

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Sunday, August 14, 2022 | 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

The wearing of face masks is currently required by all at Christ Church

You may stream this service from Christ Church's [website](#), [Facebook page](#), or [YouTube channel](#).

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE – Adagio

W.A. Mozart

OPENING HYMN 580 – God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

Holy Manna

Unison



1 God, who stretched the span - gled hea - vens in - fi - nite in
*2 Proud - ly rise our mod - ern ci - ties, state - ly build - ings,
3 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child - hood
4 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal - lenge

time and place, flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance
row on row; yet their win - dows, blank, un - feel - ing,
of our race; known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing
us a - new, chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose,

through the si - lent fields of space: we, your chil - dren
stare on can - yoned streets be - low, where the lone - ly
through un - trav - eled realms of space; probed the se - crets
serv - ing o - thers, hon - oring you. May our dreams prove

in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you;
drift un - no - ticed in the ci - ty's ebb and flow,
of the at - om, yield - ing un - im - ag - ined power,
rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or well be - gun:

Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing,
lost to pur - pose and to mean - ing,
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion
Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance

show us what we yet may do.
scarce - ly car - ing where they go.
or our most tri - um - phant hour.
till our goals and yours are one.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

People: **Amen.**

GLORY TO GOD – S280

Robert Powell

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 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. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Father:
re-ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the
Lord, 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.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

The people may be seated.

A READING FROM JEREMIAH 23:23-29

***Reader:* A Reading from Jeremiah.**

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

The following Psalm is read responsively by half verse.

PSALM 82

Deus stetit

God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

"How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?

Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;

Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.

They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;

Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince.'

Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.

A READING FROM HEBREWS 11:29-12:2

Reader: **A Reading from Hebrews.**

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy speak - ing
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as night and
 3 Thy strong word be - speaks us right - eous; bright with thine own
 4 God the Fa - ther, Light - Cre - a - tor, to thee laud and



it was done; for cre - at - ed light we thank thee,
 deep as death, broke the light of thy sal - va - tion,
 ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward glo - ry,
 hon - or be; to thee, Light of Light be - got - ten,



while thine or - dered sea - sons run: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 and our lives our hopes con - fess: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly; Ho - ly Spi - rit, Light - Re -



lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 veal - er, glo - ry, glo - ry be to thee; mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 now and ev - er praise the Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty.

The Alleluias in stanzas 1-3 may be sung antiphonally.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
 and son against father,

mother against daughter
 and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
 and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

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

Almighty God, hear the prayers of your people worshipping together at Christ Church today.

Healing God, we pray for all people everywhere who are in need: those in need of homes, in need of work, in need of safety, in need of calm, in need of health, in need of love. We pray for all refugees and for all who live under the threat of war or any kind of violence. We pray for all whose lives or work puts them specifically in harm's way, especially for Kevin DeBoissiere of our parish family. In our Christ Church family, we also pray for those who are ill Richard, Valentin, Ray, Mary Lou, Joan, Gina, Coy, Megan, Mildred, Jim, Kathleen, Caroline, Catherine, Nell, Mary Ann, Sherry, Rena, Kandi, Bradley, Alta, Alfred, & Ashley, and those we each now name. We hold close to our hearts all who have died and entered into God's kingdom of light, especially those you now name. We call on your promise to be with us, at all times, in all places. Together we pray, *hear us, Lord.*

Universal God, we pray for the work of Anglican and Episcopal churches throughout the world. Here at Christ Church, we pray for our clergy, lay leaders, parishioners, visitors, and all who are new to our parish. We give thanks for the arrival of our new organist and choir director, Larissa Sanders, and for all of the music played for us by Ola Oladiupaupo. We pray as parishioners consider your call to them to serve on our vestry. We pray for our fellow churches in the Diocese of Maryland, especially today for Trinity, Elkridge; All Hallows, Davidsonville; and All Saints, Sunderland. We pray for our fellow churches in the worldwide Anglican Communion, especially today for The Extra-Provincial Churches. We ask your help to seek and serve Christ in all persons, respecting the dignity of every human being. Together we pray, *hear us, Lord.*

