



Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, October 29, 2023 | 8:00 am & 10:30 am

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 | Autumn Leaves

Opening Hymn | Nothing Greater

Monte Leister

Jesus is our Savior, There is nothing greater
Jesus is our Savior, There is nothing greater
Father, Spirit, Son, God the Three in One

God is our Creator, There is nothing greater
God is our Creator, There is nothing greater
Father, Spirit, Son, God the Three in One

If we be still and listen, We can hear the Spirit whisper
If we be still and listen, We can hear the Spirit whisper
Father, Spirit, Son, God the Three in One

Jesus is our Savior, There is nothing greater
Jesus is our Savior, There is nothing greater
Father, Spirit, Son, God the Three in One

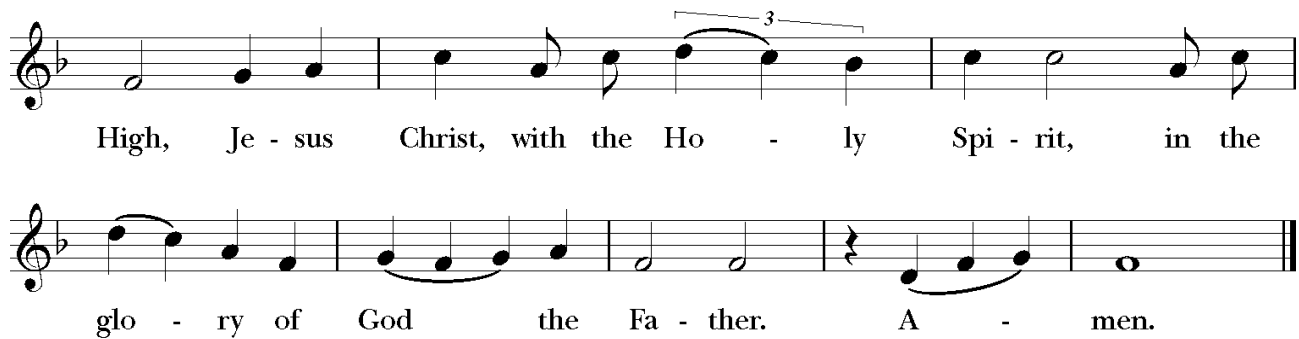
Opening Acclamation |

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

The Collect for Purity |

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

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



The Collect of the Day |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading from Deuteronomy 34:1-12 |

Reader: A Reading from Deuteronomy.

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The following Psalm will be read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 | *Domine, refugium*

Lord, you have been our refuge *

from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *

from age to age you are God.

You turn us back to the dust and say, *

"Go back, O child of earth."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *

and like a watch in the night.

You sweep us away like a dream; *

we fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green and flourishes; *

in the evening it is dried up and withered.

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.

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.

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 |

Reader: A Reading from The First Epistle to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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.

Gospel Hymn | Go Tell it on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a Holy Light.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born
And brought us God's salvation that blessed Christmas morn!
Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;

The Gospel | Matthew 22:34-46

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

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

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

"The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet"?"

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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.

All loving God, we pray to you today for all those in our world who are suffering, whose lives are impacted by violence, poverty, hunger, sickness, and loneliness. We pray for the people of the Holy Land, that the peace of God prevails and the violence there and around the world will end. We ask that you help us to live a life of love, praying, **Lord, help us to love You and our neighbors.**

May all people of faith have the same courage as St. Paul to declare the Gospel. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Melanesia. In our Diocese, we pray for St. John's Ellicott City, St. Mark's Highland, and St. Mary's Woodlawn. We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael, especially for his continued healing; for our Bishops Eugene and Carrie; for our Rector Manny, our Deacon Denise, our Rector Emeritus Richard, our staff, our postulants: Kiona, Mike, and Rebecca, and our newly commissioned Vestry. We pray: **Lord, give us courage to declare the Gospel.**

Lord, help all leaders to make decisions guided by Jesus' call to love our neighbors. We pray for our President, all members of Congress, the justices of the Supreme Court, our Governor, and our local leaders, saying **Lord, help all whom you call to be leaders in the world to lead with love.**

