

# Christ Episcopal Church

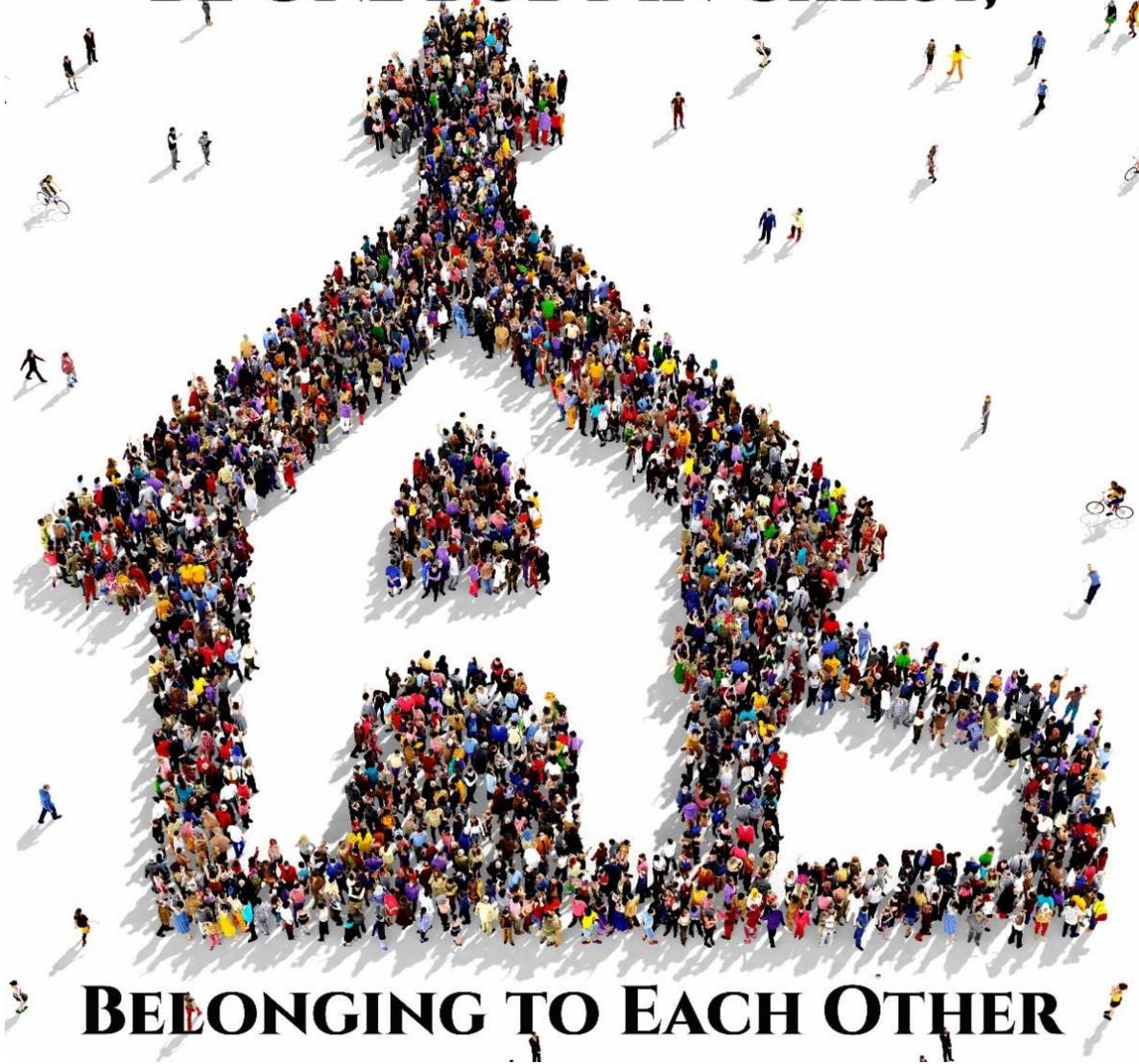
*Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ*

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Sunday, April 21, 2024 | 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

