

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, October 13, 2024 | 8:00 & 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 | 'Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace'

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Opening Hymn 605 | What Does the Lord Require

Sharptborne



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.

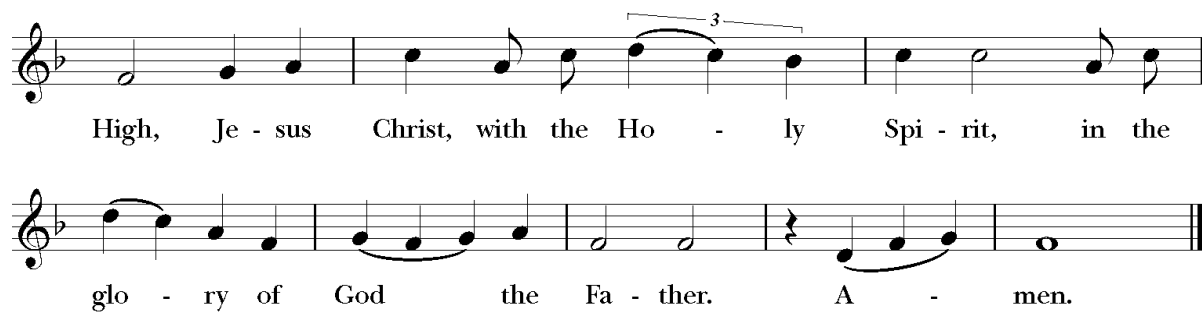
The Collect for Purity |

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. **Amen.**

Gloria S 280 | Glory to God

Robert Powell

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



The Collect |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading from Amos 5:6-7,10-15 |

Reader: A reading from Amos.

Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

Therefore, because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,

you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;

you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—

you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.

Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

Continued

Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:12-17 | *Domine, refugium*



So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

Antiphon

Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.
May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

Antiphon

A Reading from Hebrews 4:12-16 |

Reader: A reading from the Epistle to the Hebrews.

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our

weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

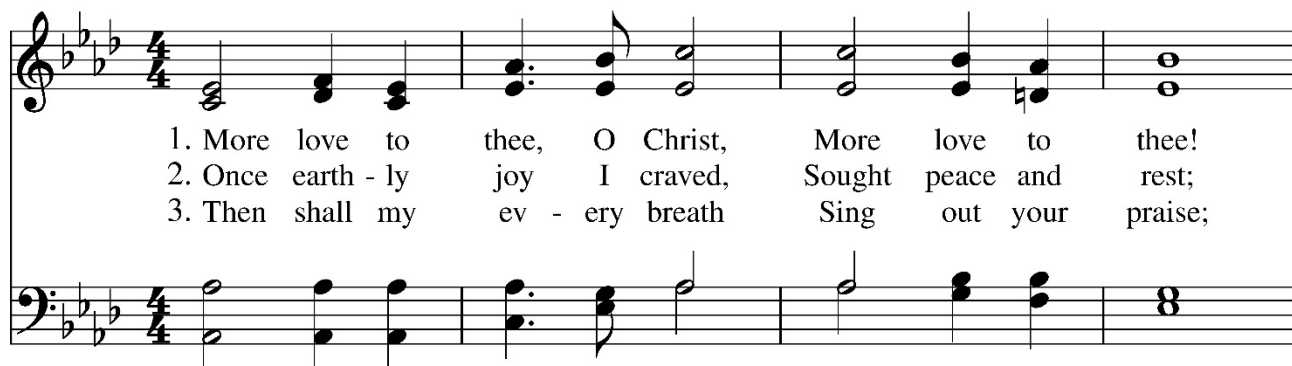
Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

