

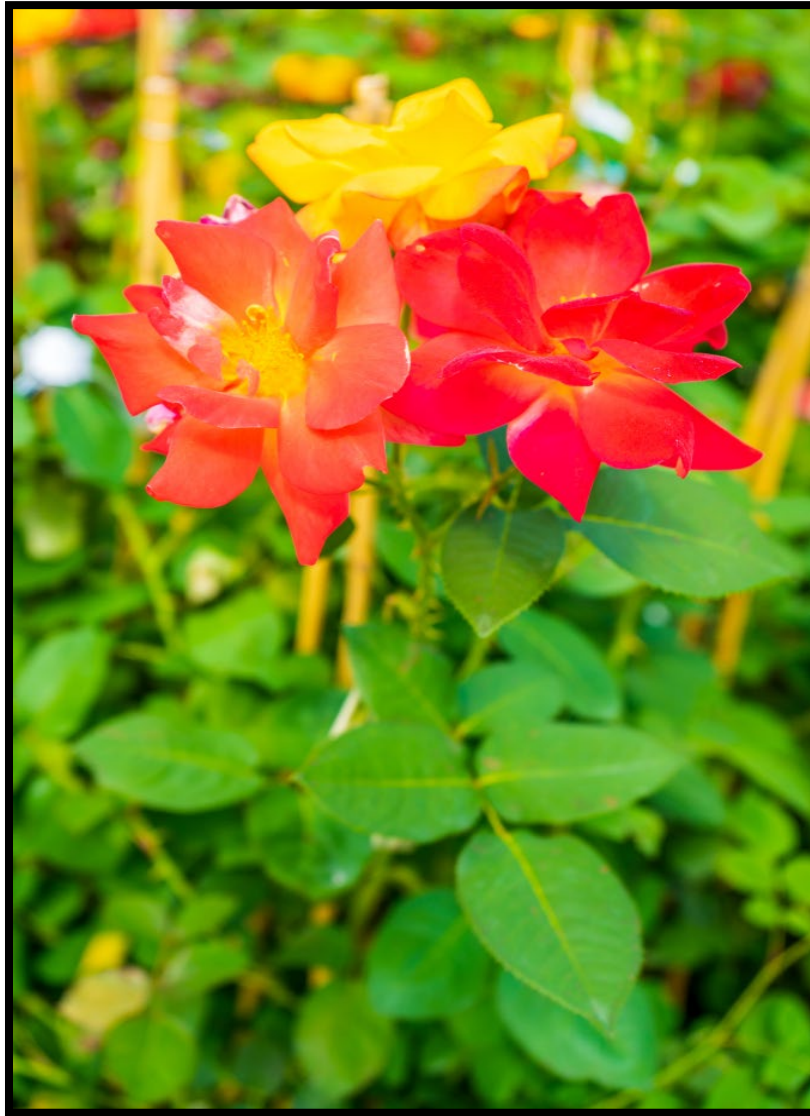
Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, August 13, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. and 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 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Opening Acclamation |

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

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

The Collect for Purity |

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

Glory to God | S280 Canticle 20 | *Gloria in excelsis*

setting: Robert Powell

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

The Collect of the Day |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading from Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 |

Reader: A Reading from Genesis.

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, 'Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.' But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, 'Let us not take his life.' Reuben said to them, 'Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him' —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to their father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 105, 1-6, 16-22, 45b | *Confitemini Domino*

Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth.
O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
Then he called for a famine in the land *
and destroyed the supply of bread.
He sent a man before them, *
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
They bruised his feet in fetters; *
his neck they put in an iron collar.
Until his prediction came to pass, *
the word of the LORD tested him.
The king sent and released him; *
the ruler of the peoples set him free.
He set him as a master over his household, *
as a ruler over all his possessions.
To instruct his princes according to his will *
and to teach his elders wisdom.
Hallelujah!

A Reading from Romans 10:5-15 |

Reader: A Reading from Romans.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). What does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who

believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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 550 | Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult

Restoration

Unison or harmony

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult
 2 as, of old, Saint An - drew heard it
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows,
 5 Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies,

1 of our life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his
 2 by the Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and
 3 of the vain world's gold - en store; from each i - dol
 4 days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in
 5 Sa - vior, make us hear thy call, give our hearts to

1 clear voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me;"
 2 toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
 3 that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 4 cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 5 thine o - be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

The Gospel | Matthew 14:22-33

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When the evening came,

he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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 Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The people stand as able.

