

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MD

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 23, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

You may stream this service from Christ Church's website, YouTube, or Facebook pages

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE – The Peace May Be Exchanged (Rubrics)

Dan Locklair

INTROIT – Christ is Our Guiding Light

Eric Law

Christ is our guiding light: come let us walk in the way of peace.

OPENING HYMN 371 – Thou, Whose Almighty Word

Moscow



1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,
2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing
3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly Dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ters' face bear - ing the
wis - dom, love, might; bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

Gos - pel day sheds not its glo - ri - ous ray, let there be light!
in - ly blind, now to all hu - man - kind, let there be light!
gifts of grace, and, in earth's dark - est place, let there be light!
full - est pride, through the world, far and wide, let there be light!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

GLORIA

8:00 a.m. service

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE – Gloria

Jacque Berthier/Taize

Sung at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Refrain

1
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, 2
in ex - cel - sis De - o!

3
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, 4
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ***Amen.***

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

PSALM 19

Caeli enarrant

The heavens declare the glory of God, *

and the firmament shows his handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, *

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, *

and their voices are not heard,

Their sound has gone out into all lands, *

and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *

it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
**the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.**

The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
**the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
**the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.**

More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
**sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
**then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body,

but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able for the singing of the hymn and remain standing for the reading of the Gospel and the prayers.

SEQUENCE HYMN 530 – Spread, O Spread Thou Mighty Word

Gott sei Dank

1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, spread the king - dom of the Lord,
2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;
4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;
5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,

1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;
2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.
5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

SERMON

Kathy Lyon

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

God's glory shines in the heavens. His glory and love extend to mankind through His justice and wisdom, bringing us joy and fulfilling our desire for enlightenment. Our Lord is our strength and our Redeemer. **Revive our souls, now and always.**

Lord, we have the privilege and incredible responsibility of being the Body of Christ in our world today. May we heal our divisions and act in unity. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Church of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for the parishes of St. Luke's, Brownsville; St. Mark's, Lappans; and St. Paul's, Sharpsburg. We ask for God's blessing and His gifts of wisdom and love for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishops, Eugene and Robert; our Christ Church clergy, Emmanuel, our Rector; Marcia, our Associate Priest; Denise, our Deacon; and Richard, our Record Emeritus. We extend a heartfelt welcome to all visitors and newcomers worshipping with us today, both in person and online. We hope that our time together in worship and praise has lifted your spirit and deepened your faith. **Help us to support each other in service to Christ.**

May we recognize those in need all around us. Let us work to end the burdens of war, violence, mistrust, hunger, homelessness, depression, loneliness, droughts, fires, floods, disease, and hopelessness. May we rid the culture of addiction, uncontrolled anger, intolerance, and oppression. Let us make this world a better place and a reflection of God's kingdom. We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Grace, Norman, Jim, Erin, Chuck, Bunmi, Frantz, Chad, Alta, Alfred, & Ashley. We are so grateful for the compassionate caregivers who minister to those in need. We also remember those who have died and entered into eternal life. Lord, stay close to those whose hearts are broken in the loss of a deeply loved family member or friend. **Renew us in the Spirit of the Lord.**

Today we celebrate joyous occasions in the lives of our parish, as we mark the birthdays of Nathan, Aislinn, Ann, Preethi & Barbara. We are so blessed to share these special times with our family of faith, and we thank each one for their dedication to our church. **Praise be to God.**

Let us raise our hands and worship the Lord in gladness. **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

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING — Christ Has No Body Now But Yours

David Ogden

*Christ has no body now but yours No hands, no feet on earth but yours
Yours are the eyes with which He sees Yours are the feet with which He walks
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world Yours are the hands*

