

St. Monica's Secondary School Old Students Prayer |

St. Monica's School Anthem |

As we listen down the ages,
Ring the voices loud and clear,
Those who lived and loved and
suffered
That God's kingdom might
draw near;
Let us then our hearts upraising,
Following where the saints have
trod;
Loyally uphold our motto
Each for All and All for God.

Like the Galilean maiden,
Who was mother of the Lord,
Spent her life in service loving
True and pure in thought and
word
Strength to stand in Calvary's
shadow,
Joy to greet the Easter dawn;
Faith to follow His ascension,
Kneel with her before his
throne
Let us then our hearts upraising,
Following where the saints have
trod;
Loyally uphold our motto
Each for All and All for God.

Like the mother whose
devotion
Won for God her errant son
Brought him back to be truth's
champion
Teacher for all time to come
Africa is proud to own them
Praise we God in thankful
prayer
For the wisdom of Augustine
And the love of Monica.
Let us then our hearts upraising,
Following where the saints have
trod;
Loyally uphold our motto
Each for All and All for God.
Looking forward down the ages
See them press a countless
throng
Africa her myriad peoples
Joining in one triumph song.
Let us bravely fight the battle,
Whatsoever our work may be.
Let us pass to those who follow
Life's bright torch of liberty.
Let us then our hearts upraising,
Following where the saints have
trod;
Loyally uphold our motto
Each for All and All for God.

The Peace |

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

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

Welcome and Announcements |

THE HOLY COMMUNION



Offertory Anthem | Amazing Grace

Arlen Clarke

Please scan to give.



The people stand as able.

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B |

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 people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer |

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread |

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

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

organ

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

Communion Hymn 671 | Amazing Grace

New Britain

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
5 * When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright
1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to
1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

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.**

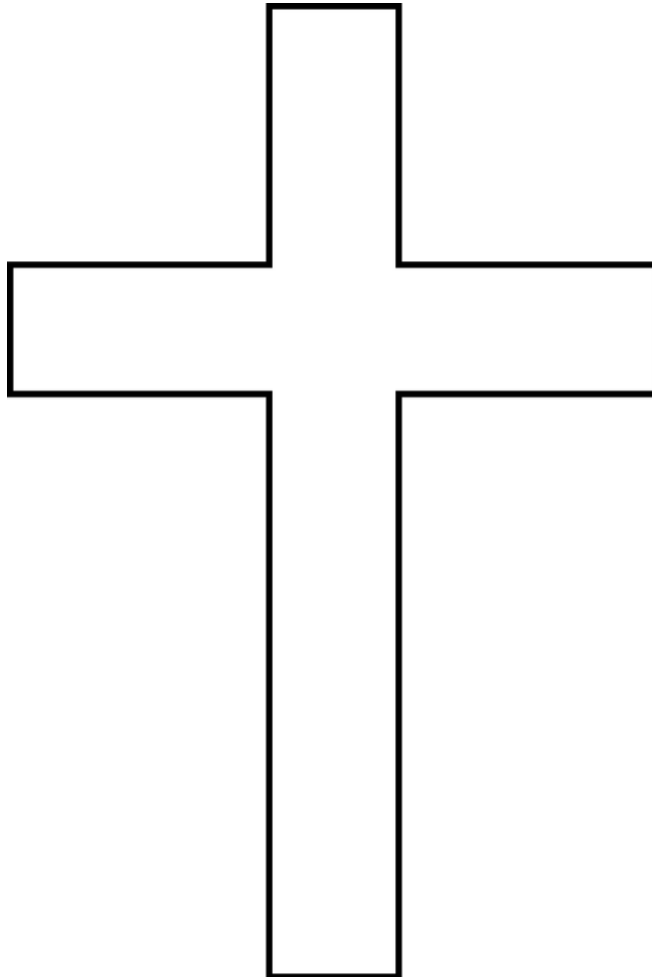
Eucharistic Visitors' Prayer | 8:00 a.m.