Sequence Hymn LEVAS 87 | More Love to Thee, O Christ

Elizabeth P. Prentiss & William H. Doane



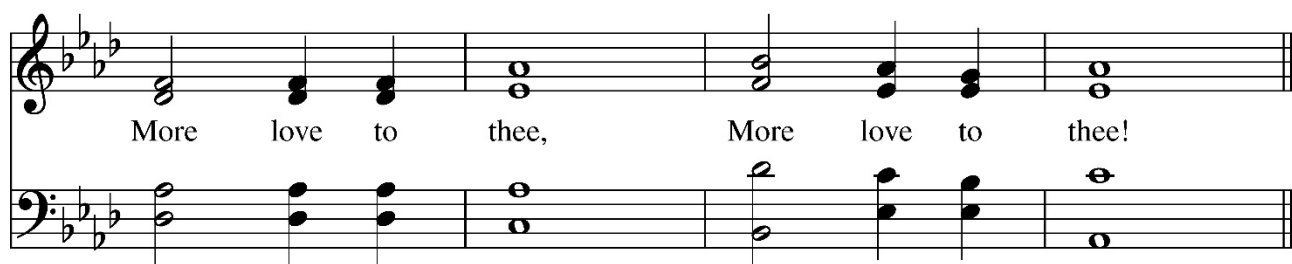
1. More love to thee, O Christ, More love to thee!
2. Once earth - ly joy I craved, Sought peace and rest;
3. Then shall my ev - ery breath Sing out your praise;



1. Hear thou the prayer I make On bend - ed knee;
2. Now thee a - lone I seek, Give what is best;
3. This be the on - ly song My heart shall raise;



1. This is my ear - nest plea;
2. This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ, to Thee,
3. This still my prayer shall be:



More love to thee, More love to thee!

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

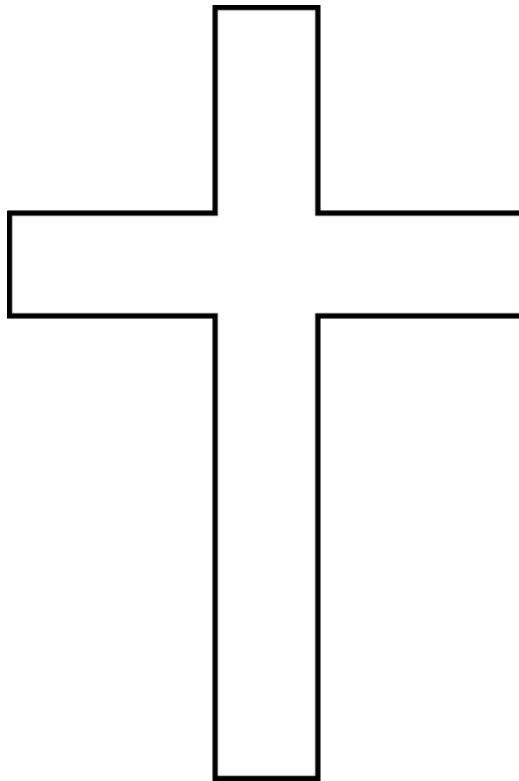
As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**



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.

Sermon | The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

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 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 |

Dear Lord, Hear the prayers of your people. We try not to worry about things, Lord, and, instead, make our requests known to you through our Prayers and Thanksgivings. This brings us comfort and moments of peace.
Your Mercy endures forever, Lord.

We pray for Joseph, our president, and all government leaders. We pray for all who love America and for those who feel America has let them down. We ask for your guidance in helping heal all wounds and unify our fine nation. ***Your Mercy endures forever, Lord.***

We pray for the Church, especially Michael, our presiding bishop, Sean, our Presiding Bishop-Elect, Carrie, our Diocesan Bishop, Father Manny, our Rector, Richard, our Rector Emeritus, and our Clergy and Postulants. We pray for the people of Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas severely affected by Hurricane Helene. We pray for people of all faiths and pray for our sister parishes of St. Michael & All Angels, Baltimore, St. Paul's, Baltimore, and Good Shepherd, Towson. We pray for peace in the Holy Land and an end to hostilities between Israel and its Islamic neighbors. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: The Episcopal Church in the Philippines. ***Your Mercy endures forever, Lord.***