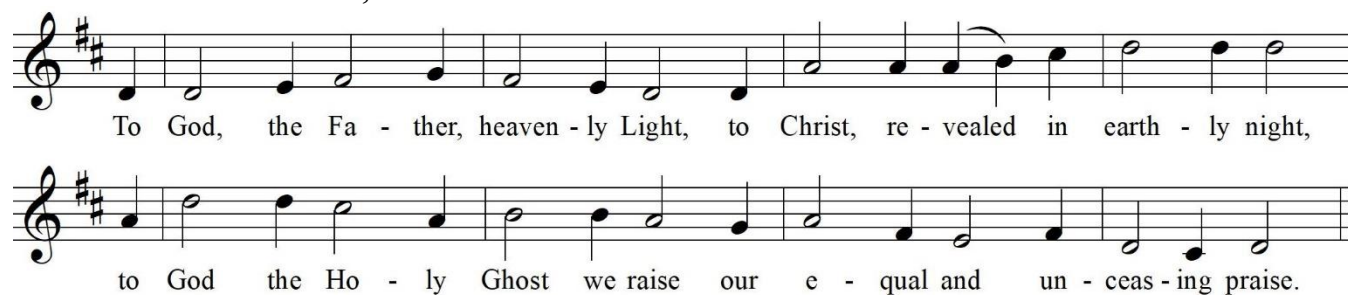
*Christ has no body now but yours No hands, no feet on earth but yours
Yours are the eyes with which He sees Yours are the feet with which He walks
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world Yours are the feet*

*Christ has no body now but yours No hands, no feet on earth but yours
Yours are the eyes with which He sees Yours are the feet with which He walks
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world
Yours are the hands, Yours are the feet, yours are the eyes*

The people stand as able.

PRESENTATION HYMN 124, V. 5

Puer Nobis



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

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: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

***People:* Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

***People:* By your will they were created and have their being.**

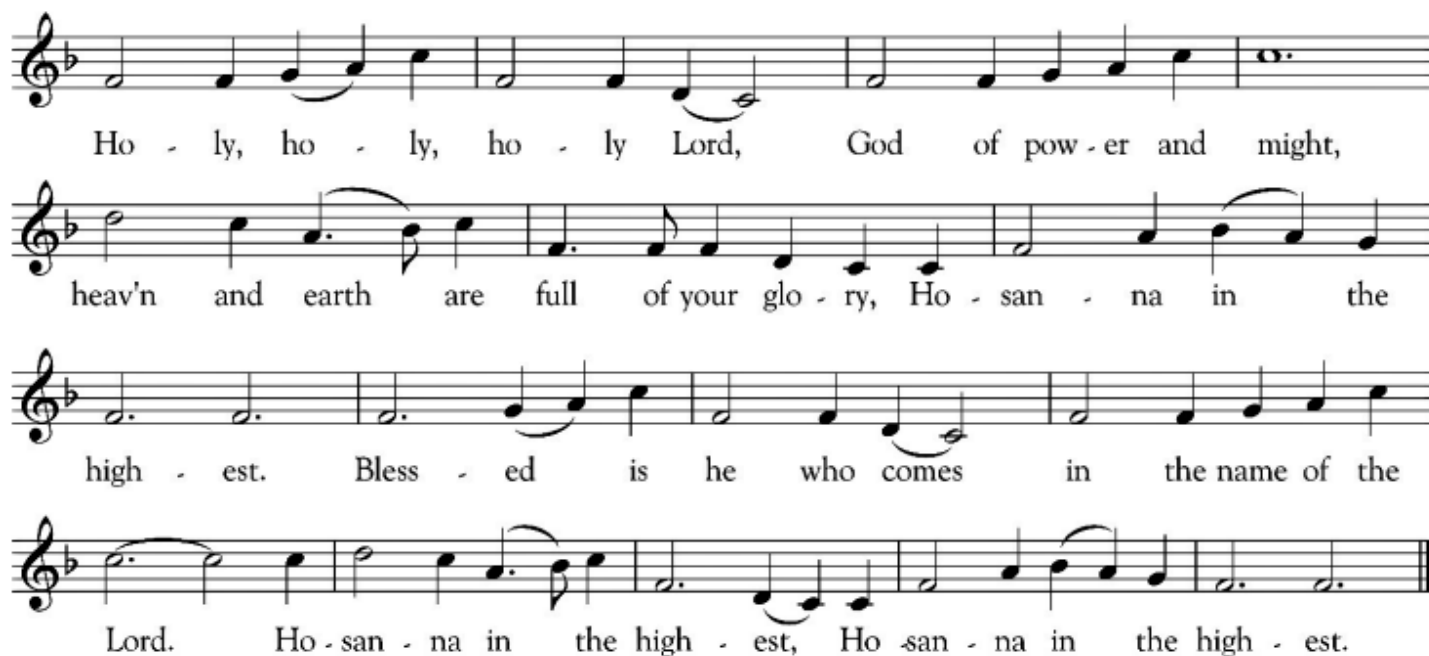
Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

***People:* Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: **By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People: ***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Celebrant: Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