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

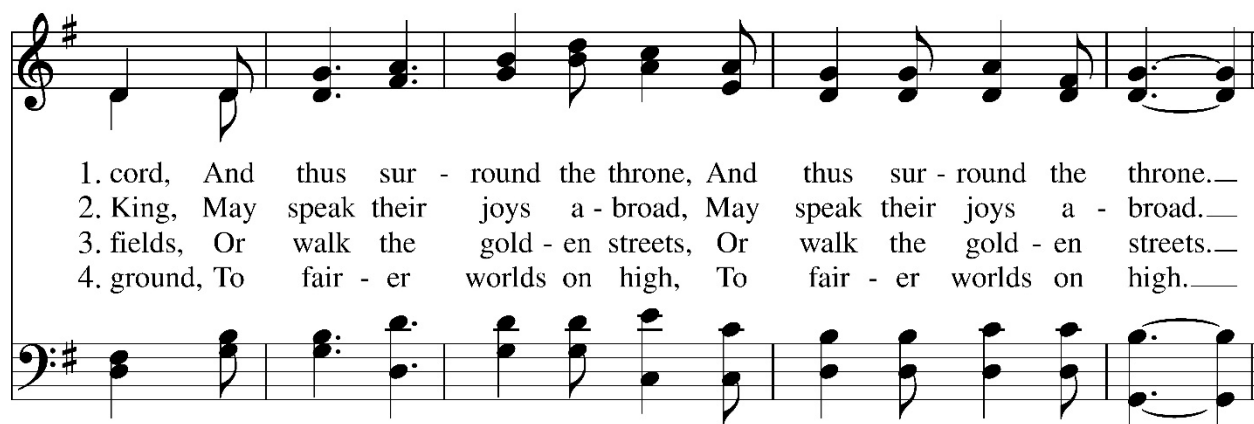




1. Come, we that love— the Lord, And let our joys— be known;— Join
 2. Let those re - fuse— to sing Who nev - er knew— our God;— But
 3. The hill of Zi - on yields A thou-sand sa - cred sweets— Be -
 4. Then let our songs— a - bound, And ev - 'ry tear— be dry;— We're



1. in a song with sweet ac - cord, Join in a song with sweet ac -
 2. chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, But chil - dren of the heav'n - ly
 3. fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, Be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly
 4. march-ing through Im - man - uel's ground, We're march-ing thro' Im - man - uel's



1. cord, And thus sur - round the throne, And thus sur - round the throne.—
 2. King, May speak their joys a - broad, May speak their joys a - broad.—
 3. fields, Or walk the gold - en streets, Or walk the gold - en streets.—
 4. ground, To fair - er worlds on high, To fair - er worlds on high.—



We're march - ing to Zi - on, Beau - ti-ful, beau - ti-ful
 We're march - ing on to Zi - on,

continued

Zi - on; We're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on,
Zi - on, Zi - on,

The beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

The Dismissal |

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

Postlude |

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Joan Harvey

Ushers: Jo Emily Knox

Chalicer:

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Greg Schuckman

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

Acolytes & Crucifer: Caleb McKenna

Chalicer: Mary Vail

Altar Guild: Pam Foreman, Cheryl Lucente

PARISH CALENDAR • JANUARY 21 TO JANUARY 27

Sunday, January 21

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 am	Breakfast – New Brick, lower level
8:45 – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 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 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:00 pm	Documentary Luncheon – New Brick, lower level
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
2:00 pm	Confirmation Class – Zoom
2:00 – 5:00 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

Monday, January 22

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom

Tuesday, January 23

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

Wednesday, January 24

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, January 25

8:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
12:00 pm	Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, January 26

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

Saturday, January 27

12:00 – 4:00 pm	Howard County Homeschool – Old Brick
2:00 pm	AA Meeting, Parish Hall, lower level
2:00 – 6:00 pm	Recital Rental – New Brick, upper level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level