We pray for those who are ill in any way. We pray for members of our Parish or those we know who are sick or struggling including Andrea, Dolores, Edvon, Kitzel, Claudia, Sarah, Jay, Rachan, Ian, Ron, Jerry, Kristin, Kim, Sabrina, Jim, Erica, Marilyn, Carolyn, Mary Ann, Barbara, Cindy, Tim, Sherry, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Mildred, and Nell and those you now name. We pray for people who are first responders, survivors, caregivers, and clergy responding to crises like hurricanes and floods. As time passes and the emergency ends, the pain can begin to consume their thoughts. Help them replace those traumas with Your Love and peace, Lord. Help them to feel the power of our prayers for them. ***Your Mercy endures forever, Lord.***

We pray for those who have died and for those who grieve. Surround them all with your powerful arms. We especially pray for Iquo Aribiah and those you now name. We pray for people who are family, caregivers and friends who are dealing with a great loss in their lives. In times of violence or natural disasters, members of the community become deeply involved in identifying the victims and providing counseling to those touched by tragedy. Help all people whose lives were altered unexplainably and irrevocably, when a loved one died suddenly, when a life was cut short without warning or any possibility of good-byes. Grant them Your Grace to move forward to forgiveness and healing. Help them to feel the power of our love for them. ***Your Mercy endures forever, Lord.***

We pray with Thanksgiving for all celebrations and joyous occasions. Help us to be prepared for the refreshing gifts of the soul that you grant us and to take time in our busy lives to enjoy them. We rejoice together in the birthdays of Hannah, Kathy, Karita, Amanda, Richard, Bob, Peter, James, Melanie & Suzanne, and baptismal anniversary of Ron. ***Your Mercy endures forever, Lord.***

Confession of Sin |

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.

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.

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.

Passing the Peace | I Love You with the Love of the Lord

Jim Gilbert

I love you with the love of the Lord,
Yes, I love you with the love of the Lord.
I can see in you the glory of my King
And I love you with the love of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements |

THE HOLY COMMUNION



Offertory Anthem | For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

Please scan to give.



Doxology Hymn 380 (v. 1) |

Old 100th

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

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

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



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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

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

All: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All 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 LEVAS 270 | Lamb of God

Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis

The musical score is written for organ and voice. It consists of four staves of music in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The organ part is indicated by the word 'organ' above the first staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff begins with a new phrase. The third staff continues the phrase. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

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.

One bread, one bod-y,

one Lord of all, one cup of

bless - ing which we bless. And we, though

Continued

man - y, through - out the earth, We are one

Last time ⊕

bod - y in this one Lord.

Last time ⊕

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
 2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the
 3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and

1. free, wom - an or the man,
 2. works, one in the Lord
 3. grown, gath - ered to one

1. — no more. One
 2. — of all. One
 3. — for all. One

⊕ CODA

Lord. _____

D.S.

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.

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 398 | I Sing the Almighty Power of God

Forest Green

1 I sing the al-might - y power of God, that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, but makes thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.
he formed the crea-tures with his Word, and then pro-nounced them good.
and clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Lord, how thy won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye,
while all that bor - rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

the moon shines full at his com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
and ev - ery-where that I could be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

Dismissal |

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

Postlude |

*Today's altar flowers were donated by Cathy Gold
in honor of her mother on her 100th birthday.*

PERMISSIONS | *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. | Book of Common Prayer, 1928 & 1979, Church Publishing. Public Domain | Music/texts under copyright are reprinted and broadcast by permission under OneLicense.net #A-701378 | Holy, Holy, Holy, from *A Mass for a Soulful People*, Grayson Warren Brown