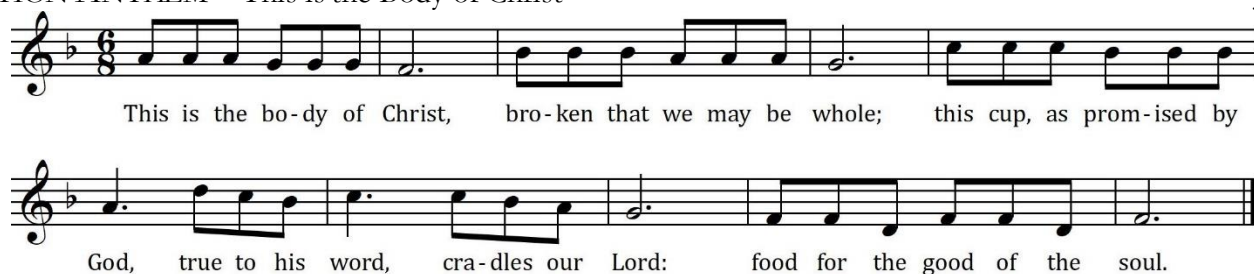
Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All: **Our Father,**
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

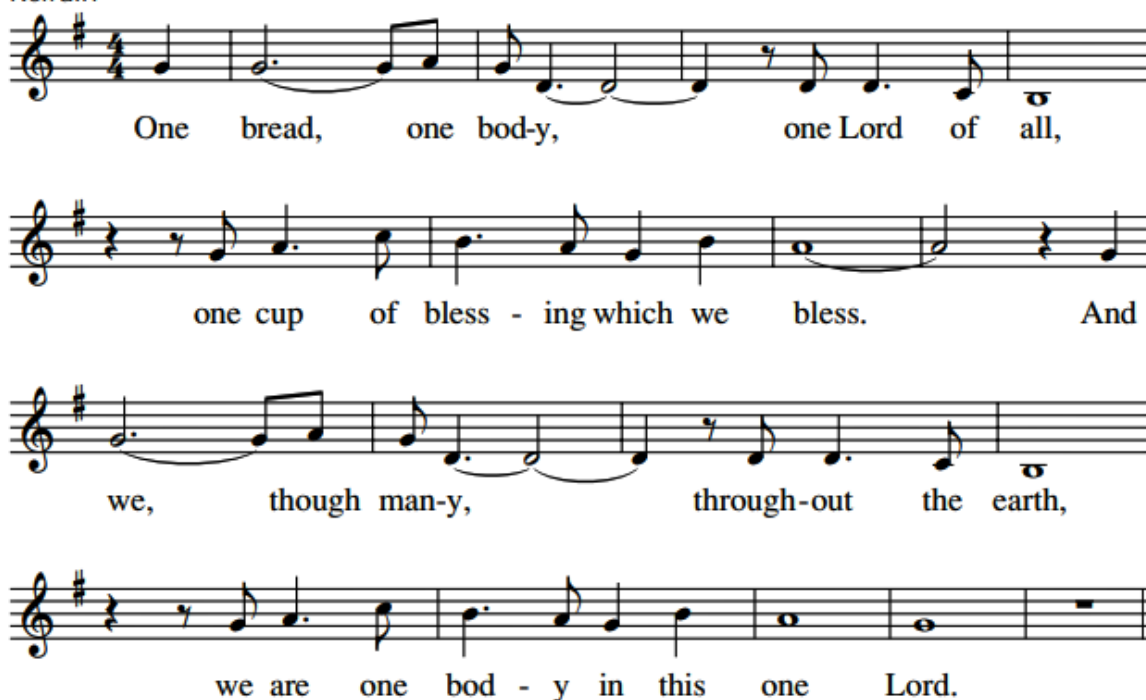
FRACTION ANTHEM – This is the Body of Christ

John Bell



This is the bo-dy of Christ, bro-ken that we may be whole; this cup, as prom-ised by
God, true to his word, cra-dles our Lord: food for the good of the soul.

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,
one cup of bless - ing which we bless. And
we, though man-y, through-out the earth,
we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Verses



1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3. Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,
wom - an or man no more,
one in the Lord of all,
gath-ered to one for all.