We Need Your Submissions for the Christ Church's 2024 Lenten Meditation Book

For over 20 years, Christ Church has compiled a Lenten Meditation Book and distributed it to our parishioners on the Sunday preceding Ash Wednesday. The LMB is created with love and designed to assist us all in times of quiet contemplation, preparing ourselves for rebirth and renewal at Easter. Each year, our LMB centers on the Spiritual Life Theme for that year, and so ours for 2024 is ***Be a Joyful Gift to Others***, which [you can read a bit more about on our website](#). Poems, quotes, stories of reflection, images, prayers, and inspirational pieces by writers or theologians - they all come together to make up this special booklet, one that you can take home with you and use each day during the season.

To accomplish this work, **we must have all submissions in by Sunday, February 4th** to edit and publish this work in physical and digital form, the latter of which is viewed by many thousands of individuals worldwide throughout Lent. That gives us only a 4-week timeframe for submissions, though, so please don't delay.

You can submit these by name or anonymously - your choice. If you need help getting started, visit christchurchcolumbia.org/lenten-meditations and check out previous years' reflections. Submit yours by email to SL@christchurchcolumbia.org or place it in the Spiritual Life mailbox in the Church office.

Questions? Speak with Ellen Hoke at church or email her at SL@christchurchcolumbia.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Epiphany III: This Sunday at Christ Church

Christ Church has three services, beginning with Holy Eucharist in Old Brick at 8 a.m. Our Children & Family Worship gathers at 9:00, and then Holy Eucharist with choral and musical accompaniment is at 10:30, both in New Brick. Sunday Circle continues its series in Old Brick, and Sunday School, Youth Formation, and all other Sunday gatherings also take place. See you at church!

Sunday Circle: *Finding Christ's Light in Dark Places*

Linda Blackiston, Director of Community Engagement at the [**Institute for Shelter Care**](#), will lead a discussion about human trafficking. The Institute's mission is to equip Christian ministries with the knowledge, skills, tools, and community needed to provide exemplary restorative care to the sexually exploited. Ms. Blackiston will lead a discussion about how we Christians can respond to the call to help survivors of human trafficking.

Altar Flowers and Gifts

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

Documentary Screening - This Sunday

After Sunday worship, there will be a screening of a National Geographic documentary chronicling the mission of Bobi Wine, a Ugandan activist, politician, and opposition leader. Bobi and his wife, Barbara, work to oppose the current regime to defend the oppressed and voiceless people of Uganda. Lunch will be served. You can check out the film's trailer and production details [here](#).

Centering Prayer - January 22

Join us in Old Brick at 7:00 p.m. Monday evenings for Centering Prayer, a special evening prayer gathering that helps us be present and open to God. You can also take part virtually from wherever you are; [**The Zoom link is here**](#), the Meeting ID is **875 9496 3596**, and the Passcode is **Centering!**

Christ Church Choir - January 25

C'mon, all you singers and music lovers! Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings in New Brick and everyone is welcome to take part. 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 email Larissa at [**music@christchurchcolumbia.org**](mailto:music@christchurchcolumbia.org)

CEC Book Club – January 26

The CECBC recently began discussing the book *Care of the Soul* by Thomas Moore. It's never the wrong time to join the Book Club; we are always welcoming new people into our group, so if this sounds like something you might enjoy, log in and join us! [**The Zoom link is here**](#), the Meeting ID is **817 9855 4366**, and the Password is **CECBooks**. Email Ellen Hoke at [**bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org**](mailto:bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org) for more information.

Christ Church Connections - January 28

Are you interested in getting to know more of your fellow Christ Church parishioners? Here's the greatest opportunity! Sign up for Christ Church Connections (formerly Foyer Groups) and share an evening each month with others you may already know and some you might be meeting for the first time. We gather in small groups during the winter and spring and these groups then get shuffled in the fall. This way, we can meet more people, enjoy evenings at one another's homes, and strengthen the collective bond we all share. Either leave your name and email on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or [complete this online form](#), and we will provide you with more information. The deadline to sign up for this first season of Connections is next Sunday, January 28th.