Almighty God, we lift up to you all those who are sick, suffering, grieving, or in any pain, especially those on our parish prayer list, Jon, Sunny, Georgia, Dennis, Altra, Barbara, Sherry, Tim, Fr. Richard, Christine, Carol, Jan, Patricia, Cindy, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, Nell, and those we now name. Surround them with your comfort and peace. We pray that you'll keep those in the military safe, especially Conner Warlow. We pray for all who have died, especially Olayemi Osunniyi, Cesar Palatino, and those we now name. As the Psalmist said, **May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us.**

We praise you and thank you, Lord, for all the blessings in our lives and, this week for the birth, baptismal, and wedding anniversaries birthdays of Duane, Elizabeth, & Alta, wedding anniversary of Margaret & Charles Thompson, and baptismal anniversaries of Ben, Elizabeth, Ainsley, Alexia, Victoria, Amanda, David, Michael, Noah, Kyle, Laura, Rebecca, Esther, Emmanuel, Maria, Nicole, Duane & Alexandra. With love, we give thanks to you for all who are visiting with us today and pray their spirits are enriched as they enrich our spirits. **Lord, thank you for showing us how to love our neighbors.**

Good and gracious God, you call us to be disciples carrying out your mission. Transform us through the power of Your Spirit. Open our hearts to acknowledge Your many blessings, to use Your gifts wisely, to share generously, to serve joyfully, to live responsibly, to be a gift to others. Help us nurture a stewardship way of life, which connects, serves, and impacts our communities. Guide us as we prayerfully discern how to give of our time, talents, and treasures, to further your kingdom on earth. **Lord, thank you for showing us how to love our neighbors.**

God, we praise you and offer our thanks for sending your son, our savior Jesus Christ, to show us the Way of Love. We pray, **Lord may we continue to be instruments of your love in the world. 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.

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 | In a Mellow Tone

Please scan to give.



The people stand as able.

Presentation Hymn 380 (v. 3) |

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.

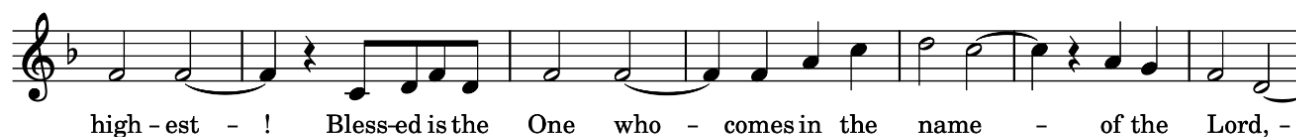
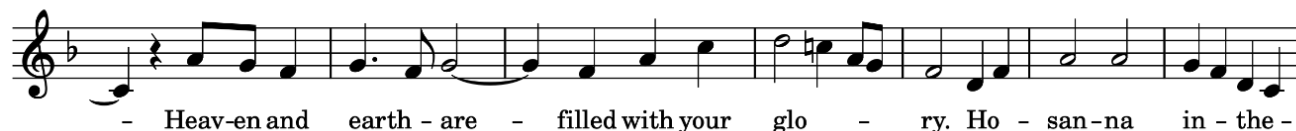
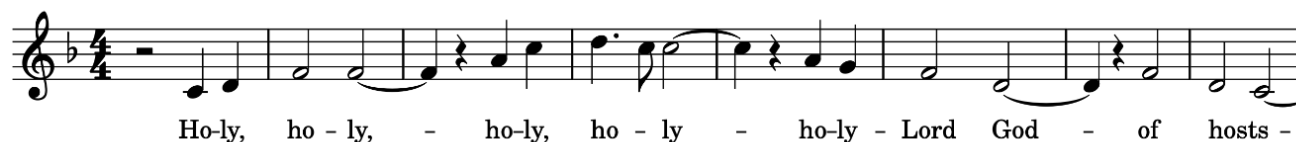
***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **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.**

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 | Song for my Father

The people stand as able.

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.