D.C.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

THE BLESSING

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

CLOSING HYMN – Christ Be Our Light

Bernadette Farrell

Choir:

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness, Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, Light for the world to see. **Refrain: All sing**

All sing:



Choir:

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled, Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice. **Refrain: All sing**
3. Many the gift, many the people, Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, Making your kingdom come. **Refrain: All sing**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE – Psalm 19: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Benedetto Marcello

*Today's altar flowers were donated in loving memory of a dear mother and grandmother
Edaline Margaret Cameron who left us on 01/19/2019.
Missed by daughter, Nesta Henlon, grandchildren, Chris Cruickshank and Deliah Lawrence.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Youth Formation: Sunday School | Every child is welcome to join us virtually for Sunday School this weekend. The registration form is located [here](#), and you can send them to ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org to enroll your child(ren). Elementary school sessions begin at 9:15 a.m. and you can receive the Zoom link by emailing Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkings@verizon.net. The older youth session begins at 9:30 a.m. and is run by our Youth Minister, Todd Domer. You can reach Todd at youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for Zoom details.

Adult Forum: Sunday Circle | [Sunday Circle](#) continues this Sunday with our January theme of Renewal and Reconciliation. Later this season, we will explore healing, renewal, and commitment to change. Join us each Sunday from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the Great Hall (lower level) of New Brick. Questions? Contact [Mother Marcia](#) or [Jenn Lavanish](#).

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.

Adult and Children's Choir - Tuesdays and Thursdays | Our choirs have resumed activities, and everyone is welcome to join... so maybe 2022 is your year! Please email Len Langrick, our Director of Music, at music@christchurchcolumbia.org to learn more.

Christ Church's Grief Support Group | If you are grieving a loss and would like to occasionally join a group of others for mutual support and learning, please let us know. Christ Church is planning on creating a Zoom gathering, led by Mother Marcia, for those who might find comfort in sharing &/or listening to experiences of processing loss. This group would meet on a schedule that's most convenient for all participants. Mother Marcia is also happy to meet individually to offer pastoral care and counseling, so if you're interested in taking part in either gathering, [please email](#) or speak to her at any time.

Will You Become an Usher or Lector? Give it a Try! | Christ Church needs your help! We need ushers and lectors for both Sunday services, especially during the 8 a.m. service. You will serve at specified scheduled services and select events, will know your schedule well ahead of time, and all ushers and lectors will receive training before scheduling. Please contact Yetti Lipede at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

Attention Ministry and Program Leaders... | At the start of each year, we work to update and refresh our website's ministry and program pages. If you are a part of a Christ Church ministry or group that has a 2022 meeting calendar, updated schedule of events, photos, articles, or any other relevant information that you want to share, please send them to us so that we can keep things up-to-date. Also, if you would like a ministry or program that you're a part of to have its own page on the website, let us know so we can start planning one. Email Chris at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

End-of-Year Statements | The 2021 End-of-Year statements will go out sometime next week, so be on the lookout for yours in the mail. In order for us to send them out, a few volunteers are needed to stuff the envelopes. If you are able to assist next week, please come to the Parish Office on Monday, January 24th around 9 a.m. Thank you.

Women of Christ Church News | The WOCC held their first meeting of the new year on Zoom last week, and are now in the process of preparing our 2022 calendar of events and gatherings. We'll post that online soon, so stay tuned! There is also lots of news on our website, [so please visit this blog post](#) for details on Heart Health Month, WOCC birthday greetings, and holiday donations.

Diocese of Maryland's COVID Update for This Week | The Omicron variant continues to increase the number of cases throughout the region. The most recent Diocesan update can be read in full [here](#). Please note that masks are still required at all times while indoors at Christ Church, and we encourage those with compromised immune systems to remain home on Sundays and worship virtually. As always, we'll continue our dialogue with the appropriate organizations and adjust restrictions with care and consideration. [Email us if you have any questions](#).

Christ Episcopal Church's 2022 Lenten Meditation Book | For each of the last 19 years, Christ Church has compiled and published a Lenten Meditation Book, which is distributed to parishioners around the weekend preceding Ash Wednesday. It is composed of parishioner submissions that center around that year's Spiritual Life Theme and assists us all in times of quiet contemplation. The theme for this year is *"Be One Body in Christ, Belonging to Each Other"* which [you can read more about on our website](#). The LMB - nearly 80 pages last year - shares these submissions and helps us prepare ourselves for rebirth and renewal at Easter. We also post these Meditations on our website and social media each weekday during Lent and present a special musical selection each weekend. Our website is viewed by our congregation and by many thousands of individuals worldwide during the Lenten season.

