

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

YOUTH SUNDAY/Twenty-Fifty Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, November 19, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. and 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!

Men

You are holy
 You are mighty
 You are worthy
 Worthy of praise

I will follow
 I will listen
 I will love you
 All of my days

I will sing to and worship
 The King who is worthy
 I will love and adore Him
 And I will bow down before Him

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 And I will bow down before Him

You're My Prince of Peace
 And I will live my life for you.

Women

(You are holy)
 (You are mighty)
 (You are worthy)
 (Worthy of praise)

(I will follow)
 (I will listen)
 (I will love you)
 (All of my days)

You are Lord of Lords
 You are King of Kings
 You are mighty God
 Lord of everything

You're Emmanuel
 You're the great I AM
 You're the Prince of Peace
 Who is the Lamb

You're the living God
 You're my saving grace
 You will reign forever
 You are Ancient of Days

You are Alpha, Omega
 Beginning and End
 You're my Savior, Messiah
 Redeemer and Friend

Opening Acclamation |

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity |

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

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

***People:* Amen.**

The people may be seated.

A Reading from Judges 4:1-7 |

Reader: A Reading from Judges.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, “The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, ‘Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.’”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 123 | *Ad te levavi oculos meos*

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

Reader: A Reading from The First Epistle to the Thessalonians

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

Sequence Song | Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Chet Valley Churches

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And His Righteousness
And all these things
Shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and you shall find,
Knock and the door,
Shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

The Gospel | Matthew 25:14-30

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more

talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground.

Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

Sermon | Hannah Boyer, Ainsley Couch, Ava Kelso

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.**

Prayers of the People |

As we enter the holiday season, Lord, lead us to be conscious of our environment. As we live our daily lives, we pray for tolerance, peace, and understanding in areas of turmoil around the world. Today, we remember the conflicts in Ukraine, Palestine, and Israel. Guide those who work to defend democracy and uphold peace, especially Kofi Abdallah and Conner Warlow, and help us to work to eliminate poverty and hunger around the world. **Lord, help us use our talents to maintain peace around the world.**

We pray for all government officials in your care. We pray for all Church leaders with the Anglican Communion, especially the Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma). We remember Grace, New Market; St. James', Mt. Airy; St. Paul's, Point of Rocks; and Transfiguration, Braddock Heights. We put up our clergy: Presiding Bishop, Michael; Diocesan Bishops, Eugene and Carrie; Rector, Manny; Deacon, Denise; Rector Emeritus, Richard; postulants, Mike, Kiona, and Rebecca; our staff, vestry, commissioners, and Sunday school teachers. **Lord, may our talents increase in your service.**

Within our community, give us the wisdom to understand that we are all different, and open our minds to be accepting of everyone. Give us the strength to overcome the stress and pressures of school, especially of making good grades. **Lord, may our talents reflect our acceptance of each other.**

We pray for those who are ill physically, mentally, or spiritually, especially Lee, Harriet, Doug, Mary Ann, Lexi, Jon, Sunny, Georgia, Dennis, Altra, Barbara, Sherry, Tim, Christine, Carol, Jan, Patricia, Cindy, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, Nell, and those you now name. We also pray for those who have passed away, especially Lidell Ford, Sr., Yancy Moiwo, Olayemi Osunniyi, Cesar Palatino, and those you now name. **Lord, may your healing touch restore us.**

We celebrate with Christ Church today the birthdays of Nell, Audra, Alexander, Bill, Diane, and Nick; baptismal anniversaries of Kristin, Tom & Jonathan; and wedding anniversaries of Chester and Sydneya Dacres, Ralph and Linda Stewart, and Charles and Margaret Thompson. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, be with us as we gather with family and friends, and be especially close to those who are alone or missing loved ones. **Lord, bless and keep us in the hearts of those dear to us.**

We embrace all our differences and pray our gifts will manifest in our purposeful service to you, Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin |

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

Prayers for Healing |

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

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 Song Hymn 671 | Amazing Grace (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

John Newton

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

Please scan to give.



