

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Second Sunday in Lent

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

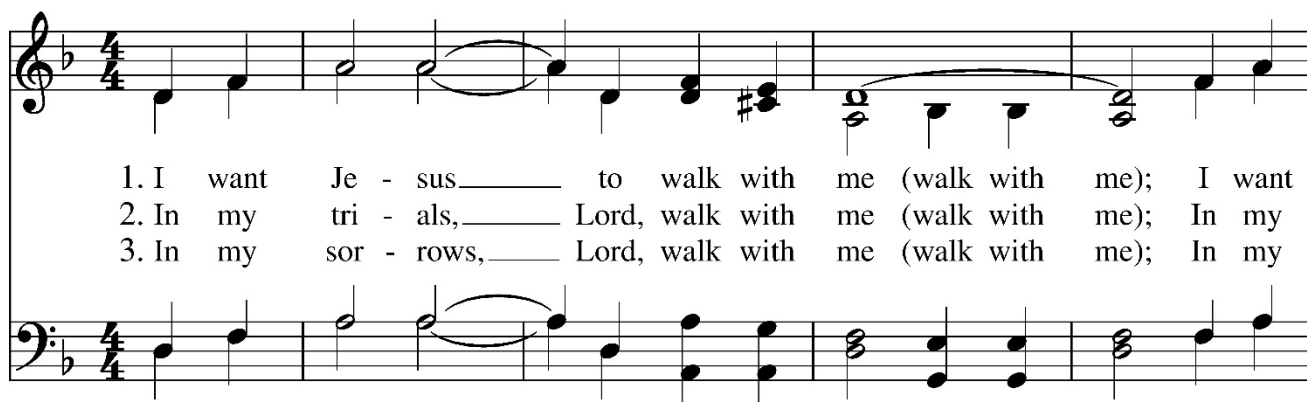
Sunday, February 25, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. • 10:30 a.m.



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.

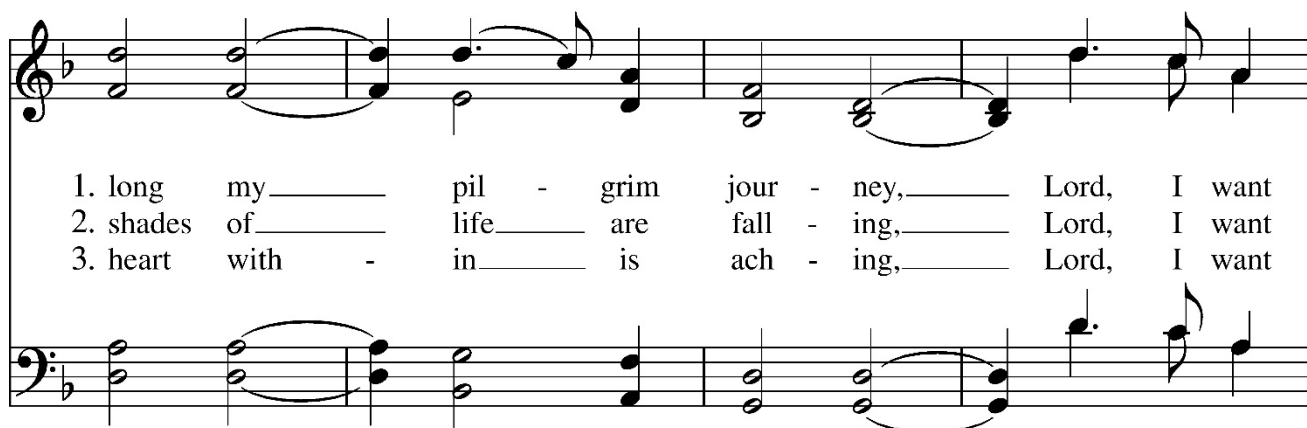
We are delighted you're here - welcome home!