Loving God, who fills the world with beauty, joy, and blessings, we give thanks for all that is good and wonderful in our lives. We rejoice in the birthdays of Abby, Ben, Julian, Mary & Zachary, and anniversaries this week of Denise Schiavone & Matthew Mahoney, James & Marilyn Collins, Joan & Lee Harvey, Cindy & Denis Read and Judy & Tom Demott, and thank you for their presence in our parish family. Together we pray, *hear us, Lord.*

Teaching God, we give thanks for the raising up of educators and the many others whose work supports the teaching of students of all ages, and in many different circumstances, here and across the world. We pray for all students and education staff preparing to return to school and college. We give thanks for the leaders of Christian education and formation here at Christ Church. Together we pray, *hear us, Lord.*

Eternal God, inspire us to do the work you would have us do, to find within ourselves the perseverance to run the race you have set before us, to find in you the strength and courage to do your will in our lives and in our world. Together we lift this prayer to you. **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

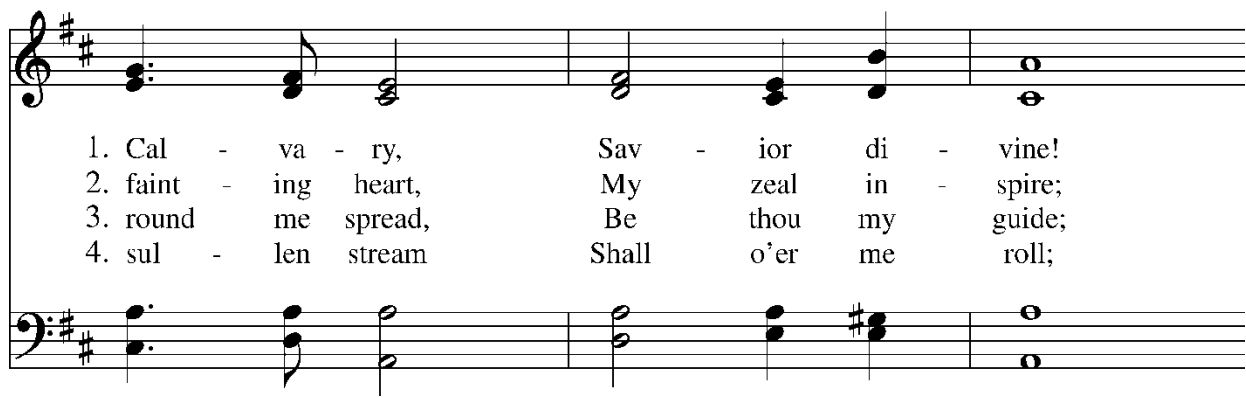
THE HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN DURING THE OFFERING LEVAS 88 – My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Lowell Mason



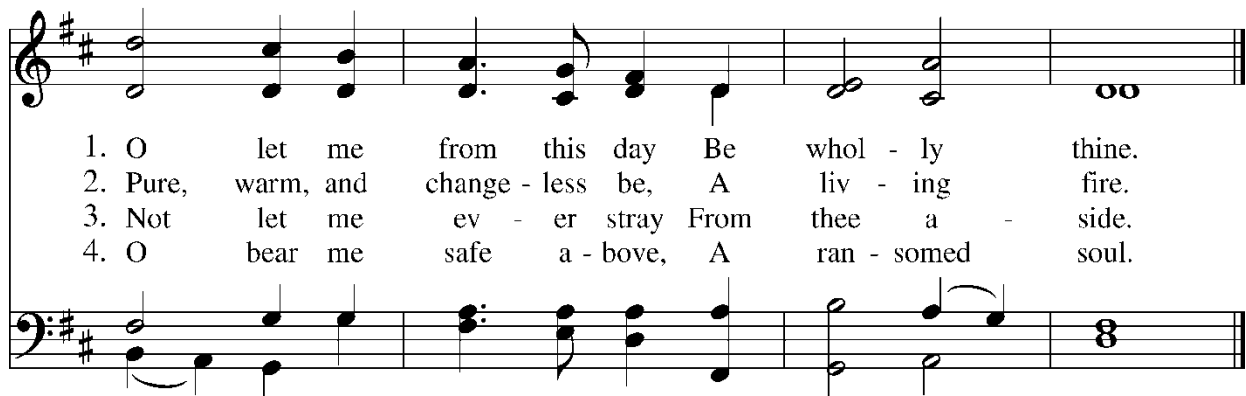
1. My faith looks up to thee, Thou lamb of
 2. May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my
 3. While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a -
 4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold,



1. Cal - va - ry, Sav - ior di - vine!
 2. faint - ing heart, My zeal in - spire;
 3. round me spread, Be thou my guide;
 4. sul - len stream Shall o'er me roll;



1. Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt a - way;
 2. As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee
 3. Bid dark-ness turn to - day, Wipe sor - row's tears a - way;
 4. Blest Sav - ior, then in love, Fear and dis - trust re - move,



1. O let me from this day Be whol - ly thine.
 2. Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire.
 3. Not let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.
 4. O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul.