The Nicene Creed |

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

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

The Prayers of the People |

May we have faith in our hearts, seeking and searching for the Lord and for His strength, telling of Christ's marvelous deeds, speaking words of hope and promise, encountering and engaging others, bringing the good news to the world. **Sing praises to the Lord.**

Lord, you have blessed us with faith and new life. May we listen to Your calling and trust its truth. When we are asked to "Come," please free us from fear and doubt to follow with confidence and love. **Rejoice in God's peace.**

Lord, watch over and guide our leaders in government, including the President, Congress, and those in the Court system. Throughout the world, may the Church be an anchor in times of trouble, a force for good, and an agent of transformation in individual lives and in communities. We ask that wisdom and loving care be given to our spiritual leaders: our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishop, Eugene; our Bishop Coadjutor, Carrie; our Rector, Emmanuel; our Christ Church staff, clergy, postulants, and vestry; and our Rector Emeritus, Richard. In the Anglican Communion, we offer prayers for the Iglesia Anglicana de Chile. In our diocese, we ask special blessings on our sister parishes of Immanuel, Glencoe; St. Andrew's, Baltimore; and St. Francis' Parish, Timonium. We also extend an enthusiastic welcome to all visitors and newcomers. Our congregation is blessed by your sharing in our worship today. **Glorify the Lord in His Majesty.**

We pray for those who are ill in body, mind or spirit, especially for Jan, Judy, Pamela, David, Dennis, Patricia, Emily, Shirley, Cindy, Roberta, Francis, Samuel, Catherine, Caroline, Alfred, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, Sherry, Nell & Kathleen, and those we now name. May the healing hand of Christ be ever present in their lives. We also remember those who are alone, homeless, jobless, or hungry, those overcome with economic pressures and family responsibilities, those caught in a cycle of fear and violence, and those entrapped by addiction. We pray for comfort and healing for those who have suffered incalculable loss as a result of the fires in Maui. We pray for those serving in the military, especially Kevin DeBoissiere and Conner Warlow. May their suffering end and may their lives be whole. **Endow us with God's mercy.**

We remember those who have entered God's eternal kingdom, especially Bola Adams, Laurie Benner, Nana Yahan Oppong, and those we now name. We embrace all who grieve and who feel the loss so painfully. May the passing of time with continued love and care smooth the jagged edges of the hole in their hearts and give them peace in their souls. **May we rest on the promise of salvation.**

We give thanks for the marvelous occasions of joy in our parish. Today we celebrate the birthdays of Abigail, Ben, Julian, Zachary, Mary, & Kathy, the wedding anniversaries of James & Marilyn Collins, Lee & Joan Harvey, and Denis & Cindy Read, and the baptismal anniversaries of Dennis & Karikari. Our church is

enriched by each individual's life, their hopes, their dreams, and their dedication to our Lord. **Let us trust in God's love.**

May our feet be beautiful bearing the Good News of God in Christ Jesus. **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 Hymn | Dona Nobis Pacem – Sara Kirkpatrick, soloist

Lynn Lightfoot

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 | BCP 365

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread |

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

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

Fraction Anthem LEVAS 270 | Lamb of God

Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewiss

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.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn LEVAS 154 | Taste and See

James E. Moore, Jr.

Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness

of the Lord. O Taste and see. Taste and

see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord. **Fine**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
3. Wor - ship the Lord all you peo - ple.

The musical score is written in 3/2 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The soprano line contains the lyrics, and the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The score includes a 'Fine' marking and three alternative verses for the final phrase.

1. — His praise — shall al - ways — be on my
 2. — To - geth - er — let us all — praise His
 3. — You'll — want for noth - ing — if you

1. lips; — my soul — shall
 2. name. — I called — the
 3. ask. — Taste — and

1. glo - ry — in the Lord; — for
 2. Lord — and He an - swered me; — from
 3. see — that God is good; — in

1. He — has been — so good to me. —
 2. all — my trou - bles — He set me free. —
 3. Him — we need — put all our trust. —

D.C.