1. I want Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); I want
 2. In my tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my
 3. In my sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my



1. Je - sus _____ to walk _____ with me (walk with me); All a -
 2. tri - als, _____ Lord, walk _____ with me (walk with me); When the
 3. sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk _____ with me (walk with me); When my



1. long my _____ pil - grim jour - ney, _____ Lord, I want
 2. shades of _____ life _____ are fall - ing, _____ Lord, I want
 3. heart with - in _____ is ach - ing, _____ Lord, I want



1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 2. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 3. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).

Opening Acclamation |

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;

People: **His mercy endureth forever.**

The Collect for Purity |

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

The Collect of the Day |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 |

Reader: A reading from Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The following psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 22:22-30 | *Deus, Deus meus*

Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *

stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;

all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;

neither does he hide his face from them; *

but when they cry to him he hears them.

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

"May your heart live forever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD; *

he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him;

my descendants shall serve him; *

they shall be known as the LORD'S forever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *

the saving deeds that he has done.

A Reading from Romans 4:13-25 |

Reader: A reading from The Epistle to the Romans.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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 LEVAS 172 | Nobody Knows the Trouble I See, Lord

Traditional Spiritual

The musical score is written for a two-part setting in 2/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together in pairs. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The score is divided into five systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system ends with a comma after 'Lord,'. The second system ends with a semicolon after 'I see;'. The third system includes the word 'Fine' at the end of the treble staff line and ends with a double bar line. The fourth system ends with a comma after 'Lord,—'. The fifth system ends with a double bar line. The overall mood is solemn and reflective, typical of traditional spiritual music.

No - bod - y knows the trou - ble I see, Lord,

No - bod - y knows the trou - ble I see; No - bod - y knows the

trou - ble I see, Lord,— No - bod - y knows but Je - sus.

Broth - er, will you pray for me? Broth - er, will you pray for me?

continued



Broth - er, will you pray for me? And help me to drive old sa-tan a-way?

2. Sister, will you pray for me?
 Sister, will you pray for me?
 Sister, will you pray for me,
 And help me to drive old satan away?

3. Father, will you pray for me?
 Father, will you pray for me?
 Father, will you pray for me,
 And help me to drive old satan away?

4. Mother, will you pray for me?
 Mother, will you pray for me?
 Mother, will you pray for me,
 And help me to drive old satan away?

A Reading from Mark 8:31-38 |

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-ous-ness,

5 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

Optional Ending

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 Nicene Creed |

All: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead:
and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People |

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

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

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

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

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

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Calvin, Pamela, Lexi, Sherry, Kim, Tim, Karen, Nathan, Jim, Doug, Mary Ann, Barbara, Sherry, Patricia, Cindy, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Mildred, and Nell, and those who care for them. We also pray for those serving in the military, especially Kofi Abdallah and Conner Warlow and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

The People may add additional petitions and thanksgivings.

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

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

Confession of Sin |

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

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

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

The Peace |

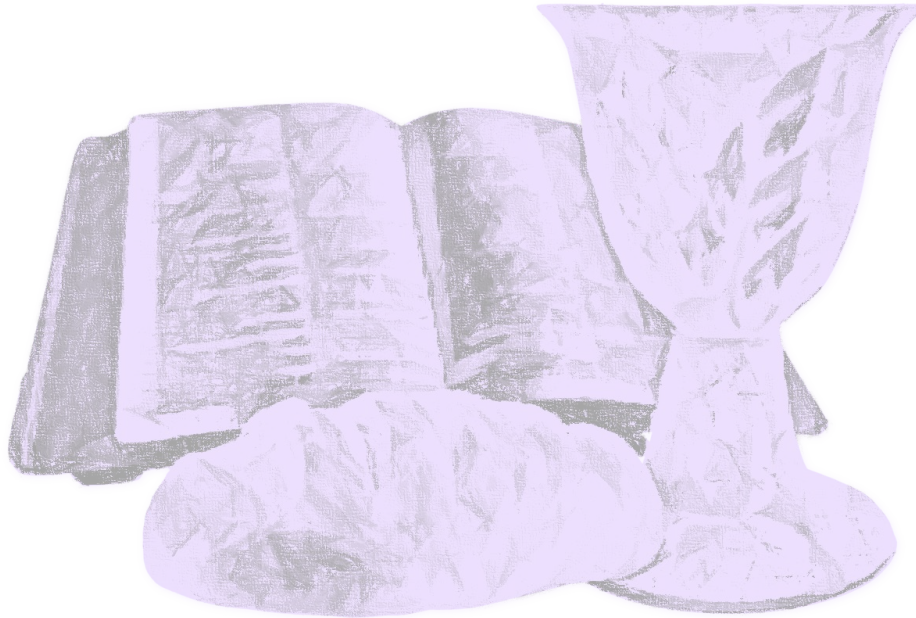
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

