

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, September 3, 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 |



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
 *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
 *6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
 2 loft, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
 4 way, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
 5 part, O___ sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
 6 breath, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
 7 ness, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 Exodus 3:1-15 |

Reader: A Reading from Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c | *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.

Israel came into Egypt, *
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.

The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful; *
he made them stronger than their enemies;

Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, *
and dealt unjustly with his servants.

He sent Moses his servant, *
and Aaron whom he had chosen.

Hallelujah!

A Reading from Romans 12:9-21 |

Reader: A Reading from the Epistle to the Romans.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

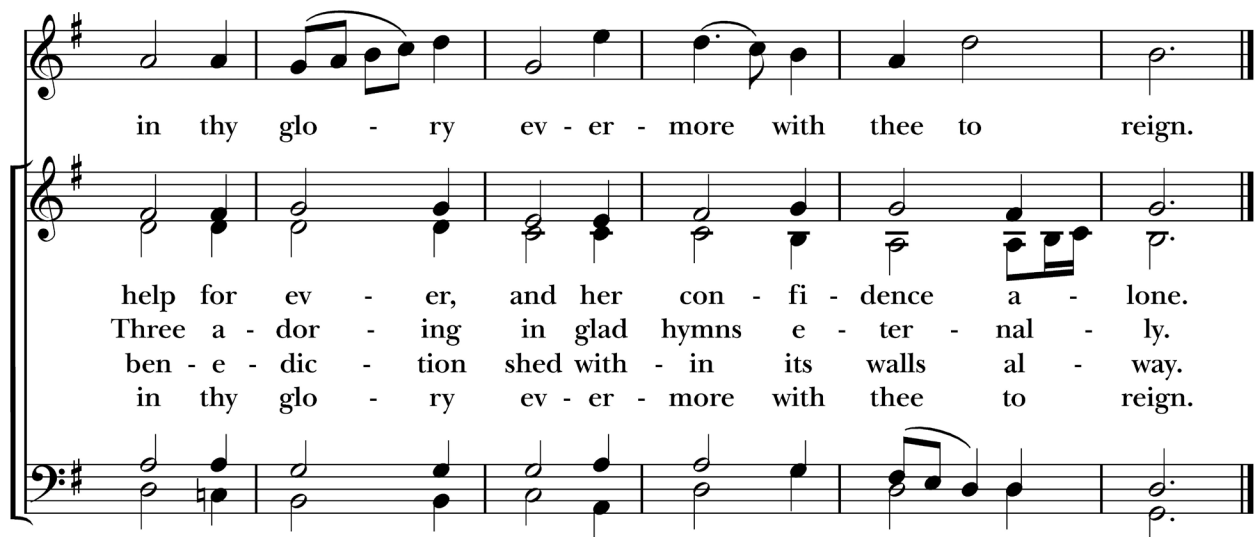
1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



The Gospel | Matthew 16:21-28

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

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

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

Sermon | Leah Chrest, *Lay Preacher*

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.

Lord God, about whom our first great story is your work in creating our world, thank you on this Sunday of Labor Day weekend, for the work of your people in your world.

Thank you for the work we often take for granted, performed by people whom, in our haste, we often don't acknowledge: the work of janitors, garbage collectors, grass cutters, dish washers, and day laborers; of administrative assistants, road repair crews, hospital orderlies, seamstresses, and assembly line workers; of those who plant, harvest, prepare, and deliver our food. **We thank you, Lord.**

Thank you for those whose work in your name is often known to you alone: the work of those who care for the sick and the dying, the poor and the lost, the angry and afraid, and those who labor in lands fraught with danger and uncertainty. **We thank you, Lord.**

Thank you for those whose work brings us laughter and fun, for those who entertain and enliven us, for those whose work enriches the human experience, for those whose work teaches us to be more than we can be by ourselves alone. **We thank you, Lord.**