The people stand as able.

Presentation Hymn 380 (v. 3) |

Old 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



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

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

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

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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

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

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

All: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer | BCP 365

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread |

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

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

Fraction Anthem LEVAS 270 | Lamb of God

Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis

The musical score is written for organ and voice. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The organ part is indicated by the word 'organ' above the first staff. The lyrics are: '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.' The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line.

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

This is the Air I breathe
This is the Air I breathe
Your Holy presence
Living in me...

This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very Word
spoken to me...

And I, I'm desperate for You
And I, I'm desperate for You
And I, I'm desperate for You
And I, I'm lost without You

The people stand as able.

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.***

Closing Song Hymn 536 | Open Your Ears O Faithful People

Open your ears, O faithful people,
Open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

Refrain: God has spoken to his people,
Hallelujah!
And his words are words of wisdom,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
God has spoken to his people,
Hallelujah!
And his words are words of wisdom,
Hallelujah!
They who have ears to hear the message,
They who have ears, then let them hear.
They who would learn the way of wisdom,
Let them hear God's word. **Refrain**

The Dismissal |

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

Postlude |

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

8:00 a.m. Service

Lectors/Readers: Gavin Couch, Ava Kelso, Caleb McKenna; Jonah Arabiah, Julian Whong

Ushers: Anya Sheriff, Mikailu Sheriff

Chalicer: Joan Harvey

Acolytes and Crucifer: Gavin Couch

10:30 a.m. Service

Lectors/Readers: Monica Henia, Deepti Jackson, Hope Oladipupo; Gavin Couch, Caleb McKenna

Ushers: Shreya Chrzanowski, Ava Fox, Hope Oladipupo, Mikailu Sheriff

Acolytes and Crucifer: Amisha Chrzanowski, Deepti Jackson, Caleb McKenna

Musicians: Setutsi Abdallah, Jonah Arabiah, Gavin Couch, Danny Jackson, Eva Oladipupo;

Sam Jackson, Kiona Lookingbill

Vocalists: Ava Fox, Everett Kelso, James Mercer, Anya Sheriff, Julian Whong; Patrick Frith

Chalicer: Mary Vail

Altar Guild

Jan DeBoissiere, Virginia Jarrett

PARISH CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 19 – NOVEMBER 25

Sunday, November 19

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast – New Brick, lower level
8:45 – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 – 9:30 am	Family Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 – 10:15 am	Sunday School – Parish Hall & New Brick, lower levels
9:30 – 10:30 am	Bible Study – Parish Hall, conference room
9:30 – 10:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick
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
2:00 – 3:00 pm	Confirmation Class – Zoom
2:00 – 5:00 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

Monday, November 20

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom

Tuesday, November 21

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am – 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
7:15 – 9:00 pm	Theology on Tap – Frisco and the Reckless Shepherd, Columbia

Wednesday, November 22

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

Thursday, November 23 – Thanksgiving – Office Closed

10:00 am	Thanksgiving Service – New Brick, upper level
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level

Friday, November 24 – Office Closed

8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
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Saturday, November 25

2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
6:30 pm – 1:30 am	Event Rental – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 11:00 pm	Ministerio Embajadores M.E.J. – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Old Brick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements, email to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.
For a digital copy of the complete service leaflet with working links, etc., visit the main page of our website,
or visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/worship-archive

Confirmation & Inquirer's Class - Sunday

On Sundays at 2 p.m., Christ Church has a Confirmation and Adult Inquirer's Class for high school students considering confirming the promises their parents and godparents made on their behalf at Baptism and for adults interested in being received into the Episcopal Church. For more information, speak with or email **Fr. Manny** or **Kiona**.