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Ron Baran

Usher: Nancy Winchester, Michon Semon

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Cheryl Lucente

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

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

Chalicerist: Cheryl Lucente

Altar Guild

Sonni Aribiah, Ivy Amponsah

Teller

Bill Kirkpatrick

**CHRIST CHURCH'S ANNUAL MEETING
NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20
ONE SERVICE - 10:00 A.M.**



POTLUCK LUNCH TO FOLLOW. SIGN UP HERE:

PARISH CALENDAR

OCTOBER 13 TO OCTOBER 19

Sunday, October 13

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – New Brick, upper level
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
8:45 am – 9:30 am	Blood Pressure & Medication Check – New Brick, upper level
9:00 am	Family Worship Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick & Zoom
9:30 am	School School – New Brick & Parish Hall
9:30 am	Parents Group – New Brick, lower level
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
1:30 – 4:00 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room & Zoom

Monday, October 14 – Indigenous Peoples’ Day – Church Office Closed

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

Tuesday, October 15

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Homeschool – New Brick, lower level
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting – Zoom

Wednesday, October 16

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

Thursday, October 17

8:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Homeschool – New Brick, lower level
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Health Ministry Meeting – Zoom
6:45 – 7:30 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club – Zoom

Friday, October 18

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, October 19

8:00 – 4:00 pm	Diocese Vestry Vitality Day – New Brick, lower level
9:30 – 11:30 am	MOCC Breakfast – IHOP, Columbia
2:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
5:00 pm	Halloween Lock-in – Parish Hall, lower level

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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](#); 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 to let them know, and we'll be sure to place an acknowledgment in the Sunday service leaflet.

Pledge for 2025

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 safely complete one electronically on our website - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/pledge-2025

Ministry Leaders – Today is the Final Day to Send in Your Ministry Reports

We need all Ministry and Committee leaders to submit their annual reports to Chris at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org today in order to be included in next Sunday's Annual Report. It's an important way to get others to learn – and maybe join – your ministry, so don't miss out! Let the rest of the Christ Church family know what your ministry has been up to over the past year, fill them in on your plans for 2025, and explain how they can take part. [If you need, you can view last year's Annual Report here](#). Thank you.

Auction Donations for Photographing – Deadline Today

Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's Auction. We have some fantastic items to bid on and this simply isn't possible without your generous gifts, so thank you! If you want us to photograph your items for the catalog, today is the final day to drop them off on campus. Bring them here before 1:00 p.m. this afternoon.

And mark your calendars! Online bidding begins on Saturday, October 26, and our Auction gala event is on Saturday, November 2. If you have any questions or need assistance, [please visit this post on our website](#), or email us at auction@christchurchcolumbia.org

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Centering Prayer is a weekly evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God and a more powerful experience of God's presence in our lives. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. We are a hybrid gathering, so be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings. [The Zoom link is here](#), the Meeting ID is 875 9496 3596 and the Passcode is Centering! You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church, or by emailing centering@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Sunday School & Faith Formation

Faith Formation is open to all ages pre-k through 12th grade and is designed to enrich their spiritual lives and deepen their relationship with God. We offer Bible-based teachings and also have time to explore some of the interests issues

our younger parishioners face. It's an important program that's relevant and engaging, and we're looking forward to an exciting year! Visit our website for more details and registration form links: tinyurl.com/CEC-YouthFormation.

Youth Group is Back!

We are gearing up for another Christ Church Youth Group year and pray that it is full of fun, meaning, and purpose! Please register your youth by using this link. If you have any ideas or questions, please contact Chaplain Kiona Lookingbill - you can speak with her on Sundays or email kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Church Office Closed - October 14

In observance of Columbus Day, the Church Office will be closed on Monday, October 14th, and reopen on Tuesday, October 15th.

Christ Church Choir – October 17

Singers and music lovers, come lift your voice! The Christ Church Choirs rehearse in New Brick every Thursday evening, and anyone is welcome to join us. Handbell Choir meets from 6:45-7:30 p.m. and Adult Choir meets from 7:30-9:00 p.m. You don't need to know how to read music, so whether you have previous experience or are ready to commit or not, there's a place for you in our choirs. If you're interested, please speak with Larissa on Sundays, email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org, or come visit us in New Brick on a Thursday evening.