## BE ONE BODY IN CHRIST,



## BELONGING TO EACH OTHER

### 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](http://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 | Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist, Bux WV 208

Dietrich Buxtehude

Opening Hymn 518 | Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

*Descant*

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and  
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of  
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of  
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

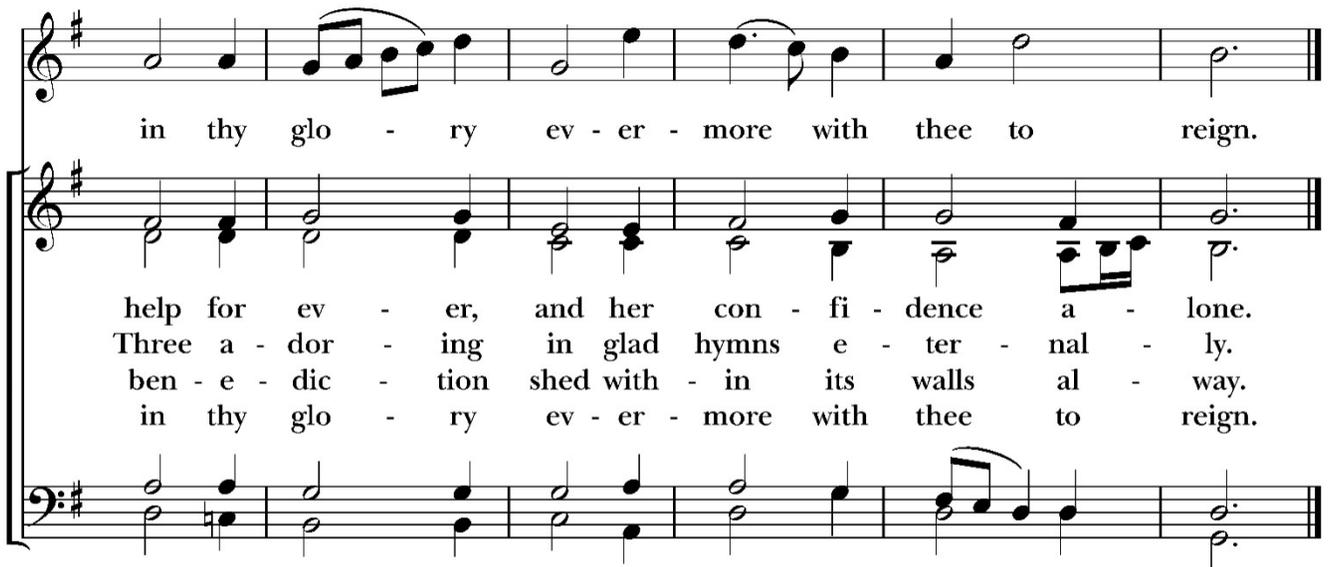
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,  
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion  
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness  
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in  
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est  
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a descant at the beginning. The lyrics are arranged in four parts, with the first part being a descant. The score is in G major and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.



in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

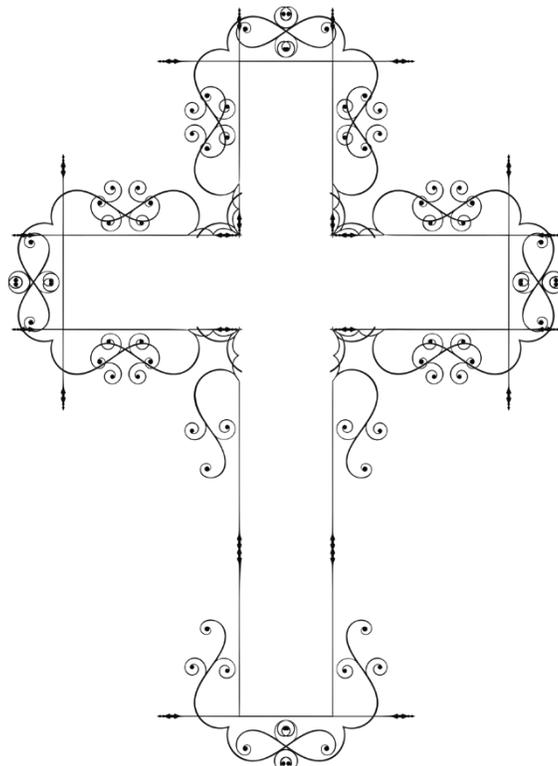
help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.  
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

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.**



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.