**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

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...

...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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, _____ ho - ly, ho - ly, _____ ho - ly Lord God

_____ of hosts. _____ Heav-en and earth are _____ filled with your

glo - ry, Ho - sa - na in _____ the high - est. _____

_____ Bless-ed is the one who _____ comes in the name _____ of the

Lord, _____ of the Lord, _____ Ho - sa - na _____ in the

high - est, ho - sa - na in _____ the high - est. _____

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM – LEVAS 154 (Refrain)

James E. Moore, Jr.

The musical score is written for a two-part setting, likely SATB or similar. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has two staves: a treble staff with a key signature of one flat and a 3/4 time signature, and a bass staff. The lyrics are "Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness". The second system continues the melody and harmony, with lyrics "of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and". The third system concludes the phrase with "see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord." and ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine". The music features various chordal textures and melodic lines, with some notes tied across measures.

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**

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

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
 2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
 3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me

1. all the worlds* thy hands have made, I see the stars I hear the roll - ing*
 2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 3. die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
 4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -

1. thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played.
 2. gran - deur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.
 3. bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin.
 4. ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my God how great thou art.

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee: How great Thou

art, how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to

Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER

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.

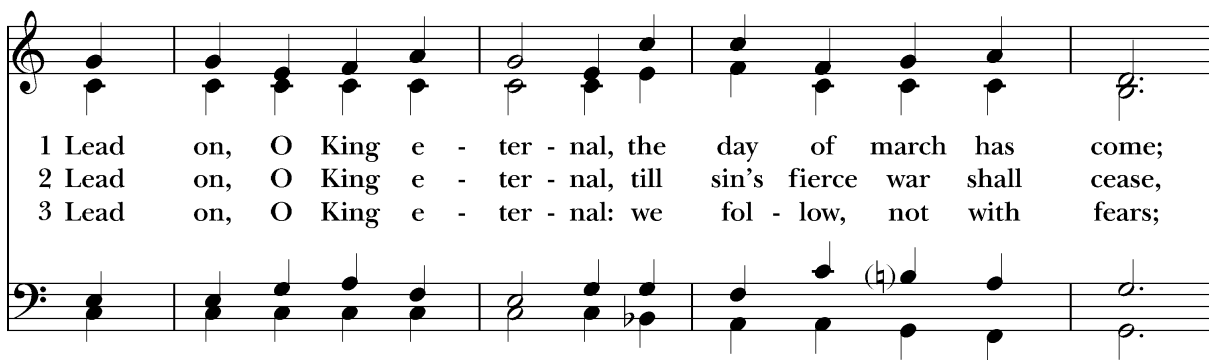
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

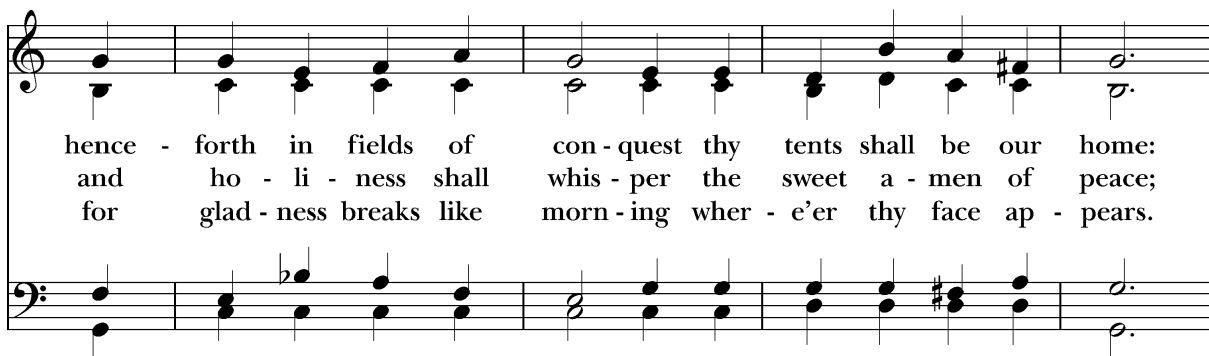
All: Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