Bible Study and Lunch - February 7

Christ Church will offer weekly Bible Study beginning on Wednesday, February 7th. Each week, this Bible Study series will explore the Lectionary Readings for that Sunday, will meet in the Conference Room in the Parish House, and then have lunch together at a local restaurant. Bible Study will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - February 13

The incredible youth of Christ Church will once again host our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper! On February 13th, join us in the Great Hall of New Brick for this traditional start to the Lenten season. We begin gathering at 6:00 p.m. and seating is available until 7:30 p.m. It is \$15. for an individual and \$25. for a family, and you can pay using cash or by using our [Online Giving Form](#) (choose "Shrove Tuesday Dinner" in the *FUND* dropdown menu). You'll also get to view and purchase the beautiful handiwork of [African Team Ministries](#) at the event. This will be your opportunity to get your hands on some one-of-a-kind items created by very talented artisans.

Meals Ministry

Stewardship focuses on the giving of our time, talent, and treasure, and one way to do so is by lending a hand to those in need. Christ Church's Pastoral Care Commission is growing its Meals Ministry to ensure that someone is always available to provide a meal to those who need one. If you would like to help, or if you know someone in need of this service, please speak with Deacon Denise or email her at deacondenise@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Healing Stations

Christ Church now has healing stations during the 10:30 Eucharist at the back of the sanctuary. If you need prayer, we invite you to visit the healing station after receiving Communion. We also welcome those of you who wish to help, so if you are interested in joining a group of parishioners who offer healing prayer, email Rebecca Warlow at healingministry@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Please Support the Rector's Discretionary Fund

There are real people with real needs that we help support, so we appeal to you to consider supporting the RDF in order for us to help our neighbors. [Visit our main Online Giving Form](#) and select "Rector's Discretionary Fund" from the *FUND* dropdown menu if you'd like to help.

Communion to You

To connect more directly with those of you who are local and worship virtually, Christ Church offers Communion to You, an opportunity to have altar gifts delivered to you or made available for pickup at the Church Office. If you want more information, [please complete this form](#) or [email](#) the Church Office.

CCD-Thailand Honored for Excellence, Shares a Christmas Video, and Sends Holiday Greetings to Christ Church

Christ Church has long supported [CCD-Thailand](#), which helps disabled children to live more fulfilling lives. Recently its founder and executive director, Wasan Saenwian, shared good news with the Outreach Commission. The nonprofit

organization's "Standard of Disability-Related Organization" is rated "Excellent." As a result, CCD was honored by Thailand's Ministry of Social Development and Human Security with an award (*above photo*).

Saenwian sent holiday greetings to Christ Church through Outreach member Michon Semon, who has personal connections with CCD from her work for the organization in Thailand and elsewhere. "We all at CCD are doing well. We wish you a Happy New Year," wrote Saenwian. "Last week we had a great Christmas for children and staff. The parents had set up food stalls for children and adults. It was great fun."

He shared [a link to a YouTube video](#) of the Christmas celebration. Parishioners can find more information about CCD on [its portion of the Outreach menu](#) on the church website.

CCD reaches more than 400 children and their families in four provinces in Thailand, using a community-based model that prevents institutionalization. CCD also operates a residential facility, Rainbow House. Saenwian commented that two boys, who are from Laos and Myanmar, have recently joined. In 2023, Christ Church contributed \$2,500 to CCD toward the salary of a physical or occupational therapist who enables children and young people to improve their mobility and dexterity. This is in keeping with the mission of the Outreach Commission to support organizations – local, national, and international – that enhance the lives of people in need. Funds are derived from parishioner donations to Outreach and the Vestry-approved budget. Thank you.

Columbia Community Care Reopens Home Delivery Option, Seeks Volunteers and Baby Care Items

Please continue supporting [Columbia Community Care](#) (CCC) by giving essentials and with your time and talent. The nonprofit organization has maintained its weekend distribution of groceries and personal care items at three sites in Columbia but they had suspended its home delivery option for those without transportation. Volunteers recently stepped forward to clear a backlog of deliveries and items to be sorted at the CCC pantry.