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

Welcome and Announcements |

THE HOLY COMMUNION



Offertory Anthem | Lenten Journey - Spirituals Medley

arr. Margaret B. Tucker

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.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

***People:* We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

***People:* It is meet and right so to do.**

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

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

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

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

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer |

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread |

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

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

on us. O Lamb of God, that

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

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

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

world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access |

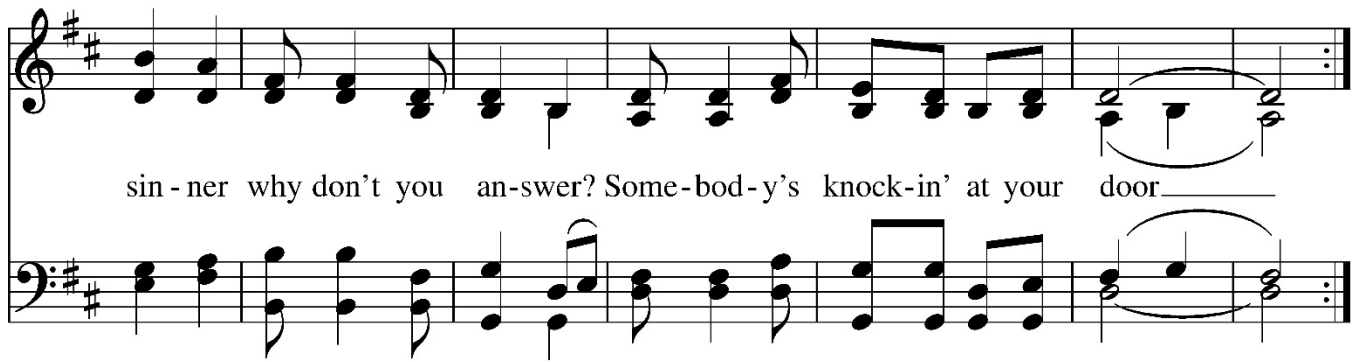
All: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious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

Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door; Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door;

O_____ sin - ner, why don't you an-swer? Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your

door._____ 1. Knocks like_ Je - sus,
2. Can't you_ hear Him? Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door;
3. Je - sus_ calls you,
4. Can't you_ trust Him?

1. Knocks like_____ Je - sus.
2. Can't you_____ hear Him? Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door; O_____
3. Je - sus_____ calls you,
4. Can't you_____ trust Him?



Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Prayer |

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

The Blessing |

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



Introduction

1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing till earth and hea - ven ring, ring with the
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast

har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise
 days when hope un - born had died; yet, with a stead - y beat,
 brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might

high as the lis - tening skies; let it re - sound loud as the
 have not our wea - ry feet come to the place for which our
 led us in - to the light; keep us for ev - er in the

roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
par - ents sighed? We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been
path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we

taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has
wa - tered; we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the
met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for-

brought us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new
slaugh - tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we
get thee; sha-dowed be - neath thy hand may we for