We offer gratitude for the work done by your Church around the world, especially The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean and in all places, in all times, especially today for the work of the people in the churches of St. Thomas', Owings Mills; Sherwood, Cockeysville; Trinity, Towson; and here in our own Christ Church. Thanks for the leadership and guidance of our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishop, Eugene; our Bishop Coadjutor, Carrie; and our Rector, Emmanuel. Thank you for the work of the staff and volunteers here, the work of the members of our congregation, the work of those new to us and visiting with us. **We thank you, Lord.**

Lord, be with those who are sick and those who are dying. We pray especially today for Peter, Dinorah, Fr. Richard, Forrest, Christine, Carol, Rhonda, Wayne, Davar, Javon, Marten, Janeen, Malik, Marian, Denise, Shanaya, Ronald, Jan, Judy, Patricia, Cindy, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, and those we now name. Bless the hands of those whose work it is to be with them. **Be with them, Lord.**

We give thanks for the lives and work of those who have died, as we remember especially Bola Adams & Nana Yahan Oppong, and those we now name. **Welcome them into your eternal peace.**

We rejoice in the happy work connected to the celebrations of our lives, today remembering the birthdays of Jennifer, Lynn, Beryl, Pauline, Lee, Charles, Elizabeth, Denise, Jonathan, Ralph & Joseph, and the wedding anniversaries of Greta & Marquis Barnes and Sherry & Tim Beaty, and the baptismal anniversaries of Patricia, Bob, Lamere & Marjorie. **We praise you, Lord.**

Thank you, Lord, for the work you have done in making us, your sons and daughters. Help us this week to do the work you have for us to do, as we work to make this world a better place for all your people, in your name. **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 691 | My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Olivet

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,
 Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's
 guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

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.

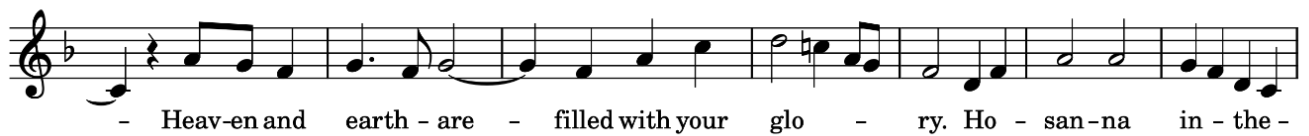
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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.**

Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament | 8:00 a.m.

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Deacon: Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine and bring forth bread from the earth. You give us the bread of life and you refresh us with the cup of salvation in the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. As we share the bread and wine, grant us the grace to receive these holy mysteries in faith and thanksgiving for Jesus' great sacrifice for us and for all people, so that he may evermore dwell in us and we in him.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer |

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread |

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

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

Fraction Anthem LEVAS 270 | Lamb of God

Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis

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.

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain
 when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____

let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain
 when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

The Blessing |

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

1 I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de -
 2 Though none go with me, still I will fol - low; though none go
 3 The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; the world be -

cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low
 with me, still I will fol - low; though none go with me, still I will
 hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be - hind me, the cross be -

Je - sus;
 fol - low;
 fore me; no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

The Dismissal |

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

Postlude | Verset X, 'In the Glory of the Invalides'

Marcel Dupre

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Sonni Aribiah

Ushers: Jo Emily Knox

Chalicerist: Sonni Aribiah

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Kathy Lyon

Ushers: Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams, JB Hanson, Cherry Williams, Beth Dagne, Alex Amponsah

Acolytes & Crucifer: Caleb McKenna

Chalicerist: Kathy Lyon

Altar Guild: Sonni Aribiah, Ivy Amponah, Eileen Harlee

PARISH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 3 – SEPTEMBER 10

Sunday, September 3

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
5:00 – 1:00 am	Event Rental – New Brick, lower level

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day – Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 5

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
1:00 – 3:00 pm	WOCC Meeting – New Brick, lower level & Zoom
7:00 – 9:00 pm	MS Support Group – New Brick, lower level

Wednesday, September 6

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:00 pm	First Wednesday Fellowship – New Brick, lower level
6:30 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, September 7

8:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
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
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, September 8

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 10:00 pm	Event Rental Setup – New Brick, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Christ Church Book Club – Zoom
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, September 9

2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
9:00 pm – 2:00 am	Event Rental – New Brick, lower level

Sunday, September 10

8:00 – 8:45 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 – 11:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
1:30 – 5:45 pm	Sundays at 3 – New Brick, 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.