Opening Collect |

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*

A Reading from Acts 4:5-12 |

*Reader:* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.

## Psalm 23

1. The Lord is my **shepherd**;\*  
I shall not **want**.
2. He maketh me to lie down in green **pastures**;\*  
He leadeth me beside the still **waters**. *Refrain*
3. He restoreth my **soul**;\*  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's **sake**.
4. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no **evil**;\*  
for thou are with me; thy rod and thy staff they **comfort** me. *Refrain*
5. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine **enemies**;\*  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth **over**.
6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my **life**,\*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord **forever**. *Refrain*

*Reader:* A reading from the First Epistle of John.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

*The people stand as able.*

Sequence Hymn 193 | That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

*Puer nobis*



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the  
2 His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed; his  
3 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, do  
4 O Lord of all, with us a - bide in  
5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing  
2 wound - ed hands and feet he showed; those scars their sol - emn  
3 thou thy - self our hearts pos - sess that we may give thee  
4 this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon  
5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther



1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.  
2 wit - ness gave that Christ was ris - en from the grave.  
3 all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.  
4 death can wield thine own re - deemed for ev - er shield.  
5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

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

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

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

*Deacon:* 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-eousness,

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.*

Sermon | The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

*The people stand as able.*

The Prayers of the People |

Today's readings present God as the Good Shepherd, and we as his very fortunate sheep. He cares for all our needs and leads us into safety, even when we stray from the flock and get ourselves in trouble. Christ says in today's gospel: "My sheep hear my voice. I know them...." We too know Him and his love for us. We pray, **Bless you Good Shepherd and thank You for your nurturing protection.**

We give a warm welcome to those who are new to Christ Church and those who are visiting this morning, both in person and online. We thank you for sharing in our worship, and we look forward to meeting you. We offer prayers for the universal Church and especially in the Anglican Communion for **The Anglican Church of Australia**. In the Diocese of Maryland, we ask our Lord's blessing for our sister parishes. We pray for our Church leadership: for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Eugene and Carrie, our Diocesan Bishops; for our Rector, Emmanuel and our Deacon, Denise; for our Rector Emeritus, Richard; and for our postulants Mike, Kiona, and Rebecca. **We pray for Your holy church and all who worship in it.**

We pray for all those who are ill in mind, body, or spirit, and those who care for them. We pray this week especially Katie, Brady, Fran, Kathleen, Mollie, Kathy, Jim, Kim, Tim, Erica, Marilyn, Carolyn, Mary Ann, Barbara, Sherry, Patricia, Cindy, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Mildred and Nell, and those you now name. We pray also for those whose needs are known only to You. We pray for those in military service, especially Conner Warlow and Kofi Abdullah. Good Shepherd, lead us beside still waters, and restore our souls. We pray, **Lord, may your healing touch ease their pain and restore them.**

We ask God Our Shepherd to accept in his loving arms all those who have departed this life, especially Alfreda Baran & Wesley and those you now name. We pray for all who mourn them, that they may heal in the warmth of your love. Though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we shall fear no evil, for You are with us. We pray, **Thank you Jesus, for the gift of eternal life.**

We are thankful for the many occasions we have to celebrate. We rejoice with all those members of our church family who are celebrating this week: especially the birthdays of Victoria, Philip, Westley, Veronica & Rosa; Wedding anniversary of Patricia & Errick Henlon, and baptismal anniversaries of Ian, Donna, Marie & Karen. We pray, **Thank you Lord for the gifts of your creation.**

We pray for peace in the world, an end to armed conflict, and especially for refugees looking for a safe place for their families. We pray for a world that will counter hatred and violence with love and peace. We pray for those who believe terrorism is a holy war, that they may see Your loving light and follow Your path to love and peace. **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer for peace. Amen.**

*You may step forward to the altar for a blessing from the Celebrant.*

Two systems of musical notation in 3/4 time, key of D major. The first system contains the lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly." The second system contains the lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!"