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 490 | I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright - ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa - tience the race, we

star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

The Dismissal |

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

Postlude |

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Ron Baran

Ushers: Jo Emily Knox

Chalicer: Dione Mahoney

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Cheryl Lucente

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

Acolytes & Crucifer: Jasmine Opiri, Alex Opiri

Chalicer: Cheryl Lucente

PARISH CALENDAR

AUGUST 13 – AUGUST 19

Sunday, August 13

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – New Brick, upper level
9:00 am	Cycling for Health and Fellowship
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

Monday, August 14

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:45 pm	Dorsey Center meal drop-off
3:15 pm	Grassroots meal drop-off
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
7:30 pm	Outreach Meeting on Zoom
7:30 pm	Columbia Conjurers

Tuesday, August 15

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom

Wednesday, August 16

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am	LEMS Packing of Supplies – Parish Hall, lower level
6:30 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level
7:00 pm	Theology on Tap – Frisco & the Reckless Shepherd

Thursday, August 17

8:00 – 8:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
6:30 pm	Refugee Ministry meeting – Zoom
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, August 18

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
5:30 pm	WOCC Night Out - Toby's Dinner Theatre
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, August 19

9:30 am	MOCC Breakfast – Bob Evans, Columbia
1:00 pm	Acolyte Training – New Brick Sanctuary
2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication, email 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.

Ministry Leader Submissions - This Sunday

Ministry and Group Leaders, please email Chris at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org and provide him with an updated paragraph or two about your ministry for the 2023 ministry trifolds and main booklet. These will be displayed at the upcoming Parish Festival & Ministry Fair (more info below) and we want every element of Christ Church represented, so don't miss out! If you had a trifold in a previous year and would like a copy, or if you want to create one from scratch, tell Chris and he will point you in the right direction. Remember, this is a great way of inspiring people to join a ministry or group while helping grow Christ Church as a whole. All photos and text descriptions must be received no later than this Sunday, August 13th.

Cycling for Health and Fellowship - Sunday Mornings

How about joining us for some group cycling before or after church on Sundays? Diane Phillips LaGuerre and Kevin Osborn are organizing invigorating cycling trips that depart from CEC and take advantage of bike lanes and trails around Columbia. There are some beautiful lakes and paved trails right outside our backyard and is a great way to see parts of our community from a different perspective. We always go at a pace that suits everyone in our group, with the goal of returning to Christ Church in time for the 10:30 service. These trips occur every week, weather permitting. Please speak with or email Diane or Kevin at cycling@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

Centering Prayer - August 14

Gather with us on Mondays in Old Brick at 7:00 p.m. for Centering Prayer, a unique method of prayer 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 Password is **Centering!** For more info, email Kathy Lyon at rklyon@cablespeed.com.

Youth, Help Us Unite & Serve - August 16

We need many hands to pack school supplies for students in need at Lake Elkhorn Middle School (LEMS), an important part of Christ Church's Outreach Ministry. Kiona is calling all youth to join this effort on Wednesday, August 16th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Snacks and drinks will be provided, so come and help out! You can speak with Kiona on Sunday or email her at kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Acolyte Training - August 19

We are looking to expand our acolyte roster at Christ Church, so if you are interested in becoming an acolyte or are currently one (thank you!), please meet us in the New Brick Sanctuary this Saturday from 1 p.m. You'll learn everything you need to know and be able to brush up on your acolyte skills. Currently, each person is only needed once or twice a month for this very important role in our worship. If you have any questions, please email Yetti at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org or stop by this Saturday afternoon at 1:00.

Sunday School Teacher Training - August 20

The CEC Sunday School is still looking for people to help out with our fall Sunday School curriculum. If interested, join us for a meeting after the 10:30 a.m. service on August 20th. If you would like more info, please speak with Jennifer Atkins, Kiona, or Father Manny at church.

Christ Church's Parish Festival and Ministry Fair - August 27

The Annual Christ Church Parish Festival and Ministry Fair are back this year! There's only one service that day - Sunday, August 27th - so we'll begin with Holy Eucharist in New Brick at 10 a.m., followed by a fantastic festival of

faith, food, fellowship, and FUN! Every Christ Church ministry will have tables set up around the campus with information, and you can speak with their members and learn more about how they contribute to our common life - and how you can, too.

WOCC September Meeting - September 5

Join the WOCC for our first meeting for the second half of 2023 on Tuesday, September 5th at 1:00 p.m. It will be a hybrid event, so you're welcome to gather with us in New Brick or on Zoom. The details will be available later this summer. The WOCC calendar is posted in the Narthex in New Brick **and on our website** and contains all the fun events planned for this year. Come join us for these events! Speak to any WOCC member, or email us at **WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Reserve Your Space for the Annual Flea Market and Crafts Fair - September 16

The Christ Church Flea Market and Craft Fair, presented by the WOCC, is about a month away! It's taking place on Saturday, September 16th (rain date 9/23) and you can now reserve your space(s) - grab one for \$15., two for \$25., three for \$35., or four spaces for \$45. If you have rented space in the past, you should have recently received a registration form. We also have forms available in the Narthex, or you can download a copy on our website at **www.christchurchcolumbia.org/flea-market**.