Last week, CCC resumed taking delivery requests with a notice on the [CCC Facebook Group](#). Pantry manager April Lee posted: "Big hugs and thanks to the many dedicated shopper and translator volunteers from the past several weeks. We are almost fully caught up with back orders! Yay!! We're happy to press the resume button on taking new pantry orders from families without transportation." Here is [the link](#) if you need food delivered or know someone who does.

"Many hands make light work," wrote Lee, who asked supporters to pitch in. "Please consider volunteering as a shopper or translator/dispatcher to help us process all the requests for help with food that we get every day....Thank you all!!"

One task is sorting at the pantry building, 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia. Go to the ["I Can Help" portion of its website](#) to volunteer. Another method is to go to the [online form](#) to sign up as a "shopper" who fulfills grocery lists at the pantry and makes home deliveries. Or go to CCC's [online form](#) to sign up as a translator/dispatcher.

Please keep collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Put any of these in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sundays. The Christ Church point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bins and delivers their contents.

Please Donate All Kinds of Grocery Non-Perishables and Toiletries to FISH

[FISH of Howard County](#) needs non-perishable foods and toiletries. FISH provides committed support to select families in need. Please put donations in the basket at the altar or in the marked yellow bin on the breezeway between Old Brick and Parish Hall. The neighbors you help give thanks for all you do in their support.

African Team Ministries is Coming Soon!

It's that time of year - African Team Ministries' beautiful handcrafts will be on display beginning January 28th through the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (the day before Valentine's Day!). This ministry provides East African artisans with a market for their beautiful creations. Come and see intricate wood carvings, primitive musical instruments, eye-catching soapstone décor, natural elements nativity sets, stunning necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and more!

We also need volunteers to help with set-up, selling, and pack-out. If you are interested in helping and are available after services or on Shrove Tuesday, please contact Sara Kirkpatrick at atm@christchurchcolumbia.org.

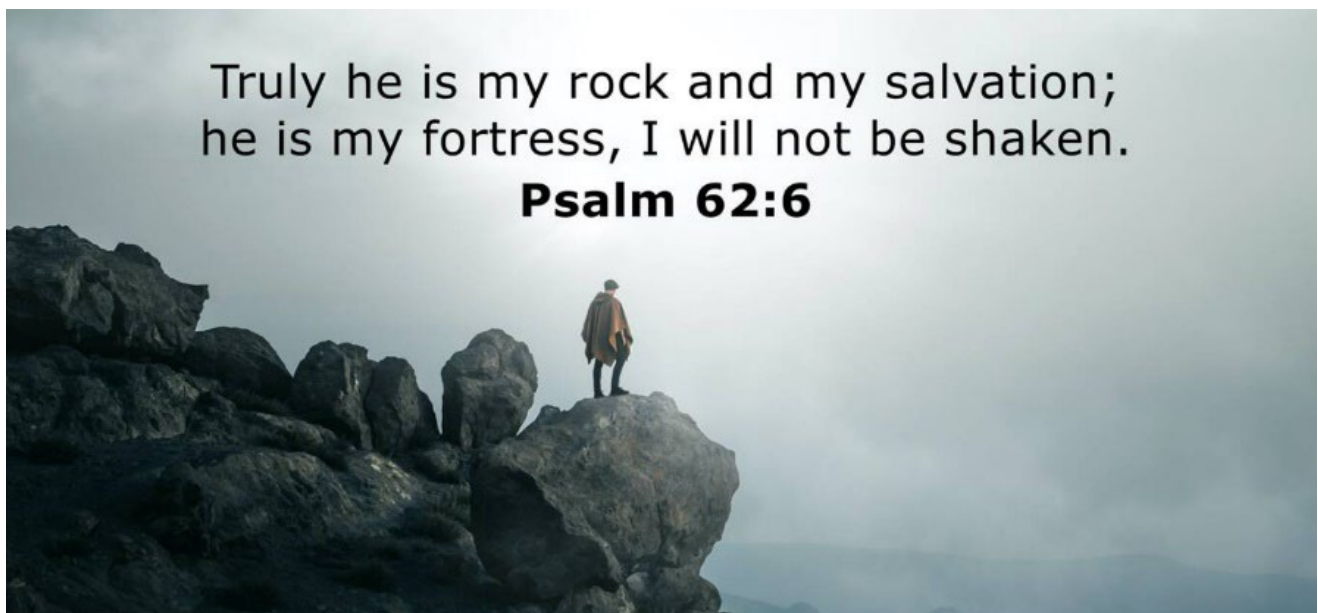
It's January... so it's "Souper Bowl" Time!