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

*Please scan to give.*



**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!**

*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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**All:**           **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.**

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.**

*organ*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the  
 world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
 take a - way the sins of the world: — grant us peace.

Communion Hymn 645 | The King of Love My Shepherd Is

*St. Columba*

1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
 \* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 \* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness

1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my  
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.  
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.  
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!  
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

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.**

Eucharistic Visitors' Prayer | 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services

*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.***



*Unison*

1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - a - phs, cher - u -  
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the  
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and  
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems

*Harmony* *Unison*

bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry  
 ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou  
 pro - phets blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye  
 ech - o - ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To

out, do - min - ions, prince - doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'  
 bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the  
 ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the  
 God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in

*Harmony*

choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Lord, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 song, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 One, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

*Unison*

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

Dismissal |

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

Recessional |

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## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

### 8:00 a.m. Service

**Lector/Reader:** Joan Harvey

**Ushers:** Jo Emily Knox

**Chalicerist:** Joan Harvey

### 10:30 a.m. Service

**Lector/Reader:** Robin Bradley

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

**Acolytes and Crucifer:** Gavin Couch, Ainsley Couch, Jonah Aribiah

**Chalicerist:** Ivy Amponsah & Kathy Lyon

### Altar Guild

Jan DeBoissiere, Virginia Jarrett

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## PARISH CALENDAR

APRIL 21 TO APRIL 27

### Sunday, April 21

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 – 5:45 pm	Sundays at Three – New Brick, upper level
1:30 – 4:30 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room & Zoom
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

### Monday, April 22

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

**Tuesday, April 23**

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  
6:30 – 8:30 pm Vestry Meeting – Old Brick & Zoom  
7:00 – 11:00 pm Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

**Wednesday, April 24**

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

**Thursday, April 25**

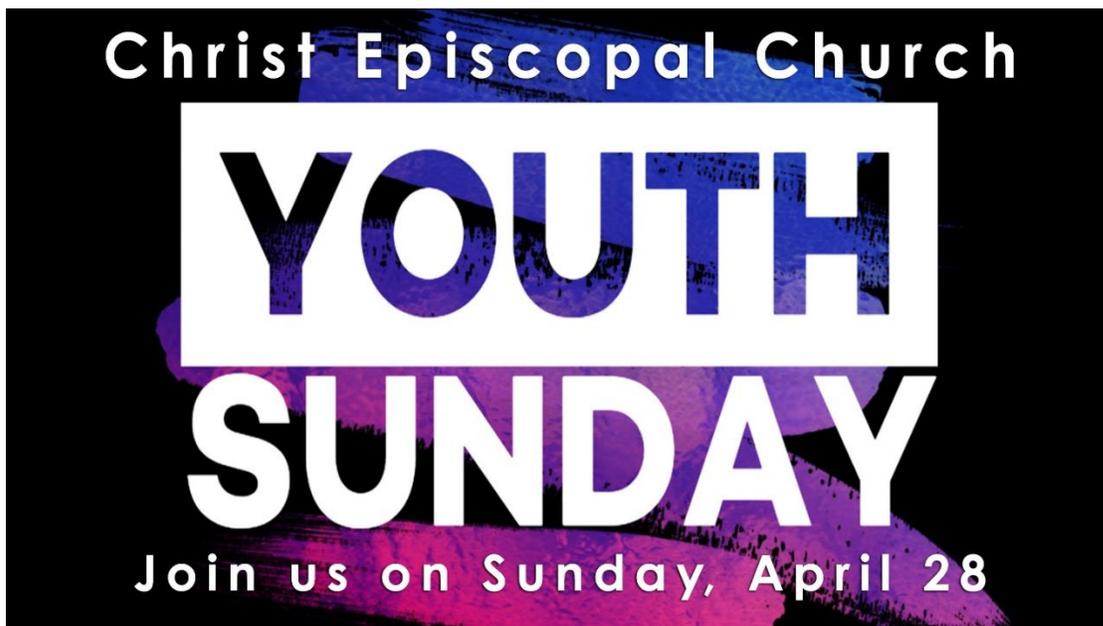
8:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream  
12:00 pm Healing Eucharist – Old Brick  
12:00 – 1:00 pm Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom  
7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level  
7:00 – 11:00 pm Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level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