The Blessing |

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

Closing Hymn | I've Got Peace Like a River

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got
2. love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, I've got
3. joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got

peace love joy like like like a an a riv - er in my soul; I've got
like like like an o - cean in my soul; I've got
joy like a foun - tain in my soul; I've got

peace love joy like like like a an a riv - er, I've got peace love like a riv - er, I've got
love like like an o - cean, I've got love like like an o - cean, I've got
joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got

peace love joy like like like a an a riv - er in my soul. (2.) I've got
love like like an o - cean in my soul. (3.) I've got
joy like a foun - tain in my soul.

The Dismissal |

The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude | There is No Greater Love

*Today's altar flowers were donated by Monica & Frantz Sanyer
in celebration of Ian Sanyer's 18th birthday.*

PERMISSIONS | *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. | Book of Common Prayer, 1928 and 1979, Church Publishing, Public Domain | Music and texts under copyright are reprinted and broadcast by permission under OneLicense.net #A-701378 | “Holy, Holy, Holy” Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948), *A Mass for a Soulful People*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Kayode Fatodu

Ushers: Yetti Lipede

Chaliciist:

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Donna Campagna

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

Acolytes & Crucifer: Ainsley Couch

Chalicerist: Donna Campagna

Altar Guild: Jan DeBoissiere, Virginia Jarrett

PARISH CALENDAR

OCTOBER 29 – NOVEMBER 4

Sunday, October 29

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast – New Brick, lower level
8:45 – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 – 9:30 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
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, October 30

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom

Tuesday, October 31

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 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

Wednesday, November 1

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:00 pm	First Wednesday Fellowship – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, November 2

8:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Homeschool – New Brick, lower level
12:00 pm	Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
5:00 – 7:30 pm	Youth Group – Old Brick
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
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, November 3

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

Saturday, November 4

2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
7:00 pm	Auction – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Old Brick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements, 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, or visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/worship-archive

Jazz Eucharist : This Sunday at Christ Church

Christ Church has three services this Sunday. We begin in Old Brick at 8 a.m. and follow that with our Children & Family Worship at 9:00 in New Brick. Then at 10:30, we have Jazz Eucharist - a unique worship with musical accompaniment by The Leister Quartet. Sunday School, Sunday Circle, and all of Christ Church's Sunday formation and fellowship gatherings also gather. Visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/sundays for the details.

Healing Stations

Christ Church used to offer healing stations during the Eucharist at the back of the sanctuary, and we have now resumed this important experience during the 10:30 service. If you need prayer, we invite you to visit the healing station after receiving Communion. And if you are interested in joining a group of parishioners who offer healing prayer, speak with or email Rebecca Warlow at rwarlow131@gmail.com

Pledge for 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

Christ Church's Online Auction is NOW!

Sharpen your bidding skills, because it's that time! The online portion of the week-long Christ Church Auction began last night at 7 p.m., so be sure to register and then bid, bid, BID! The catalog can be viewed at tinyurl.com/CEC-AuctionCatalog so you can start planning how you're going to win those items you find special. More details are found later in this service leaflet.

Centering Prayer - October 30

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 859 2522 4340, and the Passcode is **Centering!**



First Wednesday Fellowship - November 1

This month's FWF will be a costume party that celebrates Halloween/All Saints' Day, so come decked out in your Halloween best! There will, of course, be a prize for the best costume, and the catering that night will be from Olive Garden. We ask that you bring their leftover Halloween candy to share with others. There are sign-up sheets in New Brick and Old Brick.

Thursday Healing Eucharist - November 2

Each Thursday at 12 noon, Christ Church offers midday worship in historic Old Brick. This service includes readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. Everyone is welcome to join in a prayerful time as we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in to reflect, pray, and participate in a service in our beautiful chapel, the oldest building of worship still in regular use in Howard County.