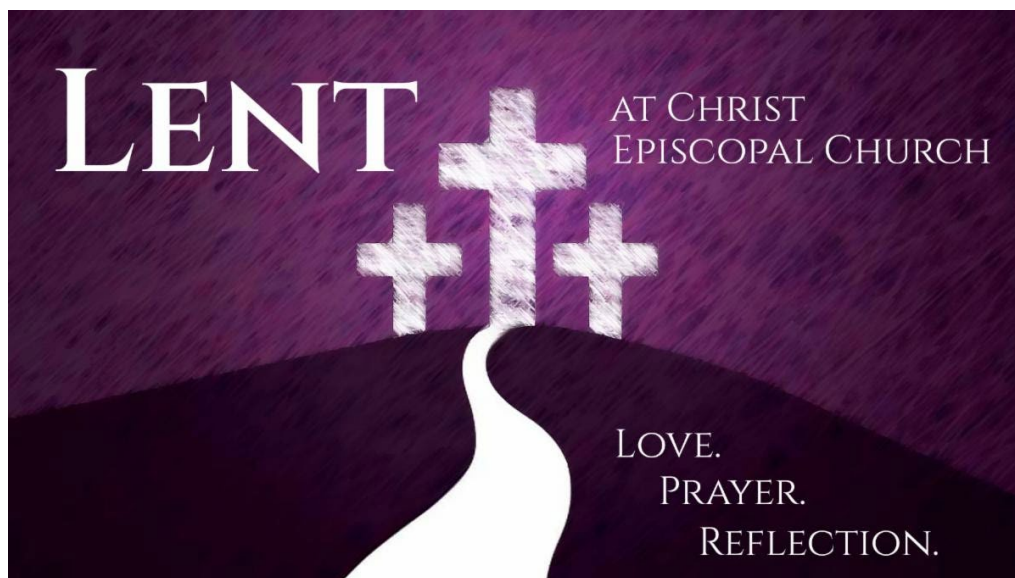
day be - gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
ev - er stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

The Celebrant dismisses the People, who respond:

Thanks be to God!

(The Alleluias are omitted in Lent)

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Our website's [Lent at Christ Church](#) page contains details for our worship, formation, and fellowship gatherings throughout the season. This is also where you can read our [Daily Lenten Meditations](#), which will be published every weekday morning, both there and on our Instagram and Facebook pages. In addition to those, we'll have an inspirational *Saturday Song* posted every weekend, as well - something to enjoy, to lift your spirits, and to comfort your heart. This year, our website also has a [Daily Office page](#) that provides links to readings for each day of the season. We hope that you'll find it to be a useful part of your Lenten journey. Be sure to bookmark all of these, or find them all on [our main page's menu bar](#).

<https://www.christchurchcolumbia.org/lent>

PARISH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 25 TO MARCH 2

Sunday, February 25

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
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
1:30 – 4:30 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room
2:00 pm	Confirmation Class – Zoom
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Taizé Vespers – New Brick, upper level

Monday, February 26

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

Tuesday, February 27

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, February 28

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Bible Study – Parish Hall, conference room
6:30 pm	Lenten Supper Series – New Brick, lower level
6:30 pm	Youth Lenten Group – Old Brick
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, February 29

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
6:00 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – Field & New Brick, lower level

Friday, March 1

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, March 2

1:00 – 3:00 pm	Lumen Christi Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
2:00 pm	AA Meeting, Parish Hall, lower level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication,
email to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening

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

Lent II - Sunday Morning

This Second Sunday in Lent at 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 has a special guest presenter - Frank Brightwell from Somos Amigos Medical Missions - in Old Brick, and Sunday School, Youth Formation, and all other Sunday gatherings also take place. See you at church!

Lenten Taizé Vespers - Sunday Evening

If you missed it last week, you missed something quite special, so be sure to gather with us this Sunday at 6 p.m. as Christ Church offers a 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 mirrors Taizé-style attention to silence, holy words, prayer, and singing, and offers a chance 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 on the way. Gather with us in the New Brick Sanctuary for this very special Sunday service.

The 2024 Lenten Meditation Booklet

Our 2024 Lenten Meditation Booklet is still available for you to take your copy home, or give one to someone you feel might truly enjoy it. The LMB also has the Lenten Daily Office readings for each day during the season, as well as an outline of our services. You can find copies in both the New Brick Narthex and in Old Brick.