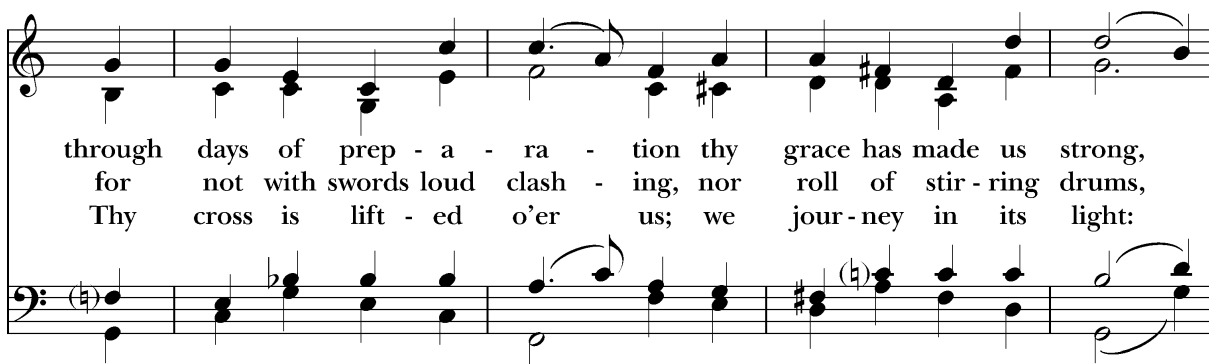
*The Celebrant blesses the People, who respond **Amen.***



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears;



hence - forth in fields of con - quest thy tents shall be our home:
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er thy face ap - pears.



through days of prep - a - ra - tion thy grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 Thy cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light:



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 but deeds of love and mer - cy, the heaven - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE – Toccata in C Major

Johann Pachelbel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

This Sunday: Pentecost X

Join us for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost at Christ Church. If you want to join us in person, let us know by **completing our brief attendance registration form**. Please know that **the wearing of masks is currently required** while on campus. For those worshipping remotely, **we'll livestream the 10:30 a.m. service** on all of our usual sites. See you all on Sunday!

Howard County COVID Update

The number of positive cases in Howard County still remains significant enough to keep us in the "high community impact" tier. As a result, we are following the protocols in **the Diocese's Post-Omicron Yellow Phase plan**. This includes the mandatory wearing of face masks for all visitors while indoors at Christ Church, as well as the distribution of only bread during the Eucharist. You can read the Diocese's latest report, released yesterday, **here**.

We Need Altar Guild Volunteers

We are looking for a few more people to join the **Christ Church Altar Guild** this season. Altar Guild is a vital group whose ministry is to care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish. Its members prepare the sanctuary for services and tidy up afterward. During certain seasons, Altar Guild members also supervise the decoration of the sanctuary of the parish with flowers. Any adult is welcome to take part in this essential ministry, and training is provided. Please speak with Jan DeBoissiere if you are interested - **jdeboissiere@gmail.com**

Altar Flowers and Gifts

If you would like to present Altar gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on an upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and 2022 sign-up sheet at **<https://tinyurl.com/CECaltargifts>**. 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.

Midsummer Campout Postponed

Unfortunately, this weekend's campout needs to be postponed until later in the fall. A new date will be announced soon, and you'll find those details in an upcoming edition of *Christ Church Gatherings*.

Parish Beautification Day - This Sunday

There are a few campus details that need our TLC, so our Buildings and Grounds committee is calling for volunteers of all ages to help us after services this coming Sunday. From painting to cleaning, there are items that can use everyone's help, so we'd really appreciate it if you could join us any time between 12 noon and 4 p.m. Bring comfortable clothes, work gloves, a water bottle, and a desire to make our parish look its best. A list of task options will be posted in the New Brick Elevator room, so check in there. We'll provide snacks and lunch, so there will be plenty of fuel so we can tackle the projects together!

