



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, September 20, 2026 | Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



*Great is the  
LORD and  
most worthy  
of praise.*

PSALM 145:3

### 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:

[www.christchurchcolumbia.org](http://www.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.

# PRELUDE |

## OPENING HYMN 690 | Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*CWM Rhondda*



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;  
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,  
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,  
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -  
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.  
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION|

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

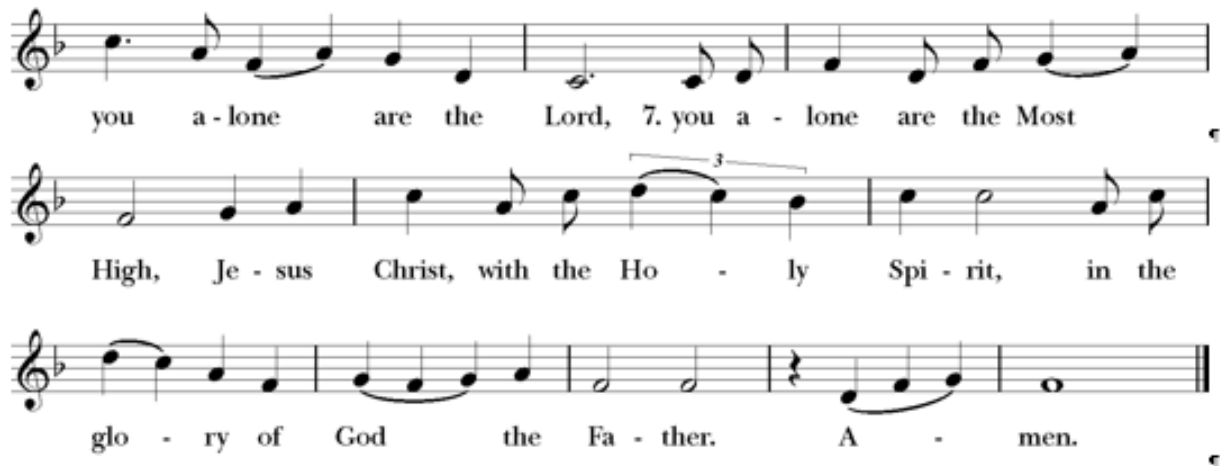
## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY|

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

## GLORIA S280 | Glory to God

*Robert Powell*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - 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,



## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY |

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.. **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON | Jonah 3:10-4:11

*Reader:* A reading from Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

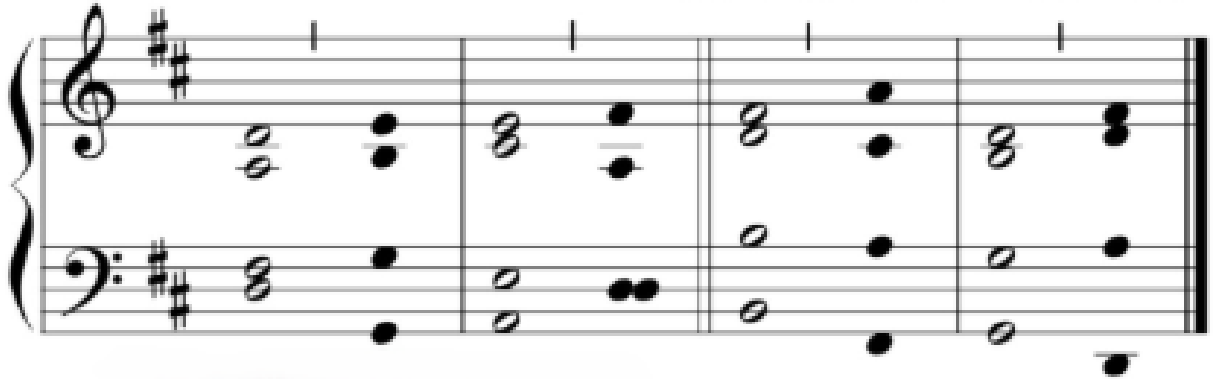
But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