Christ Church Book Club – October 17

The CECBC returns next Thursday, October 17th, and will be starting a new book soon. If you're interested in reading and discussing great books with a friendly, engaging, and welcoming group of fellow parishioners, join us! We choose a book as a group, read a chapter or two each week, and then gather virtually for an hour or so on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. to share thoughts and have lively conversations. Email bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org for more info.

MOCC Breakfast - October 19

Everyone's gotta eat, so why not join us for breakfast? We'll gather at 9:30 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month for great food and even better conversation and fellowship at IHOP at 8825 Centre Park Dr, Columbia, MD 21045. All ages are welcome. Then, stop by the Health & Wellness Fair at Christ Church! You can learn more below.

Christ Church's Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections – NEXT SUNDAY

We will host our Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections on Sunday, October 20, and on this day, we have only one service at 10:00 a.m. in New Brick, with a potluck lunch and Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections to follow. As has been our practice, we invite parishioners to donate meals for our potluck brunch, and [you can sign up here](#). Please be sure to join us on this day - it's when we review our past year's ministries and activities while making plans for our leadership in the coming year, learn about where we're headed soon as a parish, and is certainly one of the most important gatherings of the year.

Christ Church's Vestry has approved the following candidates for election during the Annual Meeting this October. They are (in alphabetical order): Ed Chrzanowski, Sara Kirkpatrick, Isaac (Gbenga) Olajide, Kathy Simms, and George Toth. If you want to learn more about these candidates, you can read a brief message from each on our website - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/2024-vestry-candidates.

Taizé: In Praise of Peace - November 3

The Sunday before Election Day is our November Taizé worship, which will center around the vital importance of peace. We will pray for the people of this nation: for acceptance, for healing, and for reconciliation. We'll ask the Lord to bind and unite us in the bonds of democracy, help us in our quest for justice, truth, and liberty, and remind us to engage with one another not with hatred or bitterness, but with love. This is a very special service each month that could not come at a better time in November, so we invite everyone - no matter where you might sit on the political spectrum - to gather and share in this prayerful gathering of peace and unity.

First Wednesday Fellowship - November 6

This month's FWF will be a costume and pasta party that celebrates Halloween/All Saints' Day, so come decked out in your fun Halloween getup! There will, of course, be a prize for the best costume, so get yours ready! And be sure to bring their leftover Halloween candy to share with others. See you there!

"Larissa and Friends" Recital - Saturday, November 9

We are thrilled 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. Light refreshments will be served at a reception following the performance, as well. Come to the New Brick Sanctuary on Saturday, November 9th for an evening that's sure to entertain everyone. Save the date, and support excellent music performed by talented musicians.

300th Anniversary News

The new landing page for the 300th Anniversary celebrations is live on our website, so visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/300 and see how we are gearing up for a year-long series of special gatherings, activities, and parties! Please bookmark it and check for updates often. It's still early days, but committees are already taking shape and making plans. We are always looking for more people to provide their input and would love to have you join us. This celebration is a massive milestone for our church, and we encourage everyone to consider being a part of this historic occasion. If you are interested in assisting, please speak with Robin Bradley at church, complete the brief contact form on our website, or email 300@christchurchcolumbia.org.



What a Haul! Our Fall Food Drive at Dorsey's Search Giant Supermarket Collects More Than a Half Ton of Food for Two Howard County Pantries

Christ Church volunteers enthusiastically persuaded shoppers to buy and donate hundreds of canned goods, boxes of pasta, and more during the Fall Food Drive last Saturday, Oct. 5 (see photos). The collection for the Howard County Food Bank filled the bed of two pickup trucks and produced an impressive total at weigh-in: 1,294 pounds. A ton weighs 2,000 pounds.