**Friday, April 26**

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream  
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Livestream  
7:00 pm Heaven's for Real Movie Screening – Parish Hall, 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 27**

11:00 am Alfreda Baran Memorial Service – New Brick, upper level  
1:00 pm Alfreda Baran Repast – New Brick, lower level  
2:00 pm AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level  
2:30 – 5:00 pm Youth Sunday Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level  
7:00 – 11:00 pm Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication,  
email to [communications@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto: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.

## Easter IV - This Sunday

Christ Church has three worship opportunities this Sunday - you can join us for an intimate service in Old Brick at 8 a.m., our Children and Family Worship - a service designed to engage with the younger members of our parish family - in the New Brick sanctuary at 9 a.m., or Holy Eucharist with music and choir, in New Brick at 10:30 a.m. All formation gatherings also will take place - you are welcome to participate in Sunday School, Adult Forum, Bible Study, or any other gathering. **We hope to see you at church!**

## Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer is a weekly evening prayer gathering that 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

Choir rehearsals are always welcoming new participants - anyone can join us! We gather on Thursday evenings at 7:00 (Handbells) and 7:30 (Vocal), so whether you're a novice (or shower!) 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](mailto:music@christchurchcolumbia.org).

## CEC Book Club - Friday Evenings

The CECBC recently began the bestseller *How to Know a Person* by David Brooks. We are always welcoming new people to the group, so if reading and exchanging perspectives sounds enjoyable to you, learn more about the book [here](#), grab it from your favorite bookseller, then 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](mailto:bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org) for more information.

## Movie Screening - April 26

On Friday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m. there will be a showing of the film *Heaven is for Real* in the Parish Hall's lower level. It's the story of Colton Burpo who, at the age of four, undergoes emergency appendix surgery, has a near-death experience, then shares details he couldn't have known about, and speaks of incidents with people he never met before. Everyone's welcome to join in, so bring potluck munchies for a movie crowd and stay for a lively discussion that follows the screening.

### **Recognition, Investiture, and Seating of the XV Bishop of Maryland - April 27**

The Right Reverend Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, who recently visited Christ Church for Easter Vigil, will be formally Seated as our next Bishop at the Cathedral of the Incarnation on Saturday, April 27th. The choral prelude for this ceremony begins at 10:30 a.m. with the Recognition and Investiture starting at 11. You can go and be a part of this historic occasion - [learn more about the event here](#).

### **Come to Christ Church for a Jazz Concert - April 28**

Celebrate **Jazz Appreciation Month** with a lively jazz concert featuring The Leister Quartet on Sunday, April 28th at 2 p.m. in New Brick. We have thoroughly enjoyed this group's music during our Jazz Vespers and Jazz Eucharist services, but now we get to hear them in a secular concert that's sure to have us dancing in our seats! Tickets are not required for this event - all "pay-what-you-wish" donations will go directly to the Quartet as thanks - and refreshments will be provided at a post-concert reception.

### **First Wednesday Fellowship Returns! - May 1**

We are very excited to announce the return of FWF! Next month, join us for an exciting Cinco de Mayo celebration on Wednesday, May 1st beginning at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall of New Brick. Bring a dish to share, B.Y.O.B. - or simply bring yourself. This is going to be a lot of fun, so you definitely don't want to miss it! Call the Church Office or email [info@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:info@christchurchcolumbia.org) if you need more info.

### **CEC Annual Spiritual Life Retreat in Rehoboth Beach - May 3**

Christ Church's Spiritual Life Commission presents a springtime retreat gathering. From May 3-5, we'll head to The DuPont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach, and Mother Marcia Davenport will lead us in 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 more information is on our website - [www.christchurchcolumbia.org/post/rehoboth2024](http://www.christchurchcolumbia.org/post/rehoboth2024).