Christ Church Choirs - November 2

Thursday's a busy night of music! Handbell Choir gathers from 7-7:30, and Adult Choir rehearses from 7:30-9 p.m. **You can find links to the registration forms on our website's Music Ministry page.** 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, or if you have any questions, please speak with Larissa or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

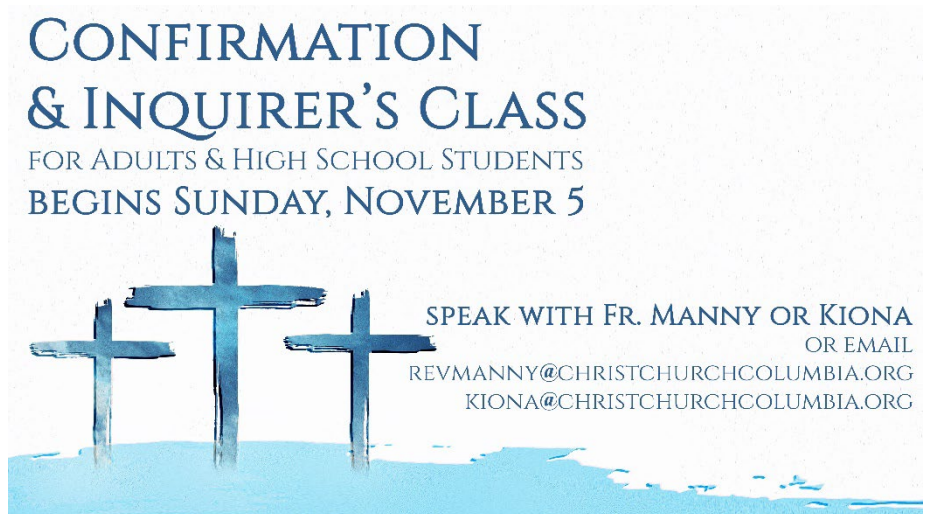
CEC Book Club – November 3

Join us on Zoom for the Christ Church Book Club this Friday at 7:30 p.m. We always welcome new readers to join us, so how about you? We're about to begin our next book, so be sure to join us. **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **817 9855 4366**, and the Passcode is **CECbooks**.

Confirmation & Inquirer's Class - Begins November 5

Christ Church begins a new Confirmation and Adult Inquirer's Class for high school students who are considering confirming the promises their parents and godparents made on their behalf at Baptism and for adults who are interested in learning more about faith or want to be received into the Episcopal Church. Confirmation and Inquirer's Class will be a hybrid class and will begin on Sunday, November 5. Our first meeting, however, will be an in-

person meeting at 12:00 noon. The book that will guide our conversations is *Walk In Love - Episcopal Beliefs & Practices*, and we will communicate the specific date for Confirmation in due course. For more information, speak with or email **Fr. Manny** or **Kiona**.



Larissa and Friends Recital - November 11

We are thrilled to present the first recital by our own Larissa Sanders, accompanied by some talented guest musicians. She will play organ and piano, featuring works by JS Bach, Leon Boellman, Amanda Maier, and Mel Bonis. Everyone is welcome to come to the New Brick Sanctuary on Saturday, November 11th at 4:00 p.m. for an afternoon sure to please everyone. A reception will follow. No tickets are needed - simply stop by and join us!

MOCC Breakfast - November 18

Our next monthly MOCC Breakfast is Saturday, November 18th at 9:30 a.m. Join us at Bob Evans Columbia, 8325 Benson Drive. Interested to learn more about the MOCC? Please contact Duane Smith at cduanesmith@verizon.net

Advent Newsletter - November 18

In preparation for the Advent season, we will publish a newsletter of all upcoming Christ Church events and services taking place through the rest of this year. If your group or ministry has something to share - or if you recently had an event and want to share a few words or pictures - please email your articles to Chris by Saturday, November 18th - communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Theology on Tap - November 21

ToT is a get-together where you can chat about interesting religious articles of the day, grab a beverage, and enjoy informal, structure-free conversation with other parishioners. Join us at 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21st, at **Frisco and the Reckless Shepherd** at 8895 McGaw Road in Columbia. Questions? Speak with Mike Looney or email seminarian@christchurchcolumbia.org

WOCC News

Come walk through the colorful autumn leaves in the beautiful setting of the Robinson Nature Center this Saturday, October 28th, beginning at 12 noon. The trails are short and friendly, with lots of signs and small creeks. Bring your lunch and we'll enjoy some conversation before setting out.