Each year youth groups across the country participate in "Souper Bowl" Sunday, collecting canned goods and monetary donations for local charities. Last year groups brought in more than \$4 million to support local causes! We invite you to contribute this year by placing your donation in the CEC Youth Group soup pot after each service this Sunday, and please continue to until February 11th. You can also donate using [our Online Giving Form](#); just choose "Souper Bowl" from the FUND dropdown menu. This year, the canned items will be donated to the FISH food pantry and monetary donations to Grassroots in Columbia.

DreamBuilders: Save the Date!

DreamBuilders will have its General Meeting on Sunday, February 4th from 3-5 p.m. at Temple Isaiah in Fulton. We will be talking about our upcoming Kentucky trip this June, when we hope to "blitz build" THREE Houses in one week! It's going to be great fun, and we've got lots of pictures from last summer's trip to show you at the meeting, so mark your calendars - see you there!

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.





January

Bowling at Bowlero

January 22

From 4:00-6:00 p.m. (tentative time; please check email or text closer to 2 p.m. that day for confirmation.)

\$30 per person.

Friends can be invited.

RSVP to Chaplain Kiona.

Please let her know if you need a scholarship.

February

Skiing Trip to Whitetail

February 3

Total beginners are welcome; friends can join (as long as we have room and transportation)

We need drivers! Please let Chaplain Kiona know if you have an SUV, 4WD vehicle, or a spacious car with snow wheels AND are available to provide transportation to others that day. Thank you!

Participants need to sign a waiver and pay all related fees for this trip.

An all-day lift ticket is \$99 for 13 and older, \$85 for 12 and younger

Lift ticket for 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. is \$79 for 13 and older, \$68 for 12 and younger

Rental costs are \$61 for ski or snowboard, \$18 for helmet

Lessons are \$169 for those 13 and older and \$154 for those 7-12 years old

We may have a parishioner who can give free lessons. If you need a scholarship, please inquire with Kiona.

“Souper Bowl” Fundraiser

Now through February 11

Each year, youth groups across the country participate in "Souper Bowl" Sunday, collecting canned goods and monetary donations for local charities. We invite you to contribute by placing your donation in the CEC youth group soup pot after each service this Sunday until February 11. Canned items will be donated to the FISH food pantry and monetary donations to Grassroots in Columbia.

Shrove-Tuesday Pancake Supper Fundraiser

February 13

Youth prepare and serve pancakes, sausages, and bacon to participating parishioners. Preparations start at 4:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall kitchen! Many hands are needed - please SIGN UP HERE.



STEWARDSHIP

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE

**You can read the Vestry-approved report for December 2023 at
tinyurl.com/CECfinanceDec2023**

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.

Stewardship 2024

We are so blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who support our ministry of faithful service, and we hope that each parishioner will prayerfully consider their contribution to Christ Church. You may pick up a pledge card in the Narthex to complete, or you can complete one electronically on our website - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/2024-pledge

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



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Kiona Lookingbill, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

Jefferson Cuarezma Flores, *Sexton*

Vestry

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

Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Jonah Aribiah (*Youth Liaison*)

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

Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Cherry Lynn Williams