LENT at Christ Church

Our website's [Lent at Christ Church](#) page contains details for our worship, formation, and fellowship gatherings throughout the season. This is also where you can read our [Daily Lenten Meditations](#), which will be published every weekday morning, both there and on our Instagram and Facebook pages. In addition to those, we'll have an inspirational Saturday Song posted every weekend, as well - something to enjoy, to lift your spirits, and to comfort your heart. This year, our website also has a [Daily Office page](#) that provides links to readings for each day of the season. We hope that you'll find it to be a useful part of your Lenten journey. Be sure to bookmark all of these, or find them all on our main page's menu bar.

Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that helps us be present and open to God. The daily practice of this prayer could 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. Join us in Old Brick at 7:00 p.m. this Monday. The Zoom link can be gotten by emailing info@christchurchcolumbia.org

Bible Study and Lunch - Wednesday Mornings

Christ Church's Bible Study meets each Wednesday morning in the Conference Room of the Parish House, explore the Lectionary readings for that Sunday, and then have lunch together at a local restaurant. Wednesday Bible Study begins at 10:00 a.m. and will be led by the Christ Church clergy and/or postulants.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series

Christ Church's Wednesday Evening Lenten Series, one of the most cherished gathering traditions of the Lenten season, continues next Wednesday evening at 6:30 with our presenter of the week, the Reverend Earl Mullins. This series offers five weeks of insightful seminars on our theme for this year, *Be a Joyful Gift to Others*. A list of this year's presenters and other details can be found on our website's *Lent at Christ Church* page.

Lenten Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

Thursday mornings, join us for midday Healing Eucharist in Old Brick. This service includes readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. Parishioners and non-parishioners are all welcome to join in a prayerful time in the presence of God and to share in the wonderful mystery of God's love whilst we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in to reflect, pray, and participate in a service in our beautiful, historic chapel - the oldest building of worship still in regular use in Howard County.

Christ Church Choir - Thursday Evenings

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 or not you are ready to commit, there's a place for you in our Vocal or Handbell Choirs! If you're interested, please email Larissa at music@christchurchcolumbia.org

CEC Book Club - Fridays

It's never the wrong time to join Christ Church's Book Club, especially since we have just begun a book on an element of Maryland history - Madness: Race and Insanity in a Jim Crow Asylum by Antonia Hylton. It's about Crownsville State Hospital, a psychiatric hospital in southern Maryland (presently out of commission). We are always welcoming new people into our group, so if reading and exchanging shared experiences sounds fun to you, log in and join us! The Zoom link can be gotten by emailing info@christchurchcolumbia.org. Email Ellen Hoke at bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

Health Ministry Request

The Christ Church Health Ministry would appreciate it if you'd fill out a short questionnaire we've made, one that will help teach us what to focus on. [You can find the form here](#), and it only takes a minute to complete. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Diane Phillips LaGuerre or Bunmi Daramaja, or email health@christchurchcolumbia.org.

WOCC News

The WOCC is continuing with our collection of scarves, hats, and gloves for the Seafarers, and will be accepting donations until March 15th. The collection bin labeled "Seafarers" is located on the table in the Tower Room by the Narthex. If you are interested in knitting or crocheting items, patterns can be found at the following link: <https://seamenschurch.org/programs-services/christmas-at-sea/patterns-publications>. And remember, our next meeting is on Monday, March 4th at 1:30 p.m. in New Brick and on Zoom.

MOCC News

On Friday, March 1st, the MOCC will have a Bowling Night Out at Bowlero, 7100 Carved Stone in Columbia. We'll gather at 6:30 p.m. for this event. We also have our current Random Act of Kindness activity - creating gift bags for new fathers at Howard County General Hospital. You can find the list of items still needed on our website's blog post - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/post/mocc-february-news. If you would like to help or have any questions, please email MOCC@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

The RDF typically helps fulfill the needs of those in our community. There are real people with real needs that we help support, so we appeal to you to consider supporting the RDF 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.

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.

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.

