



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST
THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, July 27, 2025 | Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

*I listen carefully to what
God the Lord is saying, for
he speaks peace to his
faithful people.*

Psalms 85:8



THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE |

OPENING HYMN 408 | Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Mit Freuden zart



1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
2 What God's al-might - y power hath made, his gra - cious mer - cy
3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his watch - ful
glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the



our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
eye ne'er sleep - eth. With - in the king - dom of his might, lo!
won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the



ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.
All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry.
Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY|

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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 | Hosea 1:2-10

Reader: *A reading from Hosea.*

When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord." So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

And the Lord said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel."

She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen."

When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God."

Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The following psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

THE PSALM

Psalm 85 | *Benedixisti, Domine*

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

You have withdrawn all your fury *
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.

Restore us then, O God our Savior; *
let your anger depart from us.

Will you be displeased with us for ever? *
will you prolong your anger from age to age?

Will you not give us life again, *
that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your mercy, O Lord, *
and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
**for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.**

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

THE EPISTLE | Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)

Reader: *A reading from Colossians.*

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

[Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN 711 | Seek Ye First

Karen Lafferty

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

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

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

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN | Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

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 people may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON | Jonathan Smith

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 |

May we be reminded not only of God's righteousness but also of God's enduring love and forgiveness. Let us live rooted in faith in Christ with thanksgiving. Jesus himself teaches us to ask and to seek with persistence and assures us that the Father will respond by giving us the Holy Spirit. Let us affirm our trust and belief by saying: **Our Father, Your love endures forever."**

We pray for all those throughout our nation and the world bowed down by unbearable burdens and who despair of receiving help and solace. Lord, be near to them and hear the silent prayers of their hearts, as we say: **Our Father, amid trouble, keep them safe and strengthen them."**

We pray for our Church leaders, that they may be guided by the wisdom of Your Holy Spirit and always be rooted and grounded in Your love. We ask Your grace and blessing on Presiding Bishop, Sean; Diocesan Bishop, Carrie; Rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard, Marcia, and Rebecca, and Seminarian, Mike. In the Anglican Communion, we ask our Lord's blessing on The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea. In our diocese, we pray for the parishes of Grace Memorial, Darlington, Holy Cross, The Rocks and St John's, Havre de Grace Father, hear us as we say:

"We are the works of Your hands, rooted in faith and forgiveness."

We lift up all those suffering from any illness of mind, body, or spirit. We pray especially for Rachan, Sherry, Emmy & Danielle, and those you now name. Father, fill them and their caregivers with Your strength and nourish them with Your love as we pray: **"You stretch forth Your hand and care for the lowly."**

We remember those who have gone home to You, Father, and abide in the company of all the saints, especially Roberta Akillian & Madrainne Johnson, and those you now name. Give comfort and fortitude to those who mourn them as they continue their own journey with You by their side.

We pray: **"Lord, You are near to all who call upon You."**

With hearts filled with gratitude, we rejoice in the blessings of family and friends and for the opportunity to celebrate the birthdays of Levi, Philip, Janeene, Errick, Lamere, Marjorie, James & Thomas, wedding anniversaries of Carol & Jay Abbot and the baptismal anniversary of Angela. Father, we give thanks and ask Your blessing on all those who are new or visiting with us today, either in person or via the internet. We ask that they may be refreshed and renewed as they continue to seek Your Light.

We pray: **"Guide us on the path of a life rooted and built up in Christ."**

Father of all, we ask that the roots of our faith may continue to deepen and be nourished by Your love that surrounds us. Help us to marvel at the beauty of Your creation and to seek Your image in all whom we encounter. And as Your disciples, may we recognize that You can do everything through us when we place our hope and confidence in You. **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 |



THE HOLY COMMUNION



OFFERTORY HYMN 708 | Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Sicilian Mariners

Please scan to give.