(continued)

Youth Car Wash - Sunday, August 21

Come out on Sunday, August 21st any time between 8 a.m. and 12 noon for our Youth Car Wash! Support the youth as they raise funds for their upcoming Hersheypark trip. You can also donate to support their trip - [simply click here](#), select "Youth Ministry" from the *FUND* dropdown menu, and write "Youth Trip" in the memo line. Alternatively, you can write a check and leave it with us on Sunday or send it to the Church Office; be sure to write "Youth Trip" in the memo line there, as well. Thank you!

Submit Your Vestry Candidate Nominations Soon!

It is time to nominate candidates from our flock to stand for election to the Christ Church Vestry. This year, there will be FOUR (4) slots open for election. If you are a baptized Christian who is 16 years or older and are a giving member of record to Christ Episcopal Church, you are qualified to become a candidate. We need your unique gifts to assist in guiding us, so we hope that you'll consider submitting your name. If you do, you'll need to draft a short biography of yourself stating why you want to stand for election, or what has called you into service. This year, 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. Thank you for your consideration.

Adult Forum: Sunday Circle - Returns August 28

Sunday Circle, our adult Christian education program, returns on Sunday, August 28th, and continues throughout the second half of 2022. Father Manny will start Sunday Circle by leading three sessions on the Book of Common Prayer in September. In October, Sunday Circle will focus on stewardship, with sessions focusing on God's creation, how we love each other and our neighbors, money, and self. Fr. Manny will then lead us in an exploration of the Nicene Creed in November. Finally, as we journey through Advent we will delve into various types of prayer. We hope you will join us for Sunday Circle from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in Old Brick.

Register to Join the Christ Church Choirs!

Calling all singers! Our Adult and Children's Choirs are looking for new and returning members! If you enjoy music and love to sing, then the choirs are the place for you! All are welcome, whether you read music or not, whether you have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit or not! Adult Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m. beginning September 1st and we sing at the Sunday 10:30 services throughout the year. The Children's Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 5-6 p.m. beginning September 6th and will sing for services at various times throughout the year. [You can find links to the registration forms on our website's Music Ministry page](#). If you're interested or have any questions, please speak with our Director of Music, Larissa Sanders, at church on Sunday or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org

This Fall at Christ Episcopal Church

Earlier this year, we asked for your kind participation in a survey about our common life, and over this summer several groups of parishioners gathered regularly, keeping all of your survey responses in mind as they formulated a revitalized fall schedule. In addition to our already well-loved gatherings, there's a host of new services, programs, and activities that will be taking shape over the final third of this year, and we hope that you'll join us for many of these! Very soon, we'll launch a new page on our website that will outline many of these wonderful developments. That page will be at www.christchurchcolumbia.org/fall and you can visit it regularly for updates and links.

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Sunday Morning Services - Beginning September 11th

As mentioned above, several groups were created this summer and one of them - the Worship Committee - designed a couple of new services for our Sunday mornings. We will begin each Sunday with an intimate 8 a.m. worship in Old Brick. Then at 9 a.m., our new Family Service will take place in New Brick Sanctuary, followed by Sunday School (Great Hall) for our youth, and Adult Forum: Sunday Circle (Old Brick) for the adults at 9:30. We then conclude the morning in the New Brick Sanctuary with our 10:30 Holy Eucharist, complete with music and choir. Nursery services are also available for those who need them, and that is downstairs in New Brick, as well. We hope that you'll find a few worship and formation gatherings that you'll join us for. These and other details will be on our website's new **Fall at Christ Church page** soon, and feel free to speak with Father Manny if you have any questions.

Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer takes place Mondays at 7 p.m. and is a form of contemplation, a method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God. We invite you to log in, see what Centering Prayer is all about, and how it can find a unique and valuable space in your own life. The Zoom link is **here**, Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340** and Password is **Centering!**

First Wednesdays Fellowship - this Fall

One of the new features we will have at Christ Church beginning this autumn is a First Wednesday Fellowship - an in-person gathering where we will share a communal meal and follow that with a special program or activity for everyone. Each month will feature a different cuisine and program, so join us for the inaugural event on Wednesday, September 7th, and every first Wednesday during the rest of 2022. More information will be in upcoming communications, but save the date now!