Then come and join us for our November WOCC meeting, which takes place in New Brick and on Zoom at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 6th. The Zoom details will be published next week. Lots of other events coming up, too! The WOCC calendar is posted in the Narthex in New Brick **and on our website** and contains all the fun events planned. Speak to any WOCC member or email WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org if you need more info.

Lastly, be sure to read our Seafarers announcement further down in this email, as it's time for our collection of items in preparation for the holiday season.

Meals Ministry

The Stewardship season 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 there's always someone who can provide a home-cooked meal to those who might need one. If you would like to help, or if you know someone in need, please speak with Deacon Denise or email her at deacondenise@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 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.

Help Us Plan Christ Church's 300th Birthday

We are gathering and planning for Christ Church's 300th year - such an important milestone for our church - and we want participation and ideas from as many of us as possible. There are a variety of committees that you can serve on and so we would like to encourage everyone to consider being a part of this historic occasion. If you have ideas, are interested in assisting, or need more information, please speak with Robin Bradley or email 300@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Communion to You

In an effort 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.

Altar Flowers and Gifts

If you would like to present altar flowers and gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one, you can find the details and sign-up sheet at <https://tinyurl.com/CECaltarflowers>. You can also sign up and reserve a slot by using our [Realm Online Giving Form](#); just choose "Altar Flowers and Gifts" from the *FUND* drop-down menu, and place the dedication name(s) and service date in the *MEMO* line. [Email the Church Office](#) with any questions.

Our Support of Claggett Camps Brightened Summer 2023 for Disabled Adults and for Youth Whose Families Grapple with Opioid Misuse

The Outreach Commission for several years has supported summer camps at the [Claggett Center](#) in Adamstown, Md., the retreat, camp, and conference center of the [Episcopal Diocese of Maryland](#). To parishioners, please accept heartfelt thanks for our ability to support two campers, drawing from vestry-approved budget funds.

Back in May, Christ Church donated \$1,700 to Claggett by designating funds for one person to attend [Camp Spirit Song](#), held for children affected by a loved one's opioid substance use disorder, and one person to attend [Special Challenge Camp](#). That experience for adults with developmental disabilities is so much in demand that registration for 2024 begins Dec. 1.

Late fall is also a good time to start thinking ahead about the possibility of volunteering next summer. To read about Special Challenge Camp and what it's like to volunteer at the 5-day, 4-night session, go to the [June 15, 2023 Outreach Blog](#). You can read about Camp Spirit Song in the [July 28, 2022 Outreach Blog](#).

Claggett also beckons youth in general, offering [week-long sessions](#) for those who have completed second grade up to recent high school grads. Many campers across all Claggett sessions are only able to attend on scholarship, so your contributions directly impact campers' experiences all summer long. To glimpse Adventure Camp and other Claggett programs, go on Facebook [Camps at Claggett](#).



As described in **the Bishop's Appeal**, Claggett's 266-acre property overlooks Sugarloaf Mountain and the Monocacy River Valley, a perfect setting for learning, growth, and spirit-filled renewal. To personally support the camps, you can do so through the appeal, on Claggett's **website**, or by directing a Christ Church contribution to "Outreach/Claggett" in the memo line of a check or **on Realm**.

The hope is to make a difference at a pivotal moment in someone's life. The Right Rev. Robert W. Ihloff, assisting bishop in the diocese, told of his pivotal moment at age 14 during remarks at a Christ Church Lenten supper in March and in a **sermon on Dec. 4**.

"I arrived at the camp as an angry teenager, determined to be as nasty as I possibly could because I didn't want to go to camp," he said. "I was simply shunted off there because my mother wanted to get rid of me over the summer when my father was recuperating from a heart attack that I felt guilty about maybe causing him. And so I arrived at camp with a chip on my shoulder. And everything I did was designed to be as obnoxious as I could because my aim was to be sent home from camp. And no matter what I did, these people loved me."