1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

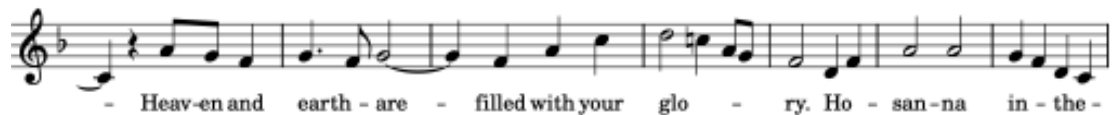
People: We lift them to the Lord.

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."

All: *Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:*
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: 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 |

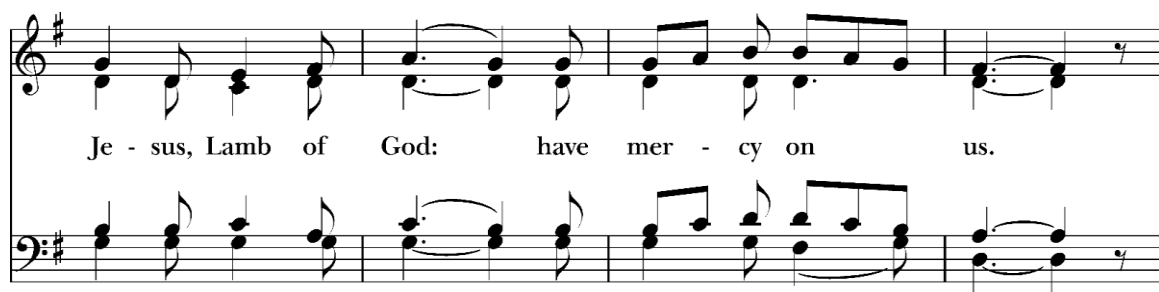
Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.**

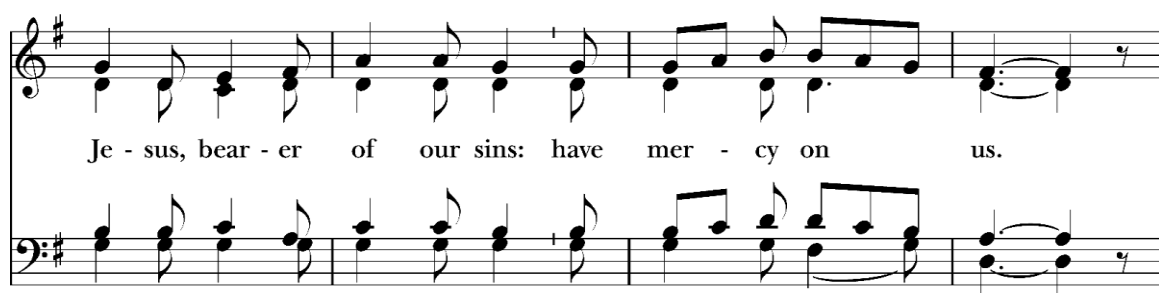
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD |

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

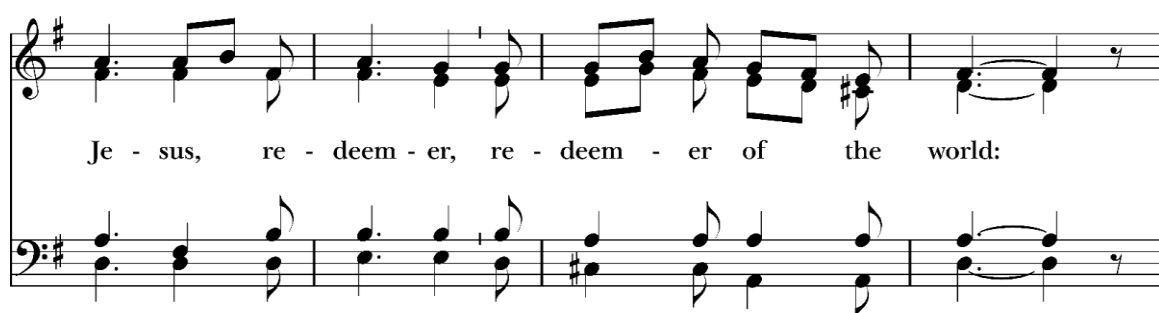
People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