The CEC Book Club Returns Fridays in September

The CEC Book Club is taking the month of August off and will regather in September with a new series of books for the rest of 2022. When we resume, we'll gather virtually every Friday at 7:30 p.m. We always enjoy having new people join our virtual gathering, so if you enjoy curling up with an insightful read and discussing it with others, join us! Just **email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com** for details.

Reserve Your Spaces Now for the WOCC Flea Market!

It's time to reserve your space for the 2022 Flea Market, taking place on September 17th (rain date 9/24) and we are ready to reserve your space. And, because of the current economic conditions, WE HAVE REDUCED OUR RENTAL COST by \$5 from previous years. If you have rented space in the past, you will be receiving a registration form very soon. We'll also have registration forms available in the Narthex, and you can also send an email to **wocc@christchurchcolumbia.org** and we will send you all the info you need.

You can now use Realm to pay for your space and use a credit card, and those illustrated instructions can be found **here**. You can use this link to get to it: **<https://onrealm.org/christchurchcolumbia/give/fleamarket>**. You can also pay by cash or check, as in years past. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us at the WOCC email address above.

We will also be looking for volunteers, 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 through the summer, so keep looking for more information and opportunities to participate. In the meantime, feel free to email us if you have any questions.

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The 2022 Parish Retreat - September 29

Christ Church's Annual Rehoboth Retreat will be again held at the Felix DuPont Retreat House in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware from September 30th to October 2nd. We are very blessed to have the Rev Marcia Davenport as our retreat leader, and we'll be centering on the Christ Church theme for the coming year: ***Be an Instrument of God's Peace.*** There will be interactive programs filled with discussions and music on Friday evening, Saturday morning, and Saturday evening. Evening Prayer service or Compline will be celebrated on Friday and Saturday evenings, and we'll conclude with a special Eucharist in the Chapel on Sunday morning.

There is free time for all scheduled on Saturday afternoon. Beach walks, star gazing, kite flying, art museums, reading and relaxing on the deck, bird watching, and browsing in shops and outlets during our spare time are all possible. Five delicious meals are provided by an in-house chef for dinner on Friday and Saturday, lunch on Saturday, and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. The cost for the entire stay with the aforementioned meals is as follows: Adults (age 12 and older): \$295/person. We are required to have 15 persons committed to staying at Dupont House in order to host the event. Sign-up by September 4th with full payment is due on arrival to DuPont House on September 30th. Accommodations are limited to 20 (There are 11 rooms; only family members are permitted to share rooms due to COVID concerns). The sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex. Any questions, please see, call, or text Ellen Hoke at 301-452-7115 or email her at efboudreau1@gmail.com. Please join us for a fun and rewarding time together!

We Need Donations for the 33rd Annual Christ Church Auction!

We're getting some of your donations rolling in (many thanks), but we need lots more! Please start thinking about donations for the 2022 Christ Church Silent and Live Auction, and go through your basements and closets for items, or perhaps think about something new to donate. Several of you have already contacted the Auction Committee about planned donations, but many more are needed! Last year, there were more than 200 wonderful offerings, and every one of them helped raise important funds for our parish. We'll take small items, large items, and anything in between - items such as homemade baked goodies, baskets filled with wonderful items, special or themed dinners, vacation destinations, and services like lawn care are also welcome. If you have questions about your items being Auction-worthy, let us know! Please contact the Auction Committee by emailing auktion@christchurchcolumbia.org. You can submit your donations by emailing auktion@christchurchcolumbia.org or you can place them directly into the Auction software: https://christepiscopalchurch.schoolauktion.net/auktion2022/donate_items/new. Don't forget, every donor will receive a written statement from the Auction Committee on your donation's fair market value for tax purposes. More information will be provided in the coming weeks, so watch this space!

LEMS Partnership: We're Almost There! - Tuesday, August 16

Thanks to all of you who have helped us get the Lake Elkhorn Middle School Partnership off to a great start this summer. The bags are all stuffed (thank you!) and now there's one final step before the students to put these items into action. **If you can, please meet us at the church this Tuesday, August 16th from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. to deliver the supplies to Lake Elkhorn Middle School.** We are also in need of a truck or van to transport the supplies and people who are able to load and unload heavy boxes, so if you can help in any way, please let us know. If you have questions about our LEMS partnership, need info on how to donate to LEMS, or can help us on August 16th, please contact Cathy Whittaker at catharinewhittaker@gmail.com.