The Food Bank is operated by the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) which, among other things, combats growing food insecurity in the county. A partner pantry, SAFE, provides free gluten-free and allergy-safe foods to low-income households. We collected 192 pounds of gluten-free food for SAFE.

Once again, this drive at the Dorsey's Search Giant Food Supermarket in Ellicott City was multi-generational; our 29 volunteers ranged from elders to elementary-school age. They included Director of Youth & Family Ministries Kiona Lookingbill, her husband, Josiah, and son, Marcus. Parishioners could choose a one-hour shift from noon until 4 p.m. or stay for the duration, all doing God's work.

Some Giant customers preferred to give cash rather than to shop for items on our handout list, and a few supporters chipped in more. The result was a contribution of \$289 to the CAC. It operates the Food Bank, using a client-choice model just like a grocery store. This has become a vital resource for the refugee families being assisted by the Christ Church-led Refugee Ministry.

In a full-circle moment during the drive, one of the sons of the Ministry's first Afghan family made a cash contribution upon arriving for work at the Giant. During the nearly three years since we welcomed the fleeing family, he has worked his way up in retail to become a member of the supermarket management team. He paused for hugs and chats all around.

Thanks to each and every person who made the Fall Food Drive such a success! The CAC has expressed gratitude for our ongoing support: "As always, thank you so much for all of the generosity that you and your entire team provide to us and the whole community."

SAFE asked that we thank all participants in the food drive on its behalf: "We appreciate the variety and quality of the food that was donated. Rest assured that these donations will make a difference to the many clients we serve."

For those interested in learning more about SAFE's needs, you're invited to celebrate its 10th Anniversary from 10 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, Oct. 19 during a festive version of its monthly food distribution at 9770 Patuxent Woods Dr. in Columbia.

Help Families in Need by Filling the Altar Basket, our FISH Bin on the Breezeway

If you missed the food drive or remain concerned about people going hungry in Howard County, this is a reminder to donate non-perishables every week to FISH of Howard County. You can put groceries and/or toiletries in the basket at the altar in New Brick or in a marked yellow bin on the breezeway between Old Brick and Parish Hall. FISH provides committed support to select families in need. The neighbors you help give thanks for all you do in their support.

Columbia Community Care Recruits Teen Volunteers to Earn Service Hours

Columbia Community Care (CCC) posted an appeal this week on the CCC Facebook Group for teenage volunteers. It has lengthened its pantry hours, now held on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., in hopes of attracting youth who can earn community service credits at their public schools by sorting supplies. Also teens can help in other ways. CCC asks: "Do you need service hours this fall? We need volunteers to help at our pantries and events! Please fill out a volunteer sign-up form here."

Go online to learn how to volunteer at the pantry, located in the rear of the Long Reach distribution site at Long Reach Village Center, Suite 107, 8775 Cloudleap Ct. Also consider volunteering at that site on Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or one of the other locations: Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd., and The Barn at Oakland Mills Village Center, 5853 Robert Oliver Place.

Those who need groceries and other necessities can find information by going online to "Get Help" on CCC's website.

CCC continues to request baby-care items and diapers, especially sizes 4-6. Put these along with sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sundays. The Christ Church point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bin and delivers items.

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. Learn more at <https://www.christchurchcolumbia.org/outreach>



FROM THE TREASURER

August's net loss exceeded that of July - putting us in a \$10k hole for the year. While this is better than last year at this time, last year was not a great year for comparison. The issue is with revenue, as both plate offerings and pledge payments were well below budget. Expenses were in line with expectations and remain below budget on a year-to-date basis.

Best Regards,
Drew

You can view the latest Vestry-approved monthly financial report [here](#).

STEWARDSHIP 2025

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/pledge-2025

TEXT GIVING

You can give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply send a text with the word 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

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.

THANK YOU.



Christ Episcopal Church

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office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev. Marcia Davenport

Kiona Lookingbill, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

Vestry

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

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

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

Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Cherry Lynn Williams

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*