The Lenten Meditation Book is a fully-collaborative project made of wonderful prayers, songs, stories, poems, readings, and personal reflections. We invite you all to send us yours so that we share them with the world. This year, we need to have all of your submissions in by February 13th in order to put this publication together in time. Submit yours by email to Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com, or place it in the Spiritual Life mailbox in the Church office. You can also speak with Ellen for more information, or for an example of past years' submissions.

Somos Amigos Continues Health Care in the Dominican Republic and Expresses Gratitude for Parishioners' Support | So close, and yet so far. Just when it seemed that [Somos Amigos Medical Missions](#) would be able to return its volunteers to the Dominican Republic, the pandemic interfered yet again. Plans to operate the January 10-14 healthcare clinic with a small group of veteran volunteers had to be changed, disappointing those who had hoped to be back in the little town of Naranjito for the first time in nearly two years.

"Covid, and in particular the omicron variant, just wouldn't let us proceed," wrote Executive Director and CEO Frank Brightwell, who said two people had tested positive who would have been working at the clinic. "We know that our volunteers could have pulled off flawlessly a week of selfless service and care, but we all also must acknowledge that there remains so much out of our control.

"We don't want to put our volunteers, local workers, or patients at risk. "Canceling our plans was the prudent thing to do," he wrote in an email shared with supporters at Christ Church. Instead, Somos Amigos once again partnered with Dominican healthcare providers. Dental care was postponed due to a government moratorium, but medical care proceeded. Five physicians treated the more than 100 patients who were scheduled.

"Our volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization," wrote Brightwell. "Their dedication to our mission and our patients is inspiring and humbling. The eight volunteers who were ready to travel this week represent the best of Somos Amigos. How lucky are we... and our patients... to have people like them be a part of our organization? Thank you."

The would-be travelers included a relative of Christ Church parishioners Dione and Jim Mahoney. They and parishioner Shahra Toth are Somos Amigos supporters who had volunteered in Naranjito before the pandemic. Former parishioners Ed and Mary Keath also were regular volunteers, and Mary participated in an adult forum with Brightwell when he last visited Christ Church in March 2020 to deliver the sermon at both worship services. (See their photo in this [July 1, 2021 Outreach blog](#).)

Somos Amigos' previous healthcare delivery model had depended on volunteer clinicians and other helpers traveling four times a year, collaborating with residents of Naranjito. Instead, Somos Amigos created a local model to serve patients in the rural, mountainous region, as described in the [Oct. 19 Outreach blog](#). The plan was for volunteers to resume travel in 2022.

"Thank you for your continued support. We will soon begin to write that next chapter, but it will take just a little while longer than we would have hoped," Brightwell wrote.

When donations to Christ Church are designated to Somos Amigos, either electronically on Realm or in the memo line of a check, the Outreach Commission sees that your contribution makes its way to the proper recipient. These worthy causes include organizations that are local, national and international. For information, please email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

SAFE Offers Gluten-Free Food Indoors during Winter | The [SAFE Food Pantry](#), a nonprofit organization that helps people who require gluten-free and allergy-friendly groceries, has relocated indoors for the winter months. Distributions of gluten-free or allergy-safe food will take place until further notice at the NonProfit Collaborative, 9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046.

The timeframe remains the same: the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. The next distribution will be on February 19th.

If you have safe foods to donate, you can bring them without making advance arrangements. Or, if you or others whom you know are in need of these items, please come to Patuxent Woods, which is on an RTA bus line.

Another way to obtain food from SAFE is through its partnership with the [Howard County Food Bank](#). Clients of the food bank can receive pre-bagged, non-allergenic food items when they check-in for their monthly visits. For more information, please call or text a SAFE volunteer at 443-741-1060.

Collection Drive Continues to Provide Diapers, Personal Care Items for CCC | At Christ Church, we ask parishioners to continue supporting CCC by collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Please put any of these items in the yellow bin that's marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. You can drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open, or bring them on Sunday when you come for worship.

Christ Church's point of contact is Violet Smith, who delivers the items to CCC for the Saturday distribution. Thank you to Violet and all donors for your generosity.

FISH Continues its Request for Cookies, Crackers, and Snacks | As winter continues, organizers for [FISH of Howard County](#) continue to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill shopping lists. They also say thanks to Christ Church for its response to their earlier needs, which produced an adequate inventory of household cleaning supplies and personal items. The bin is on the breezeway near the door to the Parish Hall.

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.



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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*

Len Langrick, *Interim 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 •

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