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Help End Homelessness by Having Fun at a Golf Tournament to Benefit Bridges to Housing Stability

Advocating for affordable housing and helping individuals and families who struggle to keep a roof over their heads is the mission of **Bridges to Housing Stability**. It's a daunting task, but the nonprofit organization is offering a new activity to lure supporters to the cause. And the event gives participants a way to get fit and enjoy being outdoors.

On Friday, Sept. 23, Bridges will hold the **Sheehy Toyota Bridges for Birdies Golf Tournament** at The Timbers of Troy, 6100 Marshalee Dr., Elkridge, MD. The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. and features a full day of golf, food, and awards. Bridges said the field was nearly 50 percent sold out at the end of July and urged would-be participants to **register**. The cost for a single golfer is \$150, which covers greens fees, unlimited range balls, food, and two beverages. A foursome costs \$600. Sponsorships also remain available at various cost levels; please spread the word among Howard County businesses.

The cause is a crucial one. The housing crisis is worsening nationally and in Howard County, according to an update by Bridges Executive Director Jen Broderick in a July newsletter. Renters are now reporting large rent increases of as much as \$400 a month. "At Bridges, we have experienced a surge in phone calls from residents seeking housing assistance, and calls to the Grassroots Crisis Line are spiking as well. In addition, the Sheriff's Department reports rising levels of court filings for delinquent rent (the first step in the eviction process)," she wrote.

Christ Church has a warm relationship as a supporter of Bridges, starting with our participation in a countywide chili cook-off in 2019. At the Chili & Challenge virtual fundraiser held in 2020, Christ Church won a Silver Ladle Award. Then, at the 2021 Chili & Challenge, **we won gold**. The relationship began at the urging of parishioner Jim Collins, who is among those "Heroes for Housing" who were honored earlier this year by Bridges.

At the July Outreach meeting, members approved sending \$1,000 to Bridges for its Help End Homelessness Howard County (HEHHC) program. HEHHC involves ownership of five rental homes in a program that has served 10 families. It's described **online in Bridges' June newsletter** and by Broderick in **a 6-minute video on YouTube**.

Funds were derived from a parishioner's donation to Christ Church and earmarked for Bridges. For a list of organizations that are supported through the Outreach Commission, such as Bridges and the **Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center**, and how to contribute, please contact outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Columbia Community Care Requests Diapers, Personal Care Items

At Christ Church, members of R.A.G.E and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to continue supporting the all-volunteer organization, **Columbia Community Care** (CCC). Please collect diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Put them in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sunday. Our representative is Violet Smith, who takes parishioners' donated items to a CCC site for distribution on Saturdays. Updated information about distribution can be found on the **CCC Group on Facebook**.

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

Organizers for **FISH of Howard County** are continuing to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill its shopping lists. The yellow bin is 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.

Liberated Faith II

by Father Manny

Last Sunday, Hebrews reminded us of what faith is. This Sunday wouldn't be any different. Hebrews will lay bare for us how a liberated faith worked in the life of others and invites us to look at Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. It is he who makes possible all that was thought to be impossible - for he, too, had a liberated faith and so he found God to be trustworthy and capable of all things.

It will interest you to know that Christians are often called the people of possibilities because we believe in the possibilities of a future with God. And because we sincerely believe that with God, all things are possible, we freely take on the task of God, and freely participate in God's creative agenda.

We have come to believe that if others can experience the freedom to which God invites us, we are obligated to freely share our stories with them. Over the past several weeks, we have been talking about Lake Elkhorn Middle School (LEMS) and our School Supply Drive in support of the students. Oakland Mills High School (OMHS) is presently hosting the Cy Paumier SAT Summer Camp. Last Sunday, we had representatives from Saint Luke Youth Center (SLYC) worship and preach at Christ Church. Amanda Gardner Talbot, the Executive Director, reminded us in her sermon of a "**faith that has legs.**" That is a liberated faith. And this faith is liberated because it can freely walk.

The interesting thing about our outreach is that we are not required to do anything. However, being a part of the story of LEMS, OMHS, SLYC and many others evolves from the idea that giving alms, and in fact giving, in itself, is part of our contribution towards the creative tasks of God. More than that, we are, by our acts, affirming that we believe in the future God has for each child and each person - and it, indeed, takes a liberated faith to embrace this idea.