## THE PSALM

Psalm 145:1-8 | *The Greatness and the Goodness of God*



I will exalt you, O God my | King, \*  
    **and bless your Name for ever and | ever.**  
Every day will I | bless you \*  
    **and praise your Name for ever and | ever.**  
Great is the Lord and greatly to be | praised; \*  
    **there is no end to his | greatness.**  
One generation shall praise your works to a-| nother \*  
    **and shall declare your | power.**  
I will ponder the glorious splendor of your | majesty \*  
    **and all your marvelous | works.**  
They shall speak of the might of your wondrous | acts, \*  
    **and I will tell of your | greatness.**  
They shall publish the remembrance of your great | goodness; \*  
    **they shall sing of your righteous | deeds.**  
The Lord is gracious and full of com-| passion, \*  
    **slow to anger and of great | kindness.**

## THE EPISTLE | Philippians 1:21-30

Reader:       *A reading from Philippians.*

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader:       The word of the Lord.

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

*The people stand as able.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN VF 88** | Nada te turbe

*Jacques Berthier*

Na-da te tur-be, na-da te es-pan-te: quien a Dios tie-ne na-da le fal-ta.

Na-da te tur-be, na-da te es-pan-te: só-lo Dios ba-sta.

**Translation**

Let nothing worry or upset you:  
whoever has God needs fear nothing.  
Let nothing worry or upset you:  
God alone is enough.

**THE GOSPEL** | Matthew 20:1-16

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

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

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-ousness,

5 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

9 Optional Ending  
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord on - ly, that

13 mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

THE SERMON | Diane Berthoud, *parishioner*

*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 worshipped 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 |

Our Lord is a fountain of living water, providing worth to our existence, caring for our daily needs and issuing laws to guide our behavior in this complicated world. Our loving God continues to lead us out of captivity into freedom allowing us to perceive His power and glory. We are asked to listen to His Word and to recognize His presence in our lives. **PRAISE GOD FOR HIS GRACE, HIS STRENGTH AND HIS JOY**

Humility and righteousness are pleasing to the Lord. We are encouraged to be gracious, merciful, generous, faithful, courageous and secure in His Way of Truth. **MAY WE FOLLOW CHRIST IN LOVE AND DILIGENCE ALL OF OUR LIVES**

Lord, we pray for the leaders in our nation, especially our President, our Congress, our Supreme Court and our elected representatives in our State and local governments. May they be granted wisdom and compassion in their decisions. We also ask Your blessings on the worldwide Church. May people throughout the Earth acknowledge Your reign, may we be united in Spirit and go forward in service. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we remember The Anglican Church of Australia. In the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, we hold up in prayer our sister Parishes. We are so thankful for our spiritual leaders: our Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard & Marcia. **LORD, MAY WE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SERVE YOUR PEOPLE**

*(continued)*

We are so grateful for our Christ Church family, whose sustained efforts provide opportunities for community outreach, communication, and fellowship. We pray for those who suffer from oppression or violence in the countries of Afghanistan and the Ukraine. We pray for children and youth in our inner cities who are fearful in a climate of gun violence, inadequate educational opportunities and under-employment. We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and newcomers worshiping with us today. We are blessed by your presence. **LET US PRAISE THE LORD AND DELIGHT IN HIS WAYS**

We pray for all those in need of healing in body, mind or spirit, especially Shannon, Dave, Mareli, Ashley, Kimberly, Lisa, Rita, Kaci, MaryAnn, Mark, Brandon, Clarence, Diane, Mildred, Kayode, Rachan & Sherry. May they be restored to health and wholeness. We also hold up in prayer those in our Parish family, who are in harm's way. We also ask Your special care for those who grieve, and we remember who have died and entered everlasting life, especially those you now name. Our journey with Christ is never ending. **THANKS BE TO GOD FOR HIS GOODNESS AND MERCY**

Today we celebrate the wonderful occasions of joy in the lives of our Parish family. We ask the Lord's blessing on the birthdays of Chris, James, Megan, Shirley, Malcolm, Praise, Shannon, Tom & Becky, the baptismal anniversaries of Johanna & Brian. **LORD, YOU BRING LIGHT INTO OUR LIVES**

Jesus Christ is unchanging, a steady presence in a tumultuous world. Our Lord casts out fears and is an anchor of Love and goodness in our lives. Thanks be to God. **AMEN**

#### **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION |**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

#### **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 |**

*Please scan to give.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM |** Panis Angelicus