Office Volunteers Needed - November 20

The office can use your help in preparing our Advent mailing, so if you can join us on Monday, November 20th at 10 a.m. we would appreciate it. Either call **or email the office**. Thank you.

Centering Prayer - November 20

Join us in Old Brick at 7:00 p.m. Monday evenings for Centering Prayer, a special evening prayer gathering that helps us be present and open to God. You can also take part virtually from wherever you are; **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340**, and the Passcode is **Centering!**

Theology on Tap - November 21

ToT is a get-together where you can chat about interesting religious articles of the day, grab a beverage, and enjoy informal, structure-free conversation with other parishioners. Join us at 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21st, at **Frisco and the Reckless Shepherd** at 8895 McGaw Road in Columbia. Questions? Speak with Mike Looney or email seminarian@christchurchcolumbia.org

Church Office Closed - November 23 & 24

The church office will be closed next Thursday and Friday in observance of Thanksgiving, and it will reopen on Monday, November 27th.

Giving Tuesday - November 28

In the midst of the blessings of the Thanksgiving season, we are invited each year on Giving Tuesday to make a gift to our favorite charitable organizations. This year, Christ Church invites parishioners to support our Music Ministry this Giving Tuesday. You can do so by visiting **our Online Giving Form**, selecting "Music Ministry" from the *Fund* dropdown menu, and writing "Giving Tuesday" in the *Memo* line. Christ Church's Music Ministry has grown this year - our Choir Camp and Handbell Choir are beautiful examples of this - and your gifts will help us deepen and strengthen this vital ministry even more. For this, we are very thankful.

Thursday Healing Eucharist - November 30

Christ Church offers midday worship in historic Old Brick, including readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. There will be no service next week - be sure to join us for Thanksgiving Day worship at 10 a.m. instead - but everyone is welcome to join us for a prayerful time as we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones, so come reflect, pray, and participate in a service in our beautiful chapel, the oldest building of worship still in regular use in Howard County.

Christ Church Choirs - November 30

CEC Choirs will take next week off for Thanksgiving but return on Thursday, November 30th. Handbell Choir gathers from 7-7:30, and Adult Choir rehearses from 7:30-9 p.m. **You can find links to the registration forms on**

our website's Music Ministry page. Whether you read music or not, whether you have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit or not, there's a place for you in our choir! If you're interested, or if you have any questions, please speak with Larissa or email her at [**music@christchurchcolumbia.org**](mailto:music@christchurchcolumbia.org)

Festive Lock-In - December 1 & 2

We invite our friends - and their friends - to join us as we celebrate Christ's birth, friendships, and the end of the year together! There will be a Friendsgiving potluck feast followed by Christmas-related festivities: Secret Santa gift-giving, ornament-making activity, cookie decorating, Christmas movie, and games.

Friends, **sign up** and indicate how many friends you are bringing.

Parents, please **sign up** for the many items/help we need for this event to be a success!

Start time: 5 p.m.

End time: 10 a.m.

Location: Start in New Brick, Venue Hall; Parish Hall, Lower Level

Advent Wreath-Making Fundraiser - December 2

It is that time of year! Advent will be here soon, and we are having an Advent wreath-making fundraiser for our youth. We will invite the entire parish to come and support the youth's efforts as they raise funds to help others by building houses in disaster-struck areas through DreamBuilders next summer. We will need several teams of parent volunteers: Advent wreath materials prep team, decorating team, and food coordination team. More info is to come. In the meantime, we hope you come up with many great ideas!

Location: New Brick Venue Hall

Time: 12 noon - 2 p.m.

Advent wreath kit, lunch, beverages, holiday treats, and Christmas music will be provided!

Cost: \$50 per kit for a family of 3; \$70 for families of 4 or more.