The staff was forgiving despite his efforts to misbehave. "And before I left that camp, I realized the God with whom I'd grown up, a God of judgment who was constantly looking over my shoulder and judging me to be falling short of the mark, was not the real God. The real God was of these folks who had this wonderful sense of love, and their love and compassion for me changed my heart," he said. '

"I wouldn't be standing here if it were not for that group of campers and that group of counselors at that wonderful camp. And it's one of the reasons why, as a bishop in your diocese...I've been so active and avid about the Claggett Center because I really believe that church camps change lives, and I know they changed my life."

Thank You from DreamBuilders

Many thanks to all who supported the DreamBuilders Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction on October 14th. Whether you donated items for auction, worked during the dinner, bought a raffle ticket or bid on items, you were a big help. With your support, we were able to raise \$20,945 to help fund our upcoming mission trips to Puerto Rico and Kentucky!

Registration Closing November 1st for DreamBuilders Puerto Rico Mission Trip

Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico in September of 2017. Now, six years later, hundreds of Puerto Ricans are still living in damaged homes, or crowded in with family members waiting for the day when their homes can be made livable again. DreamBuilders will be making its fourth trip to the island this January 14-20, 2024 to work with SBP-Puerto Rico to repair damaged homes.

Registration will be open until November 1st. The cost of the trip is \$1000 per missionary, which covers the flights, housing, food, and rental vehicles. Daily temperatures in San Juan for January average between 80-83 degrees.

You can register as a volunteer on our website: **DreamBuildersMd.org** You will pay half the fee upon registration (\$500) so DreamBuilders can reserve the flights, housing, and rental vehicles. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Gold at **heycathy@verizon.net**.

Columbia Community Care Seeks Baby Care Items, More Volunteers

Please support **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) by donating items or volunteering. Choose tasks such as translating to enable home deliveries or sorting at the pantry. Check the **CCC Facebook Group** or go to the **"I Can Help" portion of its website**.

In a plea posted last week for volunteers, CCC pantry manager April Lee wrote: "I know it's a really hectic time of year just before the crush of the holidays, but if you can spare a few hours to help us get food to our hungry families that would be wonderful. I often remind our volunteers that what they do when helping us get groceries to our food-insecure neighbors is literally an answer to someone's prayers. Never underestimate the impact you can make in others' lives. We appreciate all of you so, so much! Thank you!!"

Continue 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 office is open or on Sundays. The Christ Church point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bins and delivers the contents.