You can use Realm to pay - simply visit **onrealm.org/christchurchcolumbia/give/fleamarket** - or you can also pay by cash or check, as in years past. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us at **WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org**. We also need volunteers, crafts, bakers, and books! It's the WOCC's biggest fundraiser of the year, and proceeds are used to help Christ Church. We're getting organized for this big event, so stay tuned for more information and opportunities to participate. The more people that take part, the more successful this important event can turn out to be!

CEC Health and Wellness Fair - September 30

The Christ Church Health Ministry is creating a Community Health and Wellness Fair for Saturday, September 30, on the Christ Church campus. Many health-related tables, booths, and presentations will be available, and everyone's invited to take part. Stay tuned for more information.

Christ Church's Annual Auction - November 4

And so, the countdown begins... in less than three months, we will hold Christ Church's 34th Annual Auction, and we'll host both an online and in-person, live auction again this year. Start thinking about great gifts and ideas that you can donate in order to help raise funds to support our common life, and keep watching this space as we gear up for online bidding during the week leading up to a fun-filled evening on Saturday, November 4th! If you have any questions, please email **auction@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Please Support the Rector's Discretionary Fund

We want to thank those of you who have recently offered to help replenish the Rector's Discretionary Fund. The RDF typically helps fund - among many other things - rental assistance, gas and electric bill aid, financial support, mortgage assistance, and transportation needs. As you know, the needs of those in our community are always present - there are real people with real needs that we support on a consistent basis, 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.

Join Our Vestry for 2024

Nomination of candidates from our flock to stand for election to the Christ Church Vestry has begun. This year, there are four (4) slots open for election, and if you are a baptized Christian who is 16 years or older and are a giving

member of record at Christ Episcopal Church, you are qualified to become a candidate. We need your unique gifts to guide us, so we hope you'll consider submitting your name. The election will be held at our Annual Meeting which is scheduled for Sunday, October 16th. To offer to stand for election, contact our Vestry Nomination Committee by emailing nominations@christchurchcolumbia.org and they will let you know what's needed for this process. Thank you for your consideration.

Help Us Plan Christ Church's 300th Birthday

We are gathering and planning for Christ Church's 300th year, but are always looking for more input, so join us! This celebration is 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 Father Manny 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 on any upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and 2023 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.

Inviting You to Join Us this Monday, August 14th, for Outreach's Zoom Meeting

Do you want to wind up your summer days by helping others? Learn the best ways to do that by joining us remotely for the Outreach Commission meeting next Monday, Aug. 14th at 7:30 p.m. Our mission has a local, national, and international scope. Join us on Zoom - [the link is HERE](#), Meeting ID is **876 3365 4968** and the Passcode is **Outreach!**

Christ Church Extends Extra Help to the Homeless in July and Invites You to Join on Monday, Aug. 14, by Serving a Meal or Bringing Menu Items

Imagine living in your vehicle or in a tent during the heat of summer. For our homeless friends at the Day Resource Center, the DRC becomes an oasis as well as a source of tasty, nourishing meals and resources such as hydrating drinks.

Last month, the center was in need of sports drinks and another essential: underwear. In response to a DRC staff request, Outreach member Dione Mahoney bought eight cases of sports drinks and 10 six-count packages of men's underwear. Taking delivery was DRC Community Resource Specialist Kathy Piet and her husband (*above photo*). The needed items cost \$228. Funds came from parishioners who donate through the church and mark their contributions to "General Outreach" or specifically to the center. Thank you!

The [Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center](#) operates the DRC, located at the Leola Dorsey Center in Jessup where Christ Church provides a hot midday meal on the second Monday of each month. We most recently took part on July 10, when our team served 65 diners, including a child and several young people. Shahra Toth, with the continuing assistance of Dione Mahoney, is our coordinator.

To join us next Monday, Aug. 14, please sign up by this Sunday, Aug. 13. If you wish to volunteer or bring food for the midday meal, our **DRC online signup form** describes the procedure. The drop-off time for side dishes, desserts, and fruit is 12:45 p.m. in the Christ Church parking lot near Old Brick. In-person volunteers are gathering at that time to carpool to Jessup.