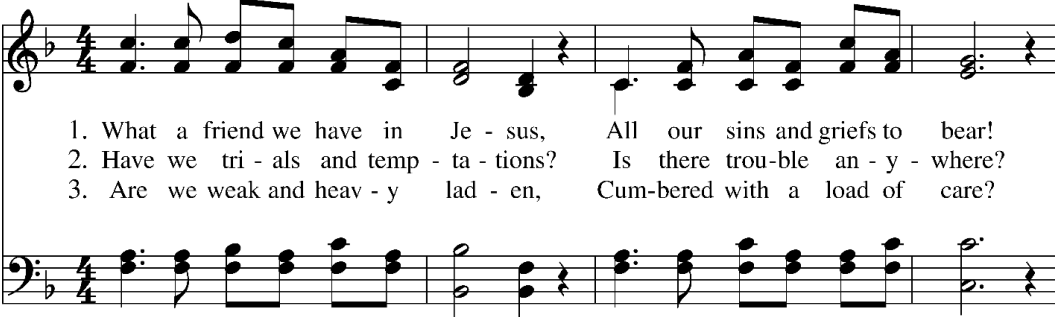
Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:




give us your peace, give us your peace.



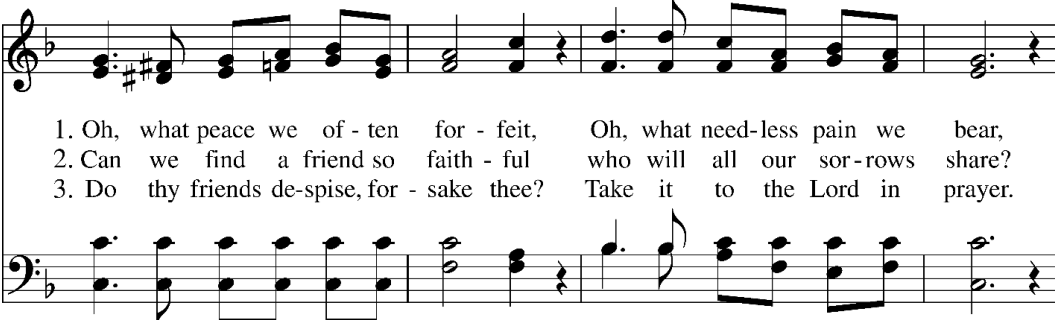
*The Gifts of God
for the People of God*



1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y - where?
 3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum-bered with a load of care?



1. What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 2. We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 3. Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, Take it to the Lord in prayer.



1. Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, Oh, what need-less pain we bear,
 2. Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
 3. Do thy friends de-spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



1. All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 2. Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 3. In his arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.



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 397 | Now Thank We All Our God

Nun danket alle Gott

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voice,
2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us!
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,
who won - drous things hath done, in whom his world re - joic - es;
With ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven,
who from our mo - ther's arms hath blessed us on our way
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven a - dore;
with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

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

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Dione Mahoney

Chalicerist: Dione Mahoney

Ushers: Kayode Fatodu

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Steve Alpern

Chalicerist: Steve Alpern

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

Altar Guild

Leigh Smith, Pamela Foreman, Cara Ocampo,
Yetti Lipede

Kenny Okeke, Leanne Sheriff, Brian Farnandis

PARISH CALENDAR JULY 27 – AUGUST 2, 2025

Sunday, July 27

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – New Brick
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – New Brick
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Monday, July 28

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Refugee Ministry Meeting –Zoom

Tuesday, July 29

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Summer Yoga Camp – New Brick, lower level

Wednesday, July 30

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

Thursday, July 31

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:00 pm Summer Yoga Camp – New Brick, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, August 1

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Livestream

Saturday, August 2

9:00 – 3:00 pm Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo Dia Fidelidad – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
10:00 am – 12:00 pm Jane's Yoga Class – New Brick, lower level
2:00 pm AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
3:30 – 4:30 pm Altar Guild prep – Old Brick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement to share with the church,
Please send to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.

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



Join the Christ Church Vestry – Deadline is Coming Soon

The nomination of candidates from our flock to stand for election to the Christ Church Vestry has begun. This year, four (4) slots are open, and if you are a baptized Christian who is 16 years or older and a giving member of record at Christ Episcopal Church, you are qualified to become a candidate. We need your unique gifts to help us, so we hope you'll consider submitting your name. The election will be held at our Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for Sunday, October 19th. To offer to stand for election, contact our Vestry Nomination Committee by emailing nominations@christchurchcolumbia.org, and they will let you know what's needed for this process. Thank you for your consideration.

Confirmation 2025 – Classes Begin Next Sunday

This year, the Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland, Rt. Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, will visit Christ Church on Sunday, November 30th, and she will confirm all the Christ Church candidates who have completed the confirmation process. The Confirmation Classes will be hybrid (in person and online) and begin on Sunday, August 3rd at 12:00 noon. Speak with Father Manny if you are interested.

Centering Prayer - Monday

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God, a gathering that takes place every Monday. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. We are a hybrid gathering, so be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings. [The Zoom link is here](#), the Meeting ID is 817 6254 3177, and the Passcode is CP. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church, or by emailing centering@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Yoga Camp - Tuesdays and Thursdays

This summer, Jane Adams will host Yoga Camp at Christ Church for all parishioners and members of the public. Jane is a yoga expert with decades of teaching experience and leads every session. We gather every Tuesday and Thursday at 6 p.m., and each session is one hour long. Yoga Camp is open to those already involved in yoga and those interested in trying it for the first time. You can sign up for each date using our online form at cecevents.org/YogaCamp.

Sign Up for *Saturday Night Fever* at Toby's Dinner Theater!

The WOCC and guests will attend *Saturday Night Fever* at Toby's Dinner Theater on Friday, September 5th, at 6:00 p.m. Friends and families are all welcome to join in the fun, food, and music, but act now - the deadline to sign up and pay is Sunday, August 3rd. Sign up in the Narthex, or talk to any WOCC member. For payment, make checks payable to Christ Episcopal Church (*WOCC Toby's* in the memo line) or **pay via Realm** (select the *WOCC* fund and write *Toby's* in the memo line). We have a discounted group rate of \$79 for adults and \$74 for children (5-12), and everyone's invited!

And don't forget about our other upcoming events - we'll have our next WOCC meeting on Tuesday, September 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in the Great Hall and on Zoom (details coming later this summer), and we have the **Community Flea Market and Craft Fair** on Saturday, September 20th - our largest fundraiser of the year. Gather with us for both!

Two Days, Two Films - August 8 & 9

In early August, there will be two film screenings in the lower level of the Parish Office Building. On Friday, August 8th at 7:00 p.m., the film *Amazing Grace* will be shown, and you can view the trailer for the movie [here](#). Then, at the Center for Spiritual Nourishment the next morning at 9:00 a.m., a showing of *The Ultimate Gift* will take place, and you can view that film's trailer [here](#). So, bring some movie munchies to share, settle in and enjoy - and prepare for lively discussion after each showing.

The Annual Christ Church Parish Festival and Ministry Fair – Sunday, August 24

Christ Church's Parish Festival & Ministry Fair is back! There's only one worship service that day, August 24, so join us in New Brick at 10:00 a.m., followed by a fantastic festival of faith, food, fellowship, and FUN! We'll have BBQ goodies, fun for all ages, and an opportunity to learn about the many ministries that make Christ Church a very special place.