A liberated faith is not one compelled by tradition or custom - for these hold us captive, requiring us to build treasure where thieves can steal, or moths can destroy. A liberated faith is one that recognizes itself as the beginning of freedom that renews the whole of life and overcomes the world. It requires you to offer no sacrifices or offerings for sins. For the Lord says, sacrifices have I not desired, but a pure heart - a heart that is willing to will one thing, which is to be obedient and not rebellious.

A liberated faith makes us the free masters of all things, and subject only to one thing - **love**. It is this love that makes us ministering servants of all people and free subjects to everyone. In other words, a liberated faith honors you with a freedom that makes you the master of all people and the subject of love. And being the subject of love makes you a servant of all, for God's treasured future is dependent on those who are servants of all and masters of none.

A liberated faith brings us into the deepest truth that says we are in the image of an unlimited, unrestricted, unimaginable love. And we dare not forget that, for the moment we forget that religion becomes a shield or a closed refuge instead of a way to boldly throw ourselves into a harsh world knowing that that is precisely where we will discover a generous God. The moment we forget that is when we falsely come to believe that we cannot share God's table of welcome with others because of their belief - as happened at the recently ended Lambeth Conference. (more on the conference later).

I am an optimist. I know we will get through all our deepest challenges because we are a people of possibilities and that a liberated faith awakens trust in the still unrealized possibilities in human beings - in oneself, in other people, and in God's future with us.

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The point is there's an unbelievable potential in each of us. And for that, I am reminded that God doesn't move mountains, but God gives us the faith with which to move mountains. Because of our liberated faith, the hitherto unexplored creative powers of God are thrown open to men and women - people like you and me - to use that creative power for good, for changing lives, and for the building of God's kingdom.

To have faith in a God of unconditional love is to realize how intimately close God is. He is so close that we often forget His presence. In his own day, Jesus was immersed in a violent culture, a culture of conflict and anxiety. But he also knew of the deeper truth hidden beneath the surface of human judgment; namely, that this broken and anxious world is oozing with God. The same Jesus invited us to have faith, to believe that the reign of God is among us and within us, he reminds us that it is for the Father's good pleasure to give us the kingdom - that treasured space where you feed not on your own abundance but on the abundance of God.

A liberated faith makes you vulnerable to love, and to love is to risk being rejected by the other. God takes a risk in loving us because the gift of divine love bears with it the possibility of refusal. God's love respects the independence and freedom of the other because love does not seek to control, dominate, or manipulate; rather, love seeks to empower the other for the flourishing of life. A liberated faith trusts in the power of love within us to do incredible things because this love is God's unlimited power.

God doesn't move mountains but gives us the faith with which to move mountains. Your treasure is a liberated faith that knows there's no mountain too big or too small. Hold on to it. Nurture it to love God for His sakes only.

God's desire is for you to have a liberated faith.

Manny.

Christ Church's Parish Festival Sunday, September 28th

The Annual Christ Church Parish Festival and Ministry Fair is back for 2022! It's been three years since we have been able to safely host this special gathering, and we feel blessed to be able to do so. This year, it will take place on Sunday, August 28th, and begin with one outdoor Eucharist at 10 a.m., followed by a fantastic festival of faith, food, fellowship, and FUN!

Many Christ Church ministries will have tables set up around the campus so you can speak with their members and learn more about how they contribute to our common life - and maybe you'll even sign up to take part in the future! Games and huge inflatables will be available for the young (and young-at-heart, if you dare!) and we'll collectively celebrate the gathering together of our entire parish family for the first time in years.



We're also looking for volunteers to help set and clean up, so if you can do so, [please email Jan Deboissiere](#). Many thanks!

We hope that you'll join us for this very special day.



WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH

Because of your genuine and overwhelming acts of selflessness, kindness, grace, compassion, and love, you continue to give immensely to support and build our common life at Christ Church. You inject life into Christ Church so that we may be able to serve the world. It is your giving that has made it possible for us to accomplish some of the work that God has given us. The truth is that we have been able to minister and serve countless people because of your faithfulness, and for that, we thank God for each one of you and thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

We also want to thank **YOU**. Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables Christ Church to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us. We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness.

TEXT GIVING: You can now 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 towards 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.



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Kathleen Lyon, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Tim Beaty • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • Greta Pike-Barnes •

Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman