

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Second Sunday of Easter

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday, April 7, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. • 10:30 a.m.



Welcome Home!

Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church community: christchurchcolumbia.org. This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone is welcome to receive communion at God's table, and the clergy are happy to speak with you at any time.

We are delighted you're here - welcome home!

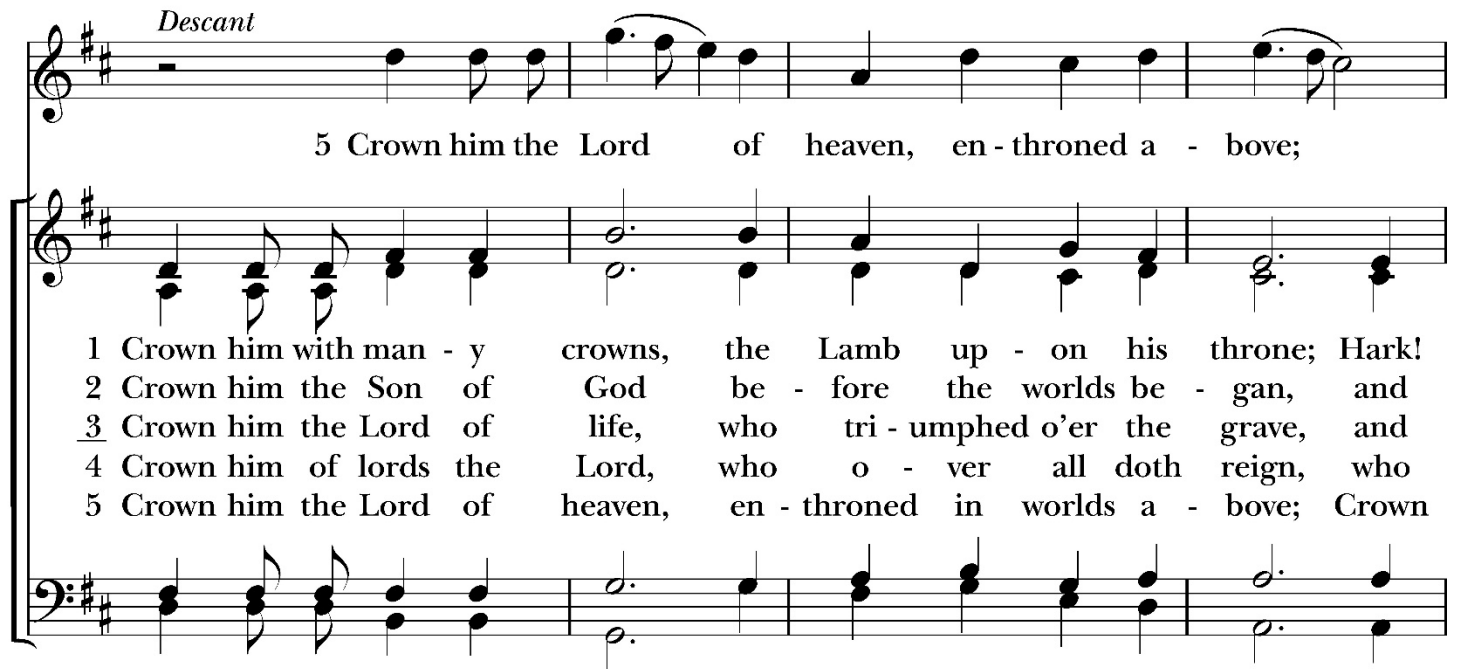
THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude |

Opening Hymn 494 | Crown Him with Many Crowns

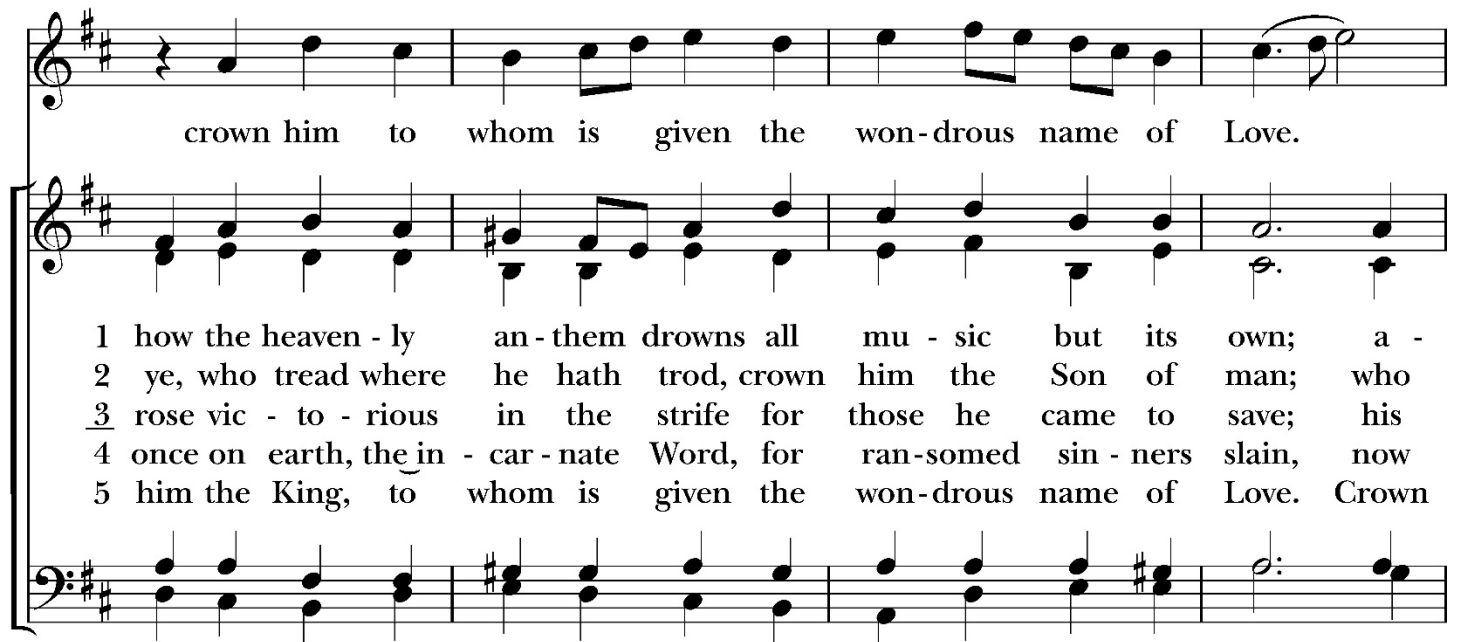
Diademata

Descant



5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned a - bove;

- 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
- 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
- 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
- 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
- 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown



crown him to whom is given the won - drous name of Love.

- 1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
- 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
- 3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
- 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now
- 5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown

Crown him with man-y crowns, as thrones be-fore him

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown

fall, crown him, ye kings, for he is King of all.

1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

Opening Acclamation |

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

James J. Chepponis

REFRAIN:

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth.

Choir:

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father. *Refrain: all sing*

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain: all sing*

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. *Refrain: all sing*

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. *Refrain: all sing*

Opening Collect |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

People: Amen.

The people may be seated.

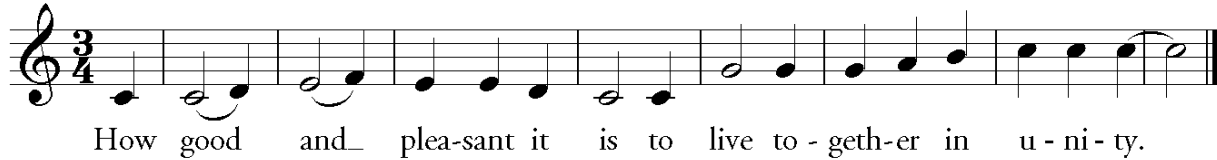
A Reading from Acts 4:32-35 |

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

Antiphon

It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

Antiphon

A Reading from 1 John 1:1-2:2 |

Reader: A reading from the First Epistle of John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

Antiphon (at the beginning)



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



1 O sons and daught - ers, let us sing!
2 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear;
3 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard,
4 "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as, see;
5 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied,
6 How blest are they who have not seen,



1 The King of heaven, the glo - rious King,
2 a - midst them came their Lord most dear,
3 how they had seen the ris - en Lord,
4 my hands, my feet, I show to thee;
5 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
6 and yet whose faith has con - stant been,



1 o'er death and hell rose tri - umph - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
2 and said, "My peace be on all here." Al - le - lu - ia!
3 he doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!
4 not faith - less, but be - liev - ing be." Al - le - lu - ia!
5 "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!
6 for they e - ter - nal life shall win. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)



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

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

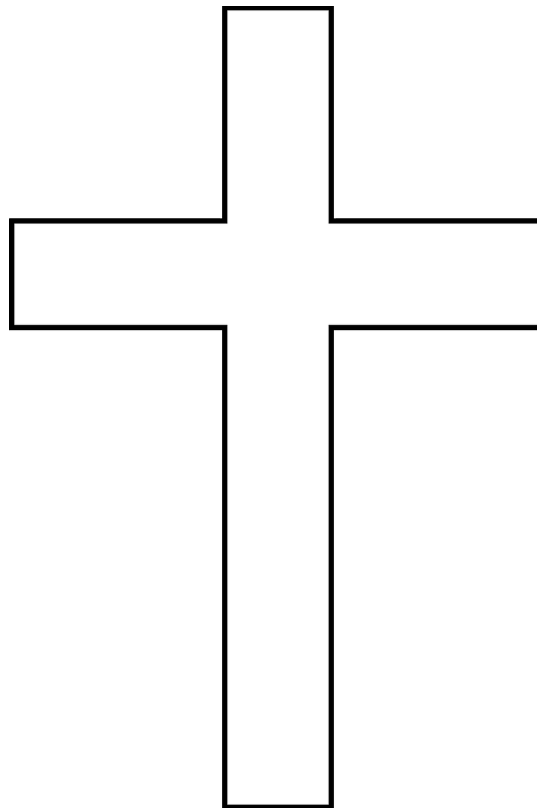
But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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



Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eous-ness,

5 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

Optional Ending

9 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 Prayers of the People |

Proclaim, profess, teach, and testify to Christ's glorious love and redeeming sacrifice. This is our mandate today, just as we are spiritually compelled to do, following the Resurrection of our Lord. Let us continue to bring Jesus' message of renewal and rebirth to all whom we encounter. **Lord, we exalt You.**

Christ came into the world to give to all abundant life. May we never doubt His presence and power to overcome evil and death in all ages. His victory is eternal. Let us rejoice in his gift of the Holy Spirit. **Lord, we are always in need of Your grace.**

We offer thanksgiving for the worldwide Church, serving as Christ's body in our broken world. We pray the Church may grow, flourish, and be united in purpose and love. We pray for persecuted Christians, who courageously practice their faith despite the dangers surrounding them. Together may we serve to pursue a solution to conflict and a path to peace.

In the Anglican Communion, we ask God's blessing for The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria. We also pray today for our sister parishes in the Diocese of Maryland: Holy Nativity, Baltimore; St. Andrew's, Baltimore; and Trinity, Towson. We pray for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Bishops, Carrie and Eugene; our Christ Church clergy; our vestry and lay leaders; and our Rector Emeritus, Richard. We feel so grateful for their ministry. **Lord, our strength is in You.**

We extend our warm embrace to all visitors and newcomers who worship with us today. We hope that our gifts of prayers, music, and shared Eucharist enrich your lives. We are so glad to be with you all. **Lord, through the Holy Spirit, You guide us and give us continued hope.**

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially Erica, Marilyn, Dickson, Carolyn, Calvin, Pamela, Lexi, Kim, Tim, Karen, Jim, Doug, Mary Ann, Barbara, Sherry, Patricia, Cindy, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Mildred and Nell, and those who we now name. We ask for Your healing touch to release all those in need from pain, loneliness, and despair. We extend our compassion to the homeless, all victims of violence, and to the alienated in our community, our nation, and the world. We remember those who have died, especially those we now name. May Christ remain close to those who grieve and give them strength and comfort. We pray for those in military service, especially Conner Warlow and Kofi Abdallah. May we realize our dependence on Christ in our lives, enabling us to be a people of service to all. **Jesus, our Beginning and End, our Alpha and Omega, and our Eternal Truth.**

Our congregation shares occasions of joy in our lives. We thank God for the birthdays of Emmanuel, Daniella, Patricia & Ivy, and baptismal anniversaries of Luke, Bob, Dee, Donna, Amy, Evelyn, Francis, Diya, Brian, Kimberley, Laura, Priscilla, Catherine, Joseph, Margaret, Alfred, Rhonda & Susan. Lord, Your Church is a fabric woven of many peoples and cultures. Help us to reach a greater understanding your plans for our lives, revealing boundless love and endless opportunities to further Your Kingdom. **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 Anthem | This Joyful Eastertide

arr. Vernon Hoyle

Please scan to give.



Presentation Hymn 400 (v. 7) |

Laast Uns Erfreuen

**Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him, Alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Eucharistic Prayer B |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

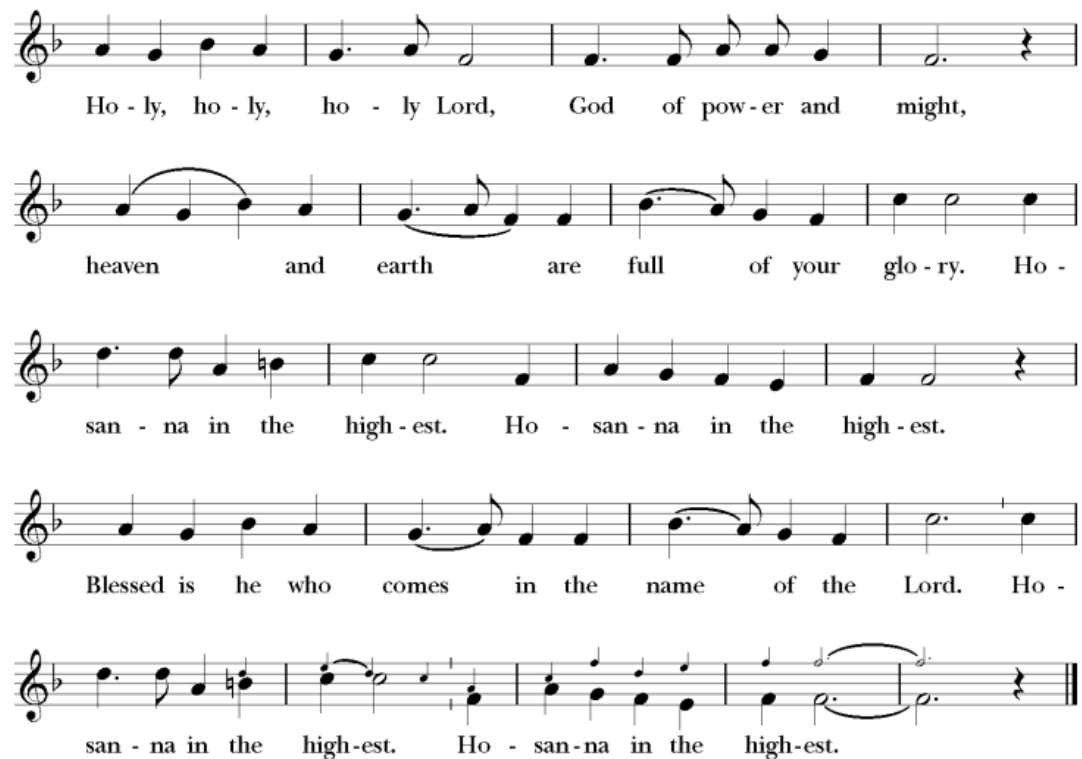
***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

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

All:

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

People: Amen. (*sung*)

The Lord's Prayer |

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

Our Fa - ther in heaven, hal - lowed be your Name, your king - dom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.

For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.

Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread |

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

Mason Martens

This setting is not used in Lent.

Antiphon: Cantor; then All



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

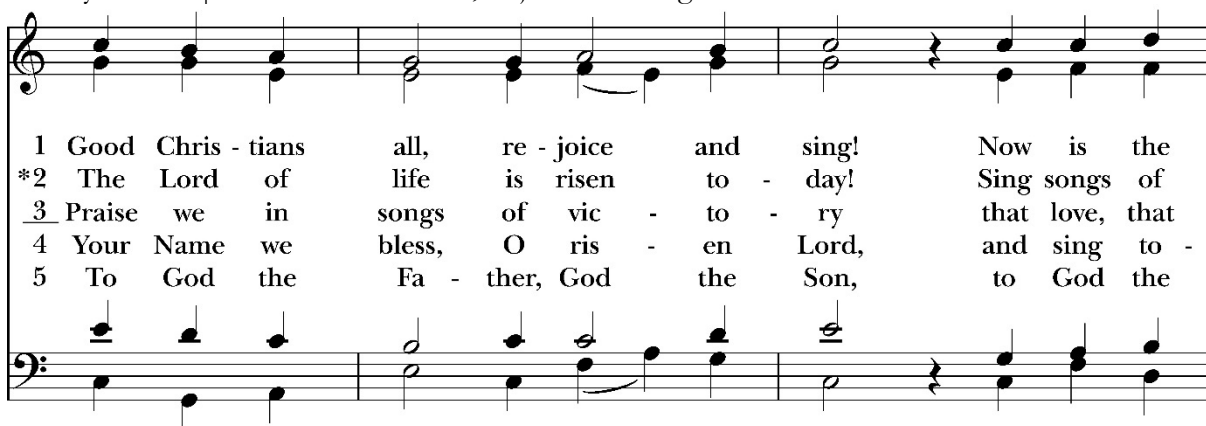


2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,

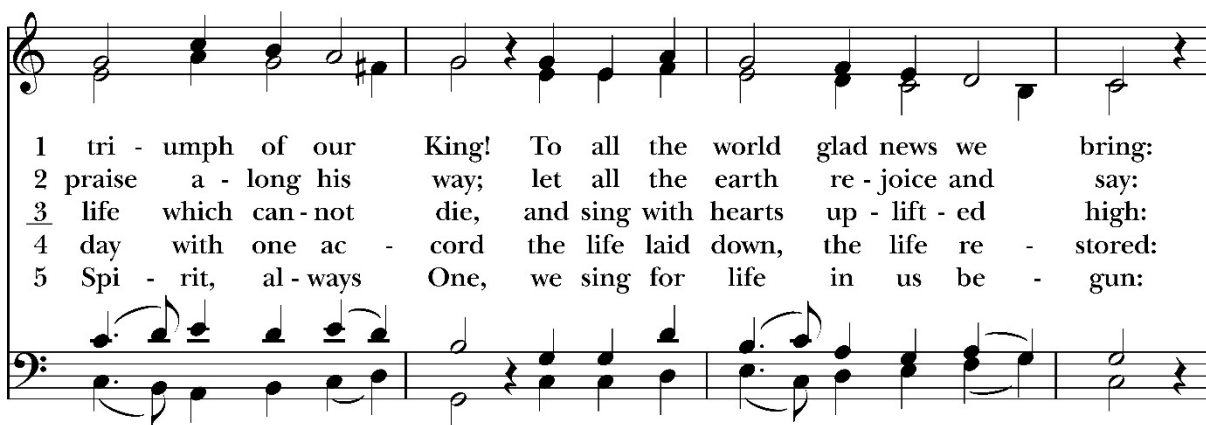


for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]





1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the
 *2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
 4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the



1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
 2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
 3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:
 5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:



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

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

Closing Hymn 490 | I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.
 I want to look at Je-sus.
 I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
 When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.
 show me the way to the Fa-ther.
 shall know the joy of Je-sus.

continued

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Dismissal |

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

Recessional | Variation IX 'Nimrod', from the Enigma Variations Op. 36

Sir Edward Elgar

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Sonni Aribiah

Ushers: Michon Semon

Chalicerist: Sonni Aribiah

9:00 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader:

Ushers: Yetti Lipede

Acolytes and Crucifer:

10:30 a.m. Service

Lector/Reader: Kathy Lyon

Ushers: Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams, Cherry Williams, Beth Dagne, Alex Amponsah,
Hope & Eva Oladipupo

Acolytes and Crucifer: Mikailu Sherrif, Anya Sheriff, Ava Fox

Chalicerist: Theo Jones-Quartey & Kathy Lyon

Altar Guild

Sonni Aribiah, Ivy Amponsah, Ed Koharik, Nicole Moon-Koharik

PARISH CALENDAR

APRIL 7 TO APRIL 13

Sunday, April 7

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 am	Breakfast – New Brick, lower level
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 am	Family Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 am	Sunday School – New Brick & Parish Hall, lower levels
9:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick & Zoom
9:30 am	Bible Study – Parish Hall, conference room
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
1:30 – 4:30 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room & Zoom
5:00 pm	FISH Annual Meeting/Potluck – New Brick, lower level
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

Monday, April 8

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:45 pm	Dorsey Center Meal Drop-off
3:15 pm	Grassroots Drop-off
7:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
7:30 pm	Columbia Conjurers – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 pm	Outreach Meeting – Zoom

Tuesday, April 9

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
11:00 – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 pm	Buildings and Grounds Meeting – Zoom

Wednesday, April 10

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
10:00 – 11:00 am	Bible Study – Parish Hall, conference room
5:30 pm	Refugee Leadership Meeting – Zoom
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, April 11

8:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 pm	Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:00 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, April 12

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – New Brick, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club – Zoom
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, April 13

9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Buildings and Grounds Work Day
12:00 – 2:30 pm	WOCC Robinson Nature Center Lunch and Walk
2:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level



WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG/2024CAMP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication,

email to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.

For a digital copy of this service leaflet with working links, etc., visit the main page of our website.

Formation Classes Return This Week

All formation gatherings make their return to Christ Church this Sunday morning. You are welcome to participate in Sunday School, Adult Forum, Bible Study, or any other class.

Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer is a weekly evening prayer gathering that helps us be present and open to God. The daily practice of this prayer could lead to a more intimate union with God and a more powerful experience of God's presence in our lives. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. Join us in Old Brick at 7:00 p.m. this Monday. **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **875 9496 3596** and the Passcode is **Centering!**

Bible Study and Lunch - Wednesday Mornings

Christ Church's Bible Study meets each Wednesday morning in the Conference Room of the Parish House, explore the Lectionary readings for that Sunday, and then have lunch together at a local restaurant. Wednesday Bible Study begins at 10:00 a.m.

Midday Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

On Thursdays, join us for midday Healing Eucharist in Old Brick, with readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. All are welcome to reflect, pray, and participate in a service in our beautiful, historic chapel - the oldest building of worship still in regular use in Howard County.

Christ Church Choirs - Thursday Evenings

The choir resumes on Thursday evenings in New Brick on April 11th and everyone is welcome to take part. No matter if you're a novice singer or a seasoned musician, there's a place for you in our Vocal or Handbell Choirs. If you're interested, please email Larissa at music@christchurchcolumbia.org

CEC Book Club - Friday Evenings

The CECBC returns this week - and with a new book! We are just beginning to read and discuss the bestseller *How to Know a Person* by David Brooks; you can learn more about the book **here** and grab it from your favorite bookseller. We are always welcoming new people, so if reading and exchanging perspectives sounds enjoyable to you, log in and join us! We're aiming to discuss the first three chapters this Friday and will gather on Zoom at 7:30 p.m. weekly. **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **817 9855 4366**, and the Password is **CECBooks**. Email Ellen Hoke at bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

CEC Health Ministry Spring News - April 18

Many health and fitness-related activities are happening this spring and we hope you will join us for these! First, we have a Health Ministry meeting on April 18th and you can join us virtually on Zoom - **the link is here**, Meeting ID is **876 0562 2927**, and the Passcode is **Healthy**. Plus, there are blood pressure screenings, one-on-one pharmacist consults, cycling trips, mental health walks, and so much more on the horizon! Read our latest blog post at www.christchurchcolumbia.org/post/health-ministry-spring-update for all of the latest CEC Health Ministry news.

(continued)

CEC Annual Spiritual Life Retreat in Rehoboth Beach - May 3

Christ Church's Spiritual Life Commission just concluded presenting our wonderful Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series, and now brings us a spring retreat gathering opportunity in Rehoboth Beach - an annual event held for over a decade now. From May 3rd to 5th, we'll head to The DuPont Memorial House and Mother Marcia Davenport will lead us in further discussions and exploration of our year's Spiritual Life Theme, *Be a Joyful Gift to Others*. This is a wonderfully restorative weekend of prayer, discussion, meditation, leisure activities, and worship, and you can find more information on our website - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/post/rehoboth2024

Mother's Day Flower Sale - Begins May 11

The Youth Ministry is excited to present the 2024 Mother's Day Flower Sale at Christ Church! Over two weekends in May, they will have gorgeous flowers and handmade arrangements available for purchase. Stay tuned for times and more details!

CEC Center for Spiritual Nourishment - May 11

We are excited to announce the launch of our Center for Spiritual Nourishment to provide opportunities for spiritual growth for our members and the larger community. A group of parishioners has been working on creating a center that includes multiple sessions covering an array of spiritually nourishing activities. Everyone is welcome to join us for our first retreat on Saturday, May 11th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in New Brick. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks, and email csn@christchurchcolumbia.org if you are interested or have any questions.

VBS and Music: a Great Summertime Pair - This June

This summer, Christ Church is hosting a special combined program - Vacation Bible School and Choir Camp! This series takes place from June 24 to 28th and gathers daily from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. At VBS&CC, children will enjoy a week of Bible stories, music, science, crafts, games, and friends! Snacks, lunch, and refreshments are served daily, and after the 10:30 a.m. June 30th service, we'll have a wonderful celebration with ice cream and snacks for all participants. The cost for VBS&CC is \$30 per child or \$75 per family, and **you can process payment here.** Volunteers are needed, so come and have fun with us! **Email us** if you want to help us with the program, or if you have any questions. Visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/vbs for more details, and we'll see you this summer!

Communion to You

To connect more directly with those of you who are local and worship virtually, Christ Church offers *Communion to You*, an opportunity to have altar gifts delivered to you or made available for pickup at our campus. If you want more information, **please complete this form** or **email** the Church Office.

Healing Stations

Christ Church now has healing stations during the 10:30 Eucharist at the back of the sanctuary. If you need prayer, we invite you to visit the healing station after receiving Communion. We also welcome those of you who wish to help, so if you are interested in joining a group of parishioners who offer healing prayer, email Rebecca Warlow at healingministry@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Please Support the Rector's Discretionary Fund

The RDF typically helps fulfill the needs of those in our community. There are real people with real needs that we help support, so we appeal to you to consider supporting the RDF for us to help our neighbors. **Visit our main Online Giving Form** and select "Rector's Discretionary Fund" from the *FUND* dropdown menu if you'd like to help.

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LAST CALL: Here's a Chance to Meet FISH Volunteers at A Potluck Dinner - 5 p.m. this Sunday at Christ Church

We're invited to a potluck dinner this Sunday, April 7th at 5 p.m. right here at Christ Church. Join us in the Great Hall of New Brick to welcome FISH of Howard County to our parish. As an all-volunteer organization, **FISH** is bringing together its volunteers.

If you're among those who routinely shop for extra grocery items to feed the less fortunate, this is a great chance to learn how the items make their way to those in need. As FISH says in its invitation: "ALL are welcome –phone volunteers, delivery volunteers, other volunteers, potential volunteers, plus spouses and friends....It's a nice opportunity for new volunteers to meet the friends whose voices you hear on the phone and for everyone to get together, enjoy good food, and have a great time."

FISH is a neighbor-to-neighbor nonprofit organization that, since 1976, has helped county residents who have legitimate crisis needs. It provides emergency food, referral information, and limited financial assistance for such things as eviction and utility turnoff prevention and medicine.

Food aid is typically a 7-to-10-day supply that is delivered to the home. In 2023, that amounted to 3,000 meals. It also offers hygiene, paper, and laundry supplies.

Christ Church, acting through the Outreach Commission, has supported FISH for many years. Parishioner Andy DeLong, who volunteers as the treasurer of FISH, is expected to participate in the potluck dinner event. Plan to attend and say hello.

Please RSVP by contacting two other FISH volunteers. Please tell one of the women who are organizing the dinner how many are coming and what you will bring. Email Kathy Raab, who can be reached at raab@umbc.edu, or Nula Lu Roberts, nuala4ney@aol.com.

Whether you can attend or not, please keep collecting items. Put non-perishable foods and toiletries in the basket at the altar or in a marked yellow bin on the breezeway between the Parish Hall and Old Brick. FISH provides committed support to select families in need. The neighbors you help give thanks for all you do in their support.

Inviting You to Join Our Monthly Outreach Meeting on Monday, April 8th

Learn many ways to help others by joining us remotely for the Outreach Commission meeting on Monday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. Our mission has a local, national, and international scope, and you can join us virtually on Zoom to see how you can take part - [the link is here](#), the Meeting ID is **864 9837 1844**, and the Passcode is **Outreach!**

Help the Homeless on Monday, April 8, by Preparing a Dish for Grassroots' Live-In Facility or Serving a Meal at Its Day Resource Center

On the second Monday of each month, Christ Church provides a hot midday meal for the homeless at the Day Resource Center (DRC) and drops off dinner at a live-in shelter whose 50 residents include about 20 children. A team of volunteers led by parishioner Shahra Toth makes side dishes and desserts that we serve in person at the DRC, which the Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center operates. To join us on Monday, April 8, please sign up by Sunday, April 7. If you wish to volunteer or bring food for the midday meal, our [DRC online signup form](#) describes the procedure. We most recently took part on March 11 (see photos).

The drop-off time is 12:45 p.m. in the Christ Church parking lot near Old Brick for DRC's food, drinks, and supplemental items such as fruit and granola bars. In-person volunteers gather at that time to carpool to Jessup. Later,

parishioners who cook or shop for the evening meal at Grassroots' Live-In Facility arrive in the Old Brick parking lot between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. Get details in our [Grassroots online signup form](#).

Grassroots staff serves the evening meal at its Freetown Road facility. It's efficient to provide for both venues on the same day. Your donations and Vestry-approved funds pay for the fried chicken entrees. Thank you!

Columbia Community Care Needs Diapers and Other Baby-Care Items

Columbia Community Care (CCC) will reopen its three distribution sites on Saturday, April 6, after closing them last week for the Easter holiday. Those who need groceries and other necessities can find information by going online to the ["I Need Help"](#) portion of CCC's website.

You can learn how to volunteer at the sites or at the pantry operated by CCC by visiting the ["I Can Help" portion of its website](#). Look for updates on the [CCC Facebook Group](#).

Please continue to collect diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers for CCC. Put them in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sundays. The Christ Church point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bin and delivers its contents.

Lake Elkhorn Middle School Needs Your Help

Lake Elkhorn Middle School will be inviting families to two workshops this spring to support them in the challenging job of being parents. Tracey Williams, the counselor at LEMS, has asked Christ Church to supply a dinner for the families and provide childcare during the workshops. The first workshop is Wednesday, April 10th, and the second is Tuesday, May 14th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the cafeteria.

We need adults and high school students who can serve food to all and play games with the children, ages Kindergarten to 8th grade. Please contact Deacon Denise deacondenise@christchurchcolumbia.org or Cathy Whittaker catharinewhittaker@gmail.com if you can help on either or both of these dates.

Enjoy Food and Drink to Help Support DreamBuilders!

Come join us at Bushel & Peck restaurant in Clarksville, MD on Wednesday, May 15th at 4 p.m. for an evening of dining, refreshments, and fellowship in support of DreamBuilders. One month later, DreamBuilders will be building three homes in Hazard, Kentucky, and a portion of the proceeds from your meals and drinks will go directly toward funding the materials for these three homes. More details to come...

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.





WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH

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

Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving.

THANK YOU.

Stewardship 2024

We are so blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who support our ministry of faithful service, and we hope that each parishioner will prayerfully consider their contribution to Christ Church. You may pick up a pledge card in the Narthex to complete, or you can complete one electronically on our website - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/2024-pledge

Text Giving

You can give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply send a text with the word CECGIVING to 73256, and you'll receive a secure link to our page where you can set up a one-time or recurring gift.

Online Giving

You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing toward your annual pledge or another offering. Whether it's a one-time donation or a recurring gift, you can go to our overview page for instructions and links. Signing up is fast and easy; if you need assistance doing so, or if you have any Stewardship-related questions, please contact us at <mailto:info@christchurchcolumbia.org>



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev. Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*

Kiona Lookingbill, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

Vestry

Jan DeBoissiere (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*)

Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Jonah Aribiah (*Youth Liaison*)

Denisa Abdallah • Ronald Baran • Tim Beaty • John Curley • Simone Kolnik • Ray Lyon • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre

Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Cherry Lynn Williams