*Cesar Franck*

**PRESENTATION HYMN 380 vs 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 HOLY COMMUNION



## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A |

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

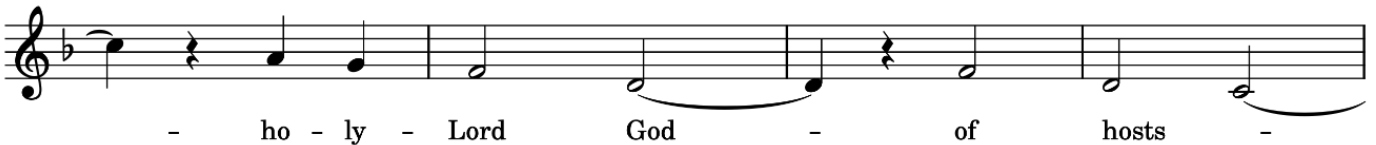
*People:* We lift them to the Lord.

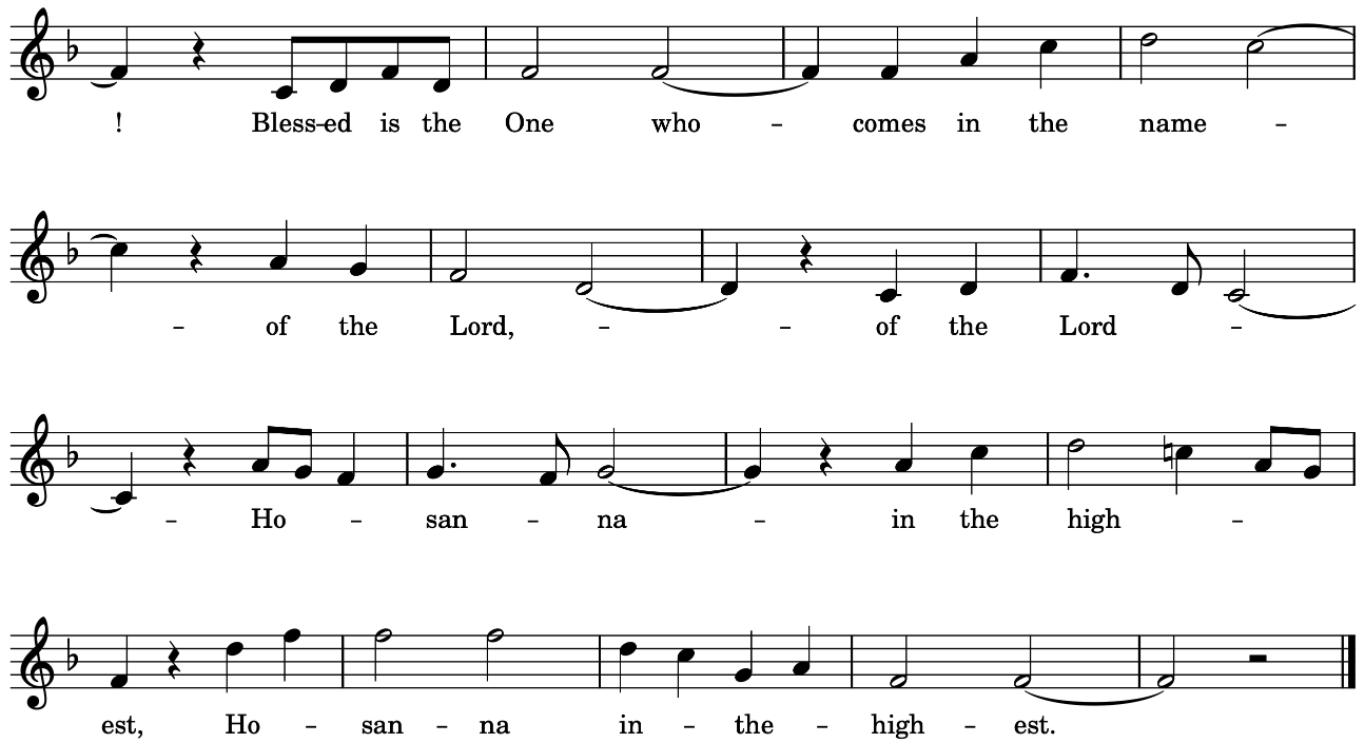
*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

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:





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."

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.**

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. **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.

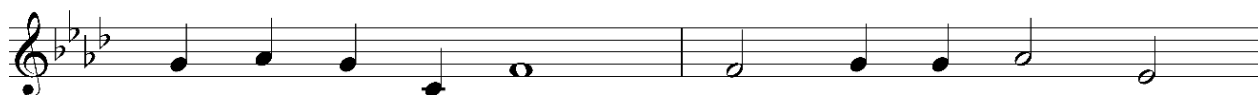




1 Come, la - bor on. Who dares stand i - dle  
 2 Come, la - bor on. The en - e - my is  
 3 Come, la - bor on. A - way with gloom - y  
 4 Come, la - bor on. Claim the high call - ing  
 5 Come, la - bor on. No time for rest, till



1 on the har - vest plain, while all a - round us  
 2 watch - ing night and day, to sow the tares, to  
 3 doubts and faith - less fear! No arm so weak but  
 4 an - gels can - not share— to young and old the  
 5 glows the west - ern sky, till the long sha - dows



1 waves the gold - en grain? And to each ser - vant  
 2 snatch the seed a - way; while we in sleep our  
 3 may do ser - vice here: by feeblest a - gents  
 4 Gos - pel glad - ness bear: re - deem the time; its  
 5 o'er our path - way lie, and a glad sound comes



1 does the Mas - ter say, "Go work to - day."  
 2 du - ty have for - got, he slum - bered not.  
 3 may our God ful - fill his right - eous will.  
 4 hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.  
 5 with the set - ting sun, "Ser - vants, well done."

## 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER | 8 & 10:30 a.m. service

*Celebrant:* In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*People:* We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

## THE BLESSING |

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

## CLOSING HYMN 344 | Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing

*Sicilian*

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with  
2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's  
3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,  
joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion  
world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace: O re - fresh us,  
in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,  
glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;  
may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

## THE DISMISSAL |

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

## POSTLUDE |

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# Assisting in Worship Today

## Altar Guild

Cara Ocampo, Jan DeBoissiere, Maria Rios, Virginia Jarrett

## 8:00 a.m. Service

**Chalicerist:** Joan Harvey

**Lector/Reader:** Joan Harvey

**Ushers:** Jo Emily Knox

## 10:30 a.m. Service

**Acolytes:** Abby Boyer, James Mercer, Lucas Hernandez

**Chalicerist:** Cheryl Lucente

**Lector/Reader:** Sandra Griffin

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

## Tellers

Jenny Cecil

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## PARISH CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 20 – 26, 2026

### Sunday, September 20

|                  |                                                        |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am          | Holy Eucharist                                         |
| 8:45 – 9:30 am   | Coffee Hour – Old Brick                                |
| 9:00 am          | Family Service                                         |
| 9:30 – 10:20 am  | Sunday School, Sunday Circle                           |
| 10:30 am         | Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, UL                 |
| 11:00 – 11:30 am | Coffee Hour - Zoom                                     |
| 1:15 – 5:30 pm   | Sundays @ 3 Concert - New Brick, UL                    |
| 4:30 – 7:30 pm   | Total Restoration Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL |

### Monday, September 21

|                |                                          |
|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am        | Morning Prayer Livestream                |
| 6:00 – 8:30 pm | Food Addicts Anonymous – Parish Hall, LL |
| 7:00 – 8:00 pm | Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom      |

### Tuesday, September 22

|                     |                                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am             | Morning Prayer Livestream             |
| 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Weekly Staff Meeting                  |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm     | Coffee Hour - Zoom                    |
| 1:00 – 10:00 pm     | IRC Prep - Parish Hall, LL            |
| 6:30 – 9:00 pm      | Vestry Meeting – New Brick, LL & Zoom |
| 7:30 – 9:00 pm      | CEC Book Club – Zoom                  |

### Wednesday, September 23

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 7:00 am        | Morning Prayer Livestream        |
| 4:00 – 5:00 pm | Exercise Class - Parish Hall, LL |

### Thursday, September 24

|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 7:00 am         | Morning Prayer Livestream       |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm | Healing Eucharist – Old Brick   |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm | Coffee Hour – Zoom              |
| 6:30 – 9:00 pm  | Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, UL |
| 6:30 – 9:00 pm  | EfM: Fast Track – Zoom          |
| 7:30 – 9:00 pm  | Boy Scouts – New Brick, LL      |