Ministry leaders, this is your opportunity to speak with every parishioner about your beloved ministry and get them to join and assist your group in the coming year. If you have had a ministry trifold or flyer in the past, please prepare any new information to send to Chris by August 2nd so that he can get you an updated document in time for the Fair. And if your ministry would like a flyer or trifold but hasn't had one before, please email him at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org so he can arrange a time to discuss it with you.

The 2025 Flea Market and Craft Fair - September 20

Soon, it'll be time for that wonderful Columbia summertime tradition, the Christ Church Flea Market and Craft Fair, presented by the WOCC. This year, it's on Saturday, September 20th from 9am to 2pm (rain date 9/27), and takes place on the Christ Church campus. This community event is open to the public, so come see what your neighbors have to offer. You can have your own space in the market, or if you're cleaning out closets or garages the church will be sponsoring the white elephant tables & welcomes your unwanted treasures. Visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/flea-market

InReach Ministry

Christ Church's Inreach Ministry is taking shape and welcomes both those in need of our services and those wishing to help others by volunteering for this ministry. You can learn more about our Inreach Ministry, how to sign up if you're in need, or how to volunteer to help the ministry, by speaking with Michon Semon or Ron Baran, by visiting our website at www.christchurchcolumbia.org/inreach, or by emailing inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

We Need Ministry Volunteers

Thank you to those who have recently stepped up to help volunteer - we are so grateful to you! We can still use some more people to keep Christ Church the well-run parish that it is. You can be a Teller, Acolyte, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, or choose to assist the Christ Church Altar Guild or Buildings and Grounds ministries.

None of these require 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, please email altarguild@christchurchcolumbia.org or speak with Pam Foreman or any other Altar Guild member setting up the altar on Sunday mornings. For those interested in assisting as a Teller, LEV, or Acolyte, please call the Church Office at office@christchurchcolumbia.org.

FISH and CCC Combine Pantries, Making it Easier for You to Help People in Need

Recently **FISH** and **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) have partnered to provide food services for Howard County residents. The two organizations have merged their food pantries. CCC will distribute food, including by home delivery, from the groups' newly combined pantry. FISH will continue to supply the pantry by picking up donated goods from Christ Church and other cooperating churches, schools, and civic organizations.

Continue to place non-perishable food and personal care products in the altar basket. Elsewhere on campus, you can place items in the bin just inside the Parish Hall (main office) building door; look for the bin labelled "FISH/CCC."

Please do continue to donate baby wipes and diapers, especially those in sizes 5 and 6. These remain in great demand, according to CCC's April Lee, manager of the combined pantry. CCC continues to distribute groceries, staples, and baby supplies at three sites on Saturday mornings. For information, visit their site to [**Get Help**](#).

The personal touch is crucial when people are in crisis, so FISH will continue to provide telephone support to Howard County residents. And you could be the one to lend a helping hand, doing so by lending an ear!

FISH of Howard County needs phone volunteers to assist our neighbors in need throughout Howard County. You can help from the comfort of your own home by dedicating just one day a month to assist those who could benefit from financial assistance from FISH. Training is provided. For more information, ask Christ Church parishioner and FISH treasurer Andy DeLong, or you can email him at andydelong.fish@gmail.com.

Thank you always for your support and for welcoming FISH at Christ Church.

SLYC Invites Parishioners to Carpool to its Camp Imagination Showcase in Linthicum at 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 31

On Sunday, July 13, we heard from Engagement Coordinator Darlene Clark of St. Luke's Youth Center (**SLYC**), who described how much its young people enjoy **Camp Imagination**. Once again this summer, the day camp is being held at a cooperating parish in Linthicum, MD. And once again, we are invited to **St. John Lutheran (& Episcopal) Church**, 300 Maple Ave., Linthicum, Md., to see youth perform in the camp showcase at 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 31. For carpool information, you can email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

SLYC is a collaborative of West Baltimore families who together provide youth with life-enriching experiences. It is also in the midst of a campaign to re-envision the historic St. Luke's Clergy House with the help of **a plan by Episcopal Housing Corp.** In addition to summer camp, SLYC offers **programs** such as "SLYC After School" and "Moms on a Mission." Please consider volunteering in West Baltimore at SLYC's partner church when the school year resumes. To view Clark's remarks during the 10:30 worship service, go to **Pentecost V: July 13, 2025** on the Christ Church YouTube channel. The SLYC portion can be seen from 1:03:30 to 1:10:06 in the video.