This Fall at Christ Church

And please make a note - our fall season begins Sunday, September 10th. The 9:00 a.m. Family Worship returns, followed by Sunday School, Youth Formation, Sunday Circle, and all of our other formation and fellowship gatherings. Visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/sunday-mornings-at-christ-church for the details.

Vestry Candidates Update

The Vestry has approved the following candidates for election at the Annual Meeting this October. They are (in alphabetical order): Ron Baran, Dee (Martha) Bauer, Diane Philips LaGuerre, Greg Schuckman, and Cherrylynn Williams. Information about the candidates will be published soon. There's still time to submit nominations. 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. 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. The election will be held at our Annual Meeting which is scheduled for Sunday, October 15th. Sincere thanks to the nominating committee for all their work.

Cycling for Health and Fellowship - Sunday Mornings

Please join us every Sunday for refreshing cycling in between Sunday services! 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.

WOCC's September Meeting - September 5

Join the WOCC for our next meeting 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 Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **843 0204 4790** and the Passcode is **cecWOCC**. Our 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! Speak to any WOCC member, or email us at **WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

First Wednesday Fellowship - September 6

Why not celebrate Labor Day goodness for an extra evening next week? Join us for the September edition of Christ Church's First Wednesday Fellowship, when we'll have an indoor picnic with sandwiches and sides. And in one final celebration of summer, we'd love for you to bring along some photos of your summertime memories that we can pass around and share with one another. We'll gather in the Great Hall at 6:00 p.m. that Wednesday evening.

CEC Book Club - September 8

The Christ Church Book Club will soon return! The fall season begins on Friday, September 8th at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. We're always welcoming new readers to join us, so how about you? Take part for an hour or so each Friday evening for a lively discussion of this book, as we are a friendly bunch and appreciate everyone's input and thoughts. Our first book this season is *Faith - A Journey for All* by Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States and Nobel Peace Prize winner. You can find the book **at many booksellers**, or email Ellen Hoke at **bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org** and she'll scan the first few chapters to get you started. **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **817 9855 4366** and the Passcode is **CECbooks**.

Centering Prayer - September 11

Beginning Monday, September 11 (we're taking Labor Day off). gather with us 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 will be provided next week.

HELP! We Need More Volunteers for the Flea Market - September 16

The Christ Church Flea Market and Craft Fair, presented by the WOCC, is LESS THAN a month away! We are in desperate need of volunteers in order to make this event safe for everyone. Please sign up in the Narthex, or speak with George Toth. We also need your White Elephant Table items, baked goods, and volunteers, so **please read the entire message on our website**. Spaces are also still available; we have forms available in the Narthex, or you can download a copy on our website at **www.christchurchcolumbia.org/flea-market**. This is the WOCC's biggest fundraiser of the year, and proceeds are used to help support many Christ Church activities and gatherings. The more people that take part, the more successful this important event can turn out to be!

Consecration of Our Bishop Coadjutor - September 16

You are all invited to the Ordination and Consecration of the Rev. Carrie K. Schofield-Broadbent as Bishop Coadjutor of Maryland on September 16th at 11:00 a.m. at Washington National Cathedral. Tickets are not required to attend. **You can find parking, admission, and other information by clicking here**.

CEC Health and Wellness Fair - September 30

The Christ Church Health Ministry is creating a Community Health and Wellness Fair for Saturday, September 30th, on our campus. Many health-related tables, booths, and presentations will be available, and everyone's invited to take part. Some vendors and participants include specialists in Fitness, Massage, Yoga, Nutrition, Dental Hygiene, Physical Therapy, Holistic Natural Stem Cell Technology, CPR Training, Health Screening, and Mental Health. Invite friends, families, and colleagues to learn more about how they can live well - and have a chance to win great gifts, as well! Stay tuned for more information.

Christ Church's Annual Auction - November 4

The auction is just two months away! Once again, we will hold Christ Church's Annual Auction online for a week, ending with a fun- and fellowship-filled evening of a silent and in-person, live auction. Mark your calendars! Start thinking about great gifts and ideas that you can donate in order to help raise funds to support many of our ministries.