### Friday, September 25

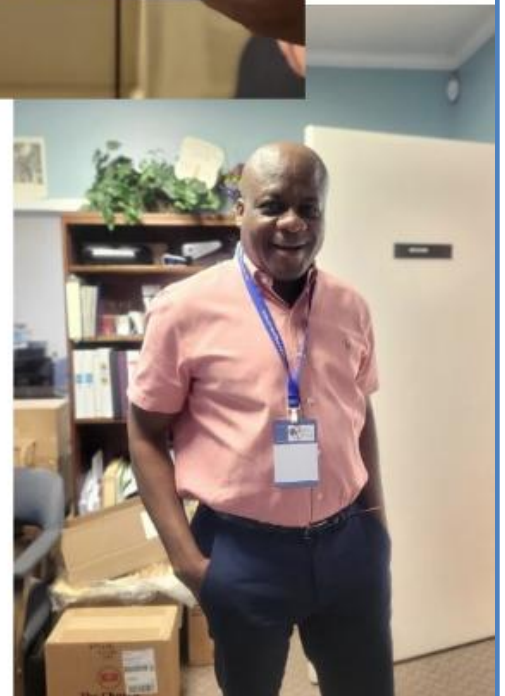
|                 |                                                                  |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am         | Morning Prayer Livestream                                        |
| 6:30 – 9:00 pm  | MOCC Family Night Out – La Palapa Grill & Cantina, Ellicott City |
| 7:00 pm         | Evening Prayer Livestream                                        |
| 7:00 – 10:00 pm | Friday Faith Film: FIREPROOF – Parish Hall, LL                   |

### Saturday, September 26

|                     |                                                      |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:00 am – 3:00 pm   | Flea Market (Rain date)                              |
| 8:00 – 10:00 am     | Altar Guild prep                                     |
| 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  | Beaty Event – New Brick, LL                          |
| 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Vision & Strategy Committee Meeting – Narthex & Zoom |
| 2:00 – 4:00 pm      | AA Meeting – Parish Hall                             |
| 3:30 – 4:30 pm      | Altar Guild prep                                     |

## WE HAVE NEW NAMETAGS!

We are excited to introduce our brand-new, reusable name tags! These durable tags feature a clean design and can be easily reused, making them a great sustainable choice for our church community. You'll find them in the Narthex and on the rear table of Old Brick, and you can leave them there after worship. Please grab one, write your name using the supplied dry-erase markers, and help us make everyone feel welcome.





## ANNOUNCEMENTS



If you have an announcement to share with the church,  
Please send to [communications@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:communications@christchurchcolumbia.org) by Tuesday evening.

***SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL OF THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & LINKS***

### Register for Sunday School

From Autumn through Spring, Faith Formation is thriving at Christ Church, and anyone from pre-K to 12th grade is invited to gather with us next fall. It's a program of age-appropriate, relevant, and engaging classes, and we're looking forward to an exciting year! The next Sunday School year has begun, and registration links are on [our website's Sunday School page](#).

Our Youth and Family Ministry is growing—an amazing blessing—but it also means we need a little help. Right now, we are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to step into our preschool Sunday School classrooms for the next program year. You don't need a degree in theology, of course, just a warm heart and a willingness to share God's love with our littlest ones. The curriculum and all supplies are provided for you, and we have a team of clergy and leaders to help you get started and support you along the way. If you can help us fill these spots, please speak with Mother Marcia Davenport at church or email [revmarcia@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:revmarcia@christchurchcolumbia.org). You can also call the Church Office to see when she is in her office.

### Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. Be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on Monday evenings. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church or by emailing [centering@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:centering@christchurchcolumbia.org).

### Noonday Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

Throughout the year, Christ Church offers a midday Healing Eucharist on Thursdays in Old Brick. A member of our clergy leads this service of readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. Parishioners and community members are all welcome to join in a prayerful time in the presence of God, and to share in the wonderful mystery of God's love whilst we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in to reflect, pray, and participate in a service held in our beautiful, historic chapel.

### Christ Church Choir is Back! - Thursday Evenings

Get ready, all you singers and music lovers! The choir has resumed rehearsals in New Brick on Thursday evenings - Handbell Choir at 6:45 and Adult Choir at 7:30 - and all adults are welcome to join us. Whether you read music or not, have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit full-time or not, there's a place for you to give it a shot in our handbell &/or vocal choirs. If you're interested, please speak with Larissa at church on Sundays or email her at [music@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:music@christchurchcolumbia.org).

### Film at Christ Church - Friday, September 25

On September 25, the film *Fireproof* will be shown in the lower level of the Church Office building. Learn more about the film on the posters around campus or at [cecevents.org/FILMS](http://cecevents.org/FILMS), [watch the trailer here](#), then come down Friday evening at 7 to watch and discuss.

### MOCC Breakfast - Next Saturday, September 26

Join us for French toast and fellowship - the MOCC breakfast is a monthly tradition, and in September, it will take place one

week later than usual - on Saturday, September 26. Set your GPS to **Silver Diner at 8250 Gateway Overlook Drive in Columbia**. We'll meet at 9:30 a.m., and all ages are welcome.

### **Solo in Flight Potluck Supper - Next Sunday, September 27**

Cooking for one can be a drag: you get tired of the same old meals you prepare too often and don't enjoy eating the 4th-day leftovers of your favorite dishes. Why not join us for a simple soup/salad/rolls-and-cookie supper prepared by the church, and bring a potluck dish of your choosing to share with others? After sharing supper and conversation at tables and getting to know one another through table talk, we will all sample two or three potluck dishes provided by Soloers, with small portion containers to take home. If you are not a cook or dislike making potluck offerings, feel free to bring a store-bought offering, whether casserole, dessert, or salad. Solo in Flight welcomes all singles - age is only a number - come and join us in an evening of lively connection, conversation, and culinary treats!

### **Blessing of the Animals - October 3 & 4**

October 4th, our church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology and animals, and during this first weekend in October, we will have The Blessing of the Animals - and we mean ALL animals! On Saturday, October 3rd at 5 p.m., we invite you to gather in front of Old Brick with your beloved pets - dogs, cats, birds, fish, reptiles, and all other furry, scaly, or slinky creatures - or a picture of your pet, if you prefer. We will read from the story of creation and offer individual blessings for each of our beautiful pets. Then at 9 a.m. Family Worship on Sunday morning, October 4th, we will have The Blessing of the Plushies, so this is your chance to bring your favorite stuffed friend with you to church, and they can be blessed, too!

### **Taizé Vespers: STEWARDSHIP - October 4**

Seek a moment of deep peace and spiritual reflection this season - on Sunday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m., we invite you to Taizé Vespers. Taizé is a liturgy of Evening Prayer that combines scripture readings, prayer, silent meditation, and rich music. Offered on the first Sunday evening of each month this fall, this contemplative liturgy in the tradition of France's Taizé community weaves together scripture readings, rich music, silent meditation, and holy words. We also focus on one word each month; in October, that word is *Stewardship*. Taizé Vespers provide a wonderful space to quiet the mind, reflect on God's presence, and share in fellowship with fellow neighbors on life's journey. We hope that you'll join us for this special, one-hour service.

### **First Wednesday Fellowship is Back! - October 7**

After a well-deserved summer break, Christ Church's popular First Wednesday fellowship series picks up again in October. Join us to share a meal with fellow parishioners, meet new ones, and enjoy a fun activity or two. It's the perfect way to connect and spend a few hours with friends, both old and new - and have someone else do most of the cooking! The first FWF of this season, on Wednesday, October 7, will feature a Chili Cook-Off to welcome back the program year. The church will provide salad, chips, and cornbread for the competition, and you can bring your favorite chili recipe to share. The winner earns bragging rights for the entire year! **Donations** to help cover costs are always appreciated (write "FWF" in the memo line), but the most important part is having you there, so we hope to see you!

### **Annual Report Submissions are Due By Sunday, October 11**

At each year's Annual Meeting, we publish and distribute the Christ Church Annual Report, which outlines the parish's activities and ministries from the past year and shares plans for the coming year. It's the one place where every parishioner can read and catch up on all of our groups and ministries' latest activities, and share plans for the future. We ask that each ministry submit a brief description of its activities and achievements, as well as its upcoming plans, to Chris at **communications@christchurchcolumbia.org** so he can include them in the report. If you have a special photo or photos

you'd like us to include, send those, too. Email him if you'd like a copy of last year's Annual Report, to see what we are looking for. The submission deadline is Sunday, October 11, so please don't delay. Thank you.

### **Ministry Calendar Meeting - October 17**

It's time for Christ Church's next calendar planning meeting, where we'll cover events scheduled for the remainder of the 2026-2027 program year. We'd like to ask one representative from each ministry to attend, and we encourage everyone to attend in person. However, the office will send a Zoom link for those who cannot attend in person. We'll serve breakfast to those meeting on-site. Gather with us in the New Brick Narthex or on Zoom on Saturday, October 4, at 10:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please email the [Church Office](#).

### **Elect Your Next Vestry Members - October 18**

Christ Church's Vestry has approved the following candidates for election at our Annual Meeting, to be held on Sunday, October 18. That morning, we have one service at 10:00 a.m. followed by our Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections. You must be present to vote, and you can read brief bios and messages from each candidate on our website soon. Representing the Vestry is a three-year term that begins after the Annual Meeting, and this year, there are four seats to be filled.

### **This Halloween, Join Us for TRUNK OR TREAT! - October 18**

Get ready for some family-friendly Halloween fun! Join us on Sunday, October 24 at 4:00 p.m. for our new Trunk or Treat event right here at Christ Church. Bring your little ones dressed in their favorite costumes to trick-or-treat safely from decorated car trunks in a welcoming community environment. The church parking lot will be completely transformed into a safe, festive staging ground lined with creatively decorated vehicle trunks. Kids of all ages can fill their bags with plenty of sweet treats while showing off their most creative, spooky, and fun costumes. All in all, it's a fantastic, worry-free way for families to enjoy the Halloween season together right here in our community. Fellowship, fun, and treats for all ages—we can't wait to see you there!

### **Provide Eucharist to Those Unable to Travel to Church as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor**

This year, we have had more people request [Communion to You](#), a service Christ Church provides to bring Eucharist to homebound parishioners. To fulfill this need, we require a few more Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV). If you're interested in helping with this vital ministry, please speak with Kathy Lyon at church or contact the Church Office. And if you require this service for yourself or someone you know, [please fill out this brief form](#), or call the Church Office. We will ensure that Communion gets there.

### **We Always Need More Help at Christ Church**

There are many roles in the church that most people don't think of regularly – or at all. However, it requires a great deal of work by many people to keep Christ Church the well-run parish it is. You can help your church by volunteering as a Reader, Chalcist, or Teller, serving in the Inreach Ministry, or assisting the Christ Church Altar Guild. None of these requires weekly assistance - both only require a short amount of time every few weeks or so, but the impact you have on the entire parish is significant. For those specifically interested in the Altar Guild, email [altarguild@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:altarguild@christchurchcolumbia.org) or speak with Pam Foreman or any other Altar Guild member setting up on Sunday mornings. If you want to know more about the Inreach Ministry, please speak with Michon Semon at church, complete the brief form at [cecevents.org/Inreach](https://cecevents.org/Inreach), or email us at [inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org), and we will get you started. For those interested in assisting as a Reader, Chalcist, or Teller, please call the Church Office at [office@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:office@christchurchcolumbia.org) or speak with Yetti.



**Christ Episcopal Church**

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[www.christchurchcolumbia.org](http://www.christchurchcolumbia.org)  
[office@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:office@christchurchcolumbia.org)

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*  
The Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Associate Rector for Children and Family Ministries*  
The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*  
Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*  
Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*  
Yetti Lipede, *Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator*  
Diya Jackson, *Office & Youth Ministry Coordinator*  
Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*  
Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*  
Shereen Benka-Coker, *Nursery Care Assistant*  
John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

**Vestry**

- Denisa Abdallah (*Senior Warden*) • Greg Schuckman (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*)
- Shreya Chrzanowski (*Youth Liaison*) Diane Phillips-LaGuerre • Ronald Baran • George Toth • Sara Kirkpatrick
- Ed Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms • Jay Abbott • David James • Katie Adams • Jim Berkson