Learn What's New at Somos Amigos: Founder & CEO Frank Brightwell Will Deliver the Sermon and Lead Sunday Circle at Christ Church Today

After Christ Church parishioners generously helped a hearing-impaired patient of [Somos Amigos Medical Missions](#) last fall, its founder made an observation in his thank-you note:

“We have always faced one significant challenge: how do we persuade people that they should be concerned about the healthcare of an isolated population on the side of a mountain in the Dominican Republic? But you do, all of you at Christ Church, and your support propels us to continue to strive for more. We are grateful for the trust you have placed in us.”

If you're curious about our connection to a clinic that operates four times a year in the small village of Naranjito, please plan to learn more about Somos Amigos on Sunday, Feb. 25. Founder and Executive Director Frank Brightwell will deliver the sermon at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services and take part in a Q&A during Sunday Circle at 9:30 a.m. in Old Brick and on Zoom.

Get ready with some questions, such as: What became of Franci, who is now a teenager, after we helped fund surgery to fix a heart defect diagnosed by clinic doctors in boyhood? Who has been spared dire consequences from diabetes as a result of an innovative insulin program that we also support? And finally, how is 23-year-old Emilio progressing in a long journey toward hearing, now that audiologists are involved in his somewhat complex case to restore congenital hearing loss?

Volunteers are one secret to the ties between Christ Church and Somos Amigos. Repeat travelers include Dione and Jim Mahoney, Shahra Toth and former parishioners Mary and Ed Keath. In the past, physicians Preethi Jackson and Ellen Boudreau Hoke also have volunteered.

The Mahoneys most recently served last October and Dione's brother-in-law, Jorge, volunteered in January as a Spanish translator for dental patients and providers. The January clinic was “a great success,” says Brightwell, pointing out that Somos Amigos continues to incorporate local healthcare providers into its teams ([see more photos in this week's Outreach blog](#)).

“Our physicians saw 377 patients, and our dentists 245. Most importantly, we were able to accommodate everyone who wanted an appointment. We introduced several new (first-time) dental patients this trip, and in April we will welcome new medical patients again,” he says. For diabetes screening, the clinic now employs a laboratory device intended for clinical settings. This analyzer checks blood for A1c levels and flags urine samples that contain diabetic indicators.

You'll get a chance to find out more on Sunday. Or, if you can't make it virtually or in person, you'll find descriptions of clinic accomplishments, accompanied by photos, in the [Christ Church Outreach Blog of Feb. 2, 2023](#) and the [Outreach Blog of May 18, 2023](#). Or go to the organization's website, where you'll learn that nearly half of rural Dominicans live in poverty with little or no access to health care. You can [see how to volunteer](#) for Somos Amigos and [read about its impact](#). Or, simply email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org to request information.

“More Than Hope” Event: a Celebration of Local Immigrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Join us in celebrating the rich cultural diversity in Howard County brought to us by immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers during a festive evening of dance, music, food, and brief talks on Sunday, February 25th beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Owen Brown Interfaith Center. Naimatullah Ahmadzai, an Afghan refugee and the father of one of the families helped by our Interfaith Refugee Ministry, is a featured speaker. All event proceeds benefit Luminus, the local non-profit group (formerly called FIRN)

that helps immigrants and refugees here in Howard County. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. For more information, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/CEC-MoreThanHope>.

Help an Eagle Scout!

Jonah Aribiah, Christ Church parishioner, Youth Liason to the Vestry, and Eagle Scout with Troop 617, is looking for assistance to help complete his Eagle Scout Project. It involves the construction and installation of five raised garden beds that will benefit Homewood Center school, a Title 1 Howard County Public School, located in Columbia Maryland. Schools are designated as Title 1 schools if they have a large percentage of students from low income families and receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch meals. Being a Title 1 school, many of the students are from low-income families, and given the current high food prices, my project will be beneficial to the Homewood Center by providing the students a space where they can learn how to grow their own food and vegetables and transfer this knowledge to their home communities. This will go a long way in helping alleviate the food insecurity in the County. Growing ecology-friendly in-season food and providing a natural habitat for pollinators is also beneficial to the environment. If you are interested, please speak with Jonah on Sundays or email him at jaribiah@gmail.com

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.



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 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



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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*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

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