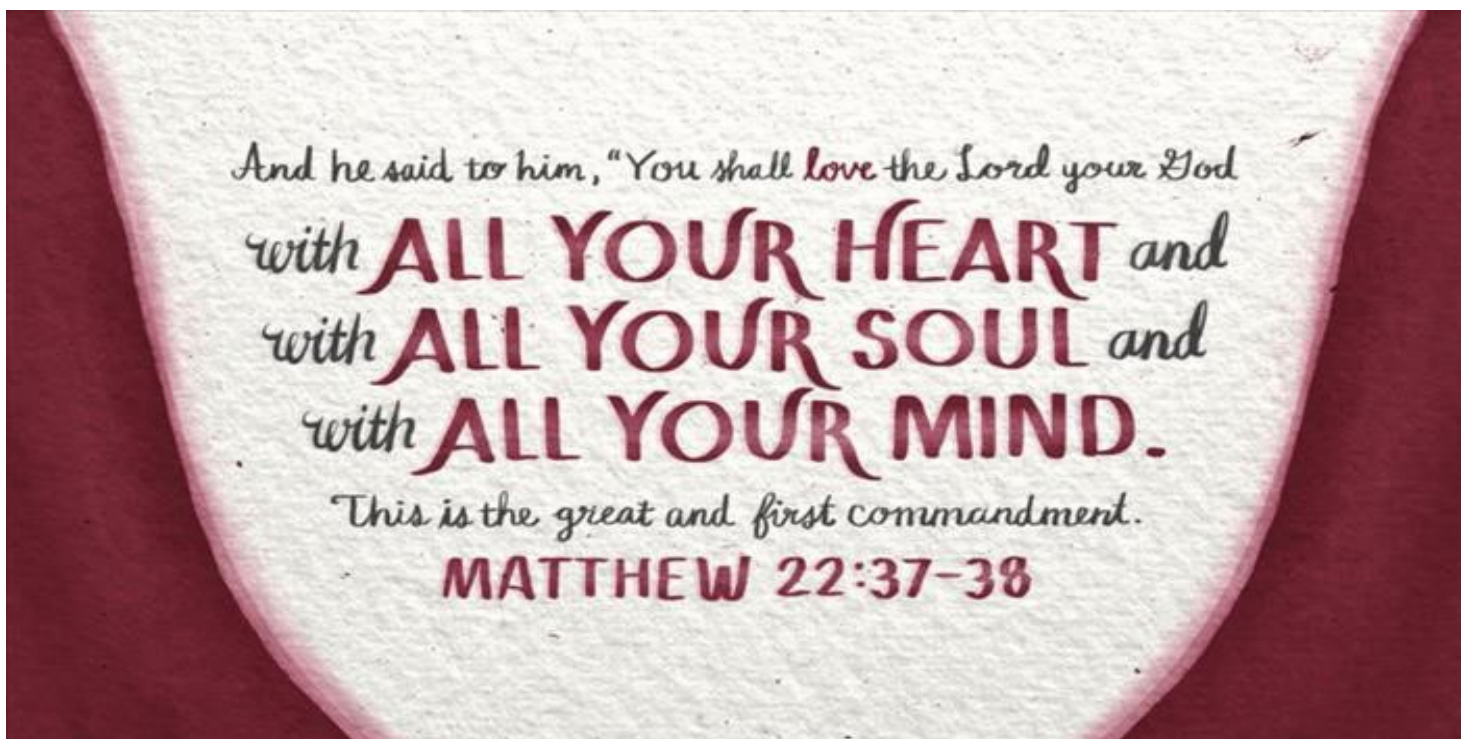
Donate Snacks, Crackers, and Cookies to FISH in Bin on our Breezeway

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

Seafarers Center

WOCC representatives will deliver donations to the International Seafarers Center in Baltimore in mid-November. The Seafarers Center helps seamen and women whose ships come into the Baltimore Harbor. The Center appreciates receiving any of the following items for the Seafarers: calendars for 2024; warm hats, gloves, and scarves; stationery; magazines (e.g., current affairs and sports magazines, National Geographic, Smithsonian, etc.). Donations should be placed in the designated bin in the Tower Room by November 13th. This will be our last trip to the Center before Christmas. Let's try to brighten the holidays for those who are so far from home. If you have any questions, please speak with Carolann Sawyer or Cindy Read.

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.



It's time for the 34th Annual Christ Church



The Online Auction has Begun! Live Auction is next Saturday

THE fundraising event that promises to be fun and enjoyable for all began last night! Bidding on the online auction items opened at 7 p.m. and you can register to view all of the wonderful items at tinyurl.com/CEC-AuctionCatalog. In there, you'll find everything you need or want for gifts, for celebrating... and even for a little self-indulgence. Gift ideas, home and professional services, works of art, incredible culinary experiences - so many great items await! All proceeds go towards Christ Church activities, ministries, and programs, so the more you bid, the more we are able to do as a parish family. **We all win!**

Then, reserve this coming Saturday evening for the main event - an exciting gala complete with silent and live auctions and our 50/50 raffle drawing on Saturday, November 4th. Everyone is invited to join us - doors open at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall of New Brick for this one-of-a-kind event you surely don't want to miss!

There will be refreshments of all sorts, and although we have some volunteers we can use a few more to provide beverages and other items. Visit our sign-up sheet at tinyurl.com/CEC-auction-refresh and see how you can help. Thanks!

If you have any questions, please email us at auction@christchurchcolumbia.org



Great Blessings Create Great Obligations

A few days ago, I picked up an old journal from Virginia Theological Seminary. And as I leafed through the pages, I came by an article with the caption *Great Blessings Create Great Obligations*. But as I read the article, I pondered over and over again about the caption. I have been blessed, and you have also been blessed. Each of us, in fact, has been greatly blessed. And whichever way we perceive those blessings in our lives, they nonetheless create obligations for us.