### **Get Your Bikes Ready! Cycling is Returning - May 4**

With warmer weather coming, Christ Church Cycling for Health and Fellowship is coordinating spring and summer riding excursions departing from the CEC campus on Saturday mornings. We'll gather at 9 a.m. in the lower New Brick parking lot for an approx. ten-mile journey, so bring your bike and helmet to ride safely. All ages and skill levels are welcome to join us - we ride at a relaxing and enjoyable pace around lakes and through our beautiful parks and communities. Please email [cycling@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:cycling@christchurchcolumbia.org) or speak with Diane Phillips LaGuerre or Kevin Osborn at church for more details.

### **Mother's Day Flower Sale - May 4**

The Youth Ministry is excited to present the 2024 Mother's Day Flower Sale at Christ Church, with gorgeous flowers and handmade arrangements available for purchase. Stop by our campus on Saturday, May 4th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. as we'll be set up on the lawn facing Oakland Mills Road.

### **Bishop Sutton Retirement Picnic - May 5**

On Sunday afternoon, May 5th, there will be a retirement celebration picnic in honor of Diocesan Bishop Eugene Taylor Sutton. All are welcome to gather at the Delaplaine Barn at the Claggett Center at 4 p.m. that afternoon. If you'd like to take part, [please be sure to register here](#).

### **WOCC May Meeting - May 6**

Join the WOCC for our May meeting at a new time on Monday, May 6th - from 7:30 to 9 p.m. We hope that this new time slot allows for those who might work or have obligations during the daytime to join us. We hope that you will! It will be a hybrid meeting, so feel free to meet us in New Brick, or log in and join us via Zoom - [the link is here](#), the Meeting ID is **843 0204 4790**, and the Passcode is **cecWOCC**.

### **CEC Center for Spiritual Nourishment Inaugural Event - 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](mailto:csn@christchurchcolumbia.org) if you are interested or have any questions.

### **Spring Tea - May 18**

Spring has sprung, and a WOCC tradition is returning soon - our annual Spring Tea. This year, it'll be held on Saturday, May 18th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at [Elkridge Furnace Inn](#). All women are welcome to join in on this fun, social event with a delicious luncheon complete with traditional tea savories and sweets. The Elkridge Furnace Inn is a beautiful setting, and they serve up wonderful food, with all dietary restrictions accommodated. The cost is \$39 per person, all-inclusive. Please sign up in the Narthex by Monday, May 6th, or send an email to [WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org) and include any dietary restrictions that we should pass on to the Inn. You can pay by check, or you can do so [through Realm](#), selecting WOCC from the *FUND* dropdown menu, and writing "Tea" in the *MEMO* line. And bring your friends! It's always a wonderful event.

### **NAMIWalk - June 1**

The CEC Health Ministry is participating in the National Alliance on Mental Illness' NAMIWalk in Cockeysville, and they would like you to do the same! The Walk is 2.5 miles, though there is also a shorter route this year, one that's a little less than a mile. [We have set up a NAMI page for our group](#), and would love to have as many people of all ages join us. If you can't, please consider donating so we can help raise awareness - use the link above, or donate [directly to the Health Ministry via Realm](#) (write "NAMI" in the *MEMO* line; we'll write a check to NAMI on behalf of Christ Church). Please speak with Diane Phillips LaGuerre for more information, or [read our recent Health Ministry blog post on the CEC website](#). You can also read more about this NAMIWalks event [here](#).

### **Let's Catch a Game at Camden Yards! June 12**

In June, First Wednesday Fellowship breaks tradition and meets the second Wednesday as we head north to Camden Yards to watch the Baltimore Orioles play against the Atlanta Braves in what could be a playoff matchup preview! We'll gather at the stadium at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12th, so if you'd like to join us, tickets are a very reasonable \$20. per seat. We still have tickets available, so sign up using the sheets in church, or [email the Church Office](#). And let the office know if you'd like to carpool round-trip from the church to the stadium.

### **VBS and Choir Camp Begins June 24**

This summer, Christ Church is hosting a special combined program - Vacation Bible School and Choir Camp! This series takes place from June 24-28 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](http://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](mailto: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.