We need your DONATIONS DONATIONS DONATIONS! The auction website is up and running. You can use this link to go directly to the auction website and enter your donation. <https://christepiscopalchurch.schoolauction.net/cec2023auction>, or you can email auction@christchurchcolumbia.org with a description and pictures of your item. Likewise, if you have any questions, please email auction@christchurchcolumbia.org and we will get right back to you.

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.

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.

Latest Ways to Help DreamBuilders Prepare for Future Construction

You can do your part to help **DreamBuilders** (DB) without picking up a hammer. Instead, consider picking up a bag of fair trade coffee or a box of the Equal Exchange teas that remain in our inventory. Or go one better, and buy a raffle ticket to win a new iPhone 14, which will be given to the lucky ticket holder at the DB spaghetti dinner at Temple Isaiah on October 14th. To increase the odds of winning, it's a limited entry raffle: No more than 200 tickets will be sold.

The retail value of the iPhone 14, with 128 GB of memory in the color Midnight, is \$829. Tickets cost \$20 each or three for \$50. If you missed your chance at the Parish Festival to buy tickets and wish to purchase one or more, please email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org, and we will make arrangements.

To purchase raffle tickets in person, we will next sell them along with coffee and tea at the Parish Wednesday night dinner on Sept. 7. Don't miss the chance to get a bargain on the coffee, which will be near half-price at \$6 instead of \$11 until our inventory is depleted. The teas, mostly boxes of green tea and Earl Grey, have a longer shelf life and will remain at \$5 each.

You'll be supporting a worthwhile cause that offers a multi-generational opportunity for parishioners of Christ Church and its four interfaith partners. The most recent trip, to Hazard, Ky., from June 18 to June 24, was to build two homes for flood victims as described in [a WLEX-TV video report](#) that aired on June 21 in Lexington, Ky.

The previous trip was to Puerto Rico, where volunteers plan to return early next year. On the trip were Christ Church's DB representative Cathy Gold, Seminarian Mike Looney, and The Rev. Denise Schiavone. **Deacon Denise wrote about it in January for the Christ Church blog, titled "What is Your Destiny?"** More DB Spaghetti Dinner details are further down in this email.

Columbia Community Care Takes a Holiday, Requests Future Volunteers

Columbia Community Care (CCC) announced that its three distribution sites will be closed on Saturday, Sept. 2, for Labor Day weekend. Sites are located at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd.; Long Reach Village Center, Suite 9, 8775 Cloudleap Ct., and Oakland Mills Middle School, 9540 Kilimanjaro Rd., all in Columbia.

Please continue supporting CCC by giving essentials and with your time and talent. People can select tasks that suit them such as volunteering to make home deliveries or choosing to sort and stock items at the CCC pantry building, 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia. Look for updates posted in the **CCC Facebook Group** or on the **"I Can Help" portion of its website.**

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.

Save the Date for the DreamBuilders Spaghetti Dinner

Please support DreamBuilders' annual dinner and fundraising event on October 14th at Temple Isaiah. Bid on a wonderful selection of auction items at the silent auction and purchase tickets for their iPhone 14 raffle! All proceeds directly support DreamBuilders mission trips and projects. For more information, be sure to check out their flyer at <https://ibb.co/CWdTBbb>. Speak with Cathy Gold at church if you'd like more info.

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.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN MINISTRY

**Children and Youth
Faith Formation Begins Soon!
Register Now - Classes Begin September 10**

Children and Youth Faith Formation is offered to all children and youth (preschool - 12th grade) and is designed to develop and enrich their spiritual lives and deepen their relationship with God. Throughout the year, we will offer Bible-based teachings and also have time to explore some of the interests and/or issues our younger parishioners face. It's an important program that's relevant and engaging, and we're looking forward to an exciting program year!

Visit our website for more details and registration forms:
www.christchurchcolumbia.org/youth-formation



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.**



Christ Episcopal Church

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office@christchurchcolumbia.org

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