I had an uncle who was a Civil Engineer, and he owned his own firm. He was a man of significant means. Many of you have heard me preach about him before, but this story about him is very different from what I have previously shared about him. Being a man of significant means, and surrounded by family and relatives, meant that the demand for financial support was undoubtedly high. He supported a lot of people - a good number of which was his family. He believed he owed a deep sense of obligation to all those whom he supported, but he had one principle that he never violated. The principle was this: he never gave out any loans to family, or friends, or anyone, for that matter. Whenever anyone - family or not - asked for a loan, he would respond with words similar to this:

"I have the money that you need but I cannot give you that money as a loan because if you do not pay it back at the exact date that you promised, that might create an uncomfortable problem for all of us and in fact put some strain on our good relationship. But because I want to always maintain the good relationship that I have with you, I can give you a part of what you need as a gift."

Even though people knew that he didn't give out loans, every now and then people would reach out to him for one. And whenever they did, he would simply remind them of his principle.

He understood, quite clearly, that it is not always possible for people to be as gracious in the repayment of a loan and that, in itself, always risked the possibility of fraying an otherwise good relationship. His main goal was the preservation of his relationship with family and friends. And he believed that nothing - especially money - should be the cause of a breakdown in relationships.

In my relationship with him, and throughout the time that I got to know him, the part of him that always struck me was his sense of obligation. It was one which was grounded in the many ways he believed he had been blessed with life. Yes, he had a tough life growing up; he lost his father (my grandfather) when he was barely six years old. But he recognized that in spite of the challenges that he had to overcome, life had been good to him, and for that reason,

he felt obligated to be as good as life had been to him. He understood what it meant for blessings to create obligations.

His deep sense of obligation, which he jealously protected and carried with him, reminds me of Jesus' words in the gospel of Luke, when he says "...*From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.*" He believed he had been given much, he believed he had been entrusted with much more than he ever thought possible, and so he joyfully embraced the demand that came with what had been given or been entrusted to his care.

What great obligations have your great blessings created for you? We cannot quantify our blessings, but we can count them. Listen to what the songwriter Johnson Oatman wrote many years ago in his poem *Count Your Blessings*. This is what we wrote:

**Count your blessings name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God has done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.**

It is only when we count our blessings and actually name them that we come to see what God has done in our lives. We have so much to be grateful for! "Yes," you may ask, "I don't feel any blessings in my life right now, so how do I see what God has done?" As I said before, the fact that we are having challenges, the fact that our lives are somewhat chaotic, and the fact that we are dealing with unsettled issues in our lives doesn't take away the fact that we have been blessed.

As imperfect and often challenging as our lives may be, we have been blessed beyond measure - my beloved, it is still a blessing to have life. The daily blessings we experience in our lives do demand that we open up to the great obligations that come with these blessings.

One of the great obligations that we can create with our great blessings is our support for Christ Church. You bless Christ Church with many blessings, giving us the opportunity to deepen and expand our obligations to each other and to countless people in our communities and beyond.

As we bring our active Stewardship Campaign to a close, it is with a deep sense of humility that I thank each of you for the continual trust in your beloved Christ Church and the ministries that abound in this place. And so, this Stewardship season, I bid you to prayerfully consider pledging towards our common life. Remember, we are able to create great obligations with all of our blessings, and it is so gratifying and fulfilling to engage in this mission of transforming lives.

I am grateful to God for each of you and for the ministry we all share together. I have no doubt in my mind that we have been greatly blessed, and the joy of all these blessings is the opportunity it creates for us to bring meaning to each life and to each faith story.

Our faith story is one where God demands higher from us. And when we give our highest to God, it isn't only as a sense of obligation, but as an act of honor grounded and anchored in gratitude to God. In reality, it is this same gratitude that creates our sense of obligation.

May each heart be filled with a joyful thanksgiving to God for God's blessings on us and all those we love.

Manny+

STEWARDSHIP

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE



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.

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**

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

**To pledge to Christ Church for 2024,
please visit
www.christchurchcolumbia.org/2024-pledge**





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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*

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