Christ Church's LEMS Backpack Drive is Now Underway

The students and families at Lake Elkhorn Middle School rely on us each year to help provide assistance with school supplies. We have just received a list of the most frequently used school items and are now ordering them in bulk to secure the best prices. We will then load the supplies into 125 backpacks after the second worship service on Sunday, August 17th, so come downstairs, have a sandwich, and help fill them.

If you can't come that day, plan to visit New Brick on Friday, August 22, at 2:30 p.m. to help load the school supplies into cars and drive them to LEMS. That afternoon, they will have their Annual *Back to School Block Party*, where families will register their children and enjoy a picnic from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to stay to help distribute the backpacks to those appreciative students and families.

Please email us and let us know if you can come to either or both of these events by emailing Cathy Whittaker LEMS@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Each year, we ask for the congregation's support in providing these school supplies, and you always come through (thank you so much!). We don't have a line in the church's annual budget for this, so we rely on and deeply appreciate your direct support. You can give to the LEMS campaign by writing a check to Christ Church with "LEMS" in the memo line, or you can give online at <https://onrealm.org/christchurchcolumbia/give/lems>. Either way, your gifts are very much appreciated.

Somos Amigos Patient Continues His Recovery after Cancer Surgery, Expresses Gratitude for Help from Our Outreach Fund

When **Somos Amigos Medical Missions** alerted Christ Church and other supporters in May that its staff member and patient, Euclides, had been diagnosed with colon cancer, we donated to a fund for referrals' care so that he could be treated by specialists.

In mid-July we got the latest update from Somos Amigos Executive Director and CEO Frank Brightwell on Euclides' recovery after colon cancer surgery. The father of six receives oral chemotherapy and radiation treatments while staying with his mother at her home. "A recent message from his physician regarding his condition and prognosis sounded very positive, but his recuperation will continue for some time," Brightwell said.

"I wish you could experience first-hand the gratitude expressed by Euclides, his mom, his son Johan (who is working with us at the clinic this week), and the rest of his family. They know his future could have taken a much darker path, and they know you helped save his life. How can that be captured in words? They try, and they ask me to pass it along. Thank you again."

Somos Amigos holds clinics quarterly in Naranjito, Dominican Republic. The next clinics occur Oct. 11-18 and Jan. 10-17, 2026. Go [here](#) for volunteer information.

The Outreach Commission approved \$1,000 in donations to Somos Amigos for patients' referrals, as described in the **Outreach Blog of May 1, 2025** and the **Outreach Blog of May 29, 2025**. The funds go toward specialty care such as surgeries, colonoscopies, mammograms, and cataract removal. These are Vestry-approved Outreach budget funds derived from contributions to Christ Church. Thank you!

**PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL OF THIS WEEK'S
OUTREACH, YOUTH, AND OTHER PARISH NEWS**

including website and email links, and Zoom meeting details





Christ Episcopal Church

6800 Oakland Mills Road

Columbia, MD 21045

(410) 381-9365

www.christchurchcolumbia.org

office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Associate Rector Emeritus*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipede, *Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

Vestry

Denisa Abdallah (*Senior Warden*) • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre (*Junior Warden*)

Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Deepti Jackson (*Youth Liaison*)

• Ronald Baran • John Curley • Ray Lyon • Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Cherry Lynn Williams • George Toth
• Sara Kirkpatrick • Ed Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*