Later, parishioners will cook or shop for the evening meal for 50 residents of a live-in center on Freetown Rd. and make a different drop-off. Please arrive in the Old Brick parking lot between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. Get details in our **Grassroots online signup form** about the evening meal, which is served by Grassroots staff. It's efficient to provide for diners at two venues on the same day. Your donations and Vestry-approved funds pay for the fried chicken entrees. Thank you!

The DRC and the Live-In Facility have wider needs for their pantries and welcome in-kind donations to be dropped off for delivery on the second Mondays. Look for the latest needs list on bulletin boards at church or online, under the words "Related Files," on each signup form.

If you wish to do more, parishioners are encouraged to sign up individually to provide the evening meal at the Live-In facility. Pick a date to provide an entree and side dishes, or just the entree, for the 50 adults and children. Grassroots suggests an order of 12 pizzas -- four with cheese and the rest with meat (any kind), or rotisserie chickens (12 to make a meal), but discourages lasagna or other pasta entrees. Here is **a link to the sign-up list**, which is maintained by Grassroots and has multiple open slots through Sept. 30.

SLYC Camp Imagination Concludes in a Performance and Display of Artwork

Two members of the Outreach Commission represented Christ Church on Aug. 3 as **St. Luke's Youth Center (SLYC)** concluded its **Camp Imagination** in a performance and a display of artwork. The event was held in Towson, Md., at the Church of the Good Shepherd, which had hosted sessions of the day camp while SLYC's West Baltimore campus was being renovated.

Children and counselors were going next to the **Claggett Camp and Conference Center** for one week of sleep-away camp. They include counselor Ty Hawkins, a rising college sophomore. Parishioners met Hawkins in 2022 when SLYC visited Christ Church and its founder, Amanda Gardner Talbot, delivered **the Aug. 7 sermon**.

The Outreach Commission in May donated \$1,000 to SLYC for camp expenses, drawing from funds derived from your pledges and contributions. In a July 27 invitation to the event, Talbot expressed gratitude: "Thank you all and Christ Church for the continued support that has made this year's SLYC programming possible. Your generosity has helped us employ West Baltimore caregivers to lead the way in providing youth with critical resources, life-enriching experiences, and a very strong safety net of support."

Columbia Community Care Seeks Volunteers to Garden, Translate, and More

Please continue supporting **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) by giving essentials and with your time and talent. Check the **CCC Facebook Group** for updates or go to the **"I Can Help" portion of its website**. People can choose tasks to suit them; try gardening, translating, or stocking the shelves at the pantry building, 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia.

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

Help Pack the LEMS Supplies - August 16

Please join us to pack the supplies in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, August 16th at 9:00 a.m. The school will distribute the supplies the week of August 21st, so we also will need your help delivering the supplies that week. Strong arms and larger vehicles are helpful.

If you can't help us that day, there are other ways to assist. One measure of whether a student lives in a family that is financially challenged is if they meet the federal guidelines for free and reduced meals (FARMS). In Howard County overall, about 14% of students qualify for free and reduced meals. However, at LEMS over 48.5% of LEMS students qualify for FARMS, the highest percentage amongst the middle schools in the county.

Contributions can be made via check, online, or via text. If you'd like to write a check, please make sure you indicate "LEMS School Supplies" on the memo line. If you'd like to give online, please also write "School Supplies" in the Memo line. If you have questions about our LEMS partnership or would like to help on August 16th, please contact Cathy Whittaker (catharinewhittaker@gmail.com) or Mary Vail (mevail@verizon.net). Thank you for your support!

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

Organizers for **FISH of Howard County** continue to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill their shopping lists. Please put items in a basket that has been returned to the altar. Or drop them in the yellow bin on the breezeway between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your contributions to our neighbors in need.

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.



For one believes with the heart
and so is justified,
and one confesses with the mouth
and so is saved.

ROMANS 10:10





STEWARDSHIP

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE

Stewardship is our personal response to God's generosity in the way we share our resources of time, talent, and treasure. Stewardship reflects our commitment to making God's love known through the realities of human life and our use of all that God has given us. It is also our service to God's world and our care of creation.

We want to 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**

**Thank you very much for your support
of our vital common life.**



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Chaplain 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*

Jefferson Cuarezma Flores, *Sexton*

Vestry

Jan DeBoissiere (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Denisa Abdallah • Jane Adams • Tim Beaty • John Curley • Sara Kirkpatrick

Andrea Leeman • Ray Lyon • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre • Alfred Titus-Glover