## Order Tickets Now for the Chili and Cornhole Event on Sunday, May 5, at Centennial Park to Raise Funds for Bridges to Housing Stability

Chili has been a key part of fundraising for **Bridges to Housing Stability**, an advocate for affordable housing that helps individuals and families who struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Last year, Christ Church was a supporter of Bridges' chili event and cornhole tournament, which was held in March. We had no cornhole team to root for in 2023 - why don't you enter in 2024? If you're polishing your cornhole skills, please tell us you're interested by emailing [outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org).

This year the **Beans & Bags** event will be held on Sunday, May 5, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Centennial Park, Pavilion H, 4760 Woodland Rd., Ellicott City 21042. The real competition has to do with funds raised through individual donations or by meals purchased to enjoy during the event or for carry-out. Tickets are \$25 for an adult and \$10 for a child. Please **order your tickets** now to help Christ Church vie for an award.

The event is a crucial annual fundraiser, and Christ Church is a sponsor at what Bridges calls the "Ghost Pepper" level in recognition of our recent contribution. The Outreach Commission approved a donation of \$1,000 that will help Howard County households through eviction prevention and in other ways. These are Vestry-approved funds that are drawn from your pledges and contributions. Thanks to all for making it possible.

It's a worthy cause, including recent initiatives described in the **Outreach Blog of Feb. 15, 2024**. Christ Church entered a countywide chili cook-off in 2019, the year we became one of Bridges' supporting congregations. At a Chili & Challenge virtual fundraiser in 2020, Christ Church won a Silver Ladle Award. Then, at the 2021 Chili & Challenge, **we won gold**. The relationship began at the urging of parishioner Jim Collins, who was honored among Bridges' "Heroes for Housing" in 2022.

## Columbia Community Care Needs Diapers and Other Baby-Care Items

**Columbia Community Care** (CCC) continues to need baby-care items and diapers. Sizes 4-6 are in the greatest demand, as are 3T-4T and 4T-5T pullups. Please continue to collect these along with sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers. Put them in the yellow bin that's marked "CCC" and is inside the Parish Hall. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open, or bring them to church on Sundays. Our point of contact is parishioner Leigh Smith, who monitors the bin and delivers its contents.

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 that same page**. Look for updates on the **CCC Facebook Group**.

### **Look for the FISH Bin on the Breezeway near the Parish Hall**

FISH of Howard County requests non-perishable foods and toiletries, which we collect 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.

### **Lake Elkhorn Middle School Needs Your Help**

Tracey Williams, the counselor at LEMS, has asked Christ Church to supply a dinner for the families and provide childcare during the next workshop on 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](mailto:deacondenise@christchurchcolumbia.org) or Cathy Whittaker [catharinewhittaker@gmail.com](mailto:catharinewhittaker@gmail.com) if you can help.

### **Enjoy Food and Drink to Help Support DreamBuilders!**

Come join us at Bushel & Peck restaurant in Clarksville, MD on Wednesday, May 15th from 4:00 to 9:00 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](mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org). Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.**

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## **YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY EVENTS**

### **Youth Sunday**

**April 28**

Preparations are underway!

We invite all youth to join us as we prepare for this very special service where our graduates will be giving the message.

**We need the following roles filled:**

**Acolytes, lectors, ushers.**

**Let Chaplain Kiona or any youth leader know which roles you prefer.**

Bring yourselves and all your talents and musical gifts! If you play an instrument, bring it as we are preparing worship and will be rehearsing. All will participate in worship and music.

### **Mother's Day Flower Arrangements**

**May 11 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon**

Youth and parishioners will get their hands in the dirt to make and sell Mother's Day flower arrangements. More details to come.

**Sign up for the Youth Ministry Newsletter:  
email [kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org)**



## **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](http://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>**

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# **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**and Choir Camp**

**JUNE 24-30**

**[WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG/2024CAMP](http://WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG/2024CAMP)**



**Christ Episcopal Church**

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

[office@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:office@christchurchcolumbia.org)

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev. 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