Contributing youth and parents - FREE

You can read the entire recent Youth Ministry newsletter here, and you can email Kiona with any questions at [**kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org**](mailto:kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org)

WOCC Christmas Feast - December 3

On Sunday, December 3rd at 1:00 p.m., we will gather for our annual Christmas Feast at **The King's Contrivance Restaurant**, and we hope you'll all come! The special price for the event is \$48. per person, and you can sign up using the sheet in the Narthex. Deadline for signing up is November 26th. Lots of other events are coming up, too - the WOCC calendar is posted in the Narthex in New Brick **and on our website** and contains all the fun events planned. Speak to any WOCC member or email [**WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org**](mailto:WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org) if you need more info. And be sure to read our Seafarers announcement in the Outreach section of this email - the deadline is this coming Monday to bring in donated items for their holiday season.

First Wednesday Fellowship - December 6

Don't miss next month's FWF as we celebrate the holiday season with an "Ugly Christmas Sweater" contest and gift swap. Wear your favorite ugly sweater to the gathering and bring a gift valued at around ten dollars so we can put it in the grab bag and share it with others. We're still working on the meal for the event, but it's sure to be delicious. Mark the date: Wednesday, December 6 (also St. Nicholas Day!) at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Hall... be there!

MOCC Holiday Dinner - December 16

The MOCC has its Holiday Dinner on Saturday, December 16th at The Ale House in Columbia. We will gather there at 6 p.m. The cost is \$50. per person, **and the menu can be found here.** You can pay using **our Online Giving Form**, selecting "Men of Christ Church" from the *FUND* dropdown menu, and writing "2023 Holiday Dinner" in

the *MEMO* line. Interested to learn more about the MOCC, or this event? Please email Duane Smith at cduanesmith@verizon.net

Christmas Flowers and Music

Christmas Flowers and Music donations in memory or dedication of a loved one are being gratefully accepted. These help fund the wonderful greenery, flowers, and musicians that assist in bringing the seasons of Advent and Christmas to life for everyone. There are two ways you can donate - you can do so digitally using our **Online Giving Form** and simply select "Christmas Flowers & Music" or "Christmas General Offering" from the *FUND* dropdown menu and write the dedication name(s) on the *MEMO* line. If doing so by check, you'll find both Christmas envelopes in the Narthex and in Old Brick. When using either method, please be sure to submit yours no later than Wednesday, December 20th.

Meals Ministry

The Stewardship season focuses on the giving of our time, talent, and treasure, and one way to do so is by lending a hand to those in need. Christ Church's Pastoral Care Commission is growing its Meals Ministry to ensure that there is always someone who can provide a home-cooked meal to those who might need one. If you would like to help, or if you know someone in need, please speak with Deacon Denise or email her at deacondenise@christchurchcolumbia.org

A Cemetery Mystery has been Solved

Recently, we received an email asking why a headstone shown on the Find-A-Grave website as being in the Christ Church Cemetery would be in the cemetery in Easton. **A photo of the headstone in question can be viewed here.** Originally, the monument was created and installed at Chris Church but the family moved to Easton and relocated the monument to Spring Hill to be closer to them. Case closed, and thanks to all who helped us get there.

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 in order 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.

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, speak with or email Rebecca Warlow at rwarlow131@gmail.com

Altar Flowers and Gifts

If you would like to present altar flowers and gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one, you can find the details and sign-up sheet at <https://tinyurl.com/CECaltarflowers>. 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.

Thanksgiving Day Worship in New Brick

Come to Christ Church at 10 a.m. for Thanksgiving Day Eucharist in the New Brick sanctuary. We welcome everyone to gather with us, but we will also livestream the service on **our website**, **YouTube**, and **Facebook** pages so you can worship and give thanks from wherever you are.

Angel Tree Drive Will Brighten Christmas for Howard County Children

In a heartfelt tradition, the Outreach Commission invites parishioners to purchase new clothing and special items to complete Christmas gift “packages” for young angels. We are supporting a dozen children ages 8 to 13 to meet a need identified by the Howard County (Central Maryland) division of **The Salvation Army**. The nonprofit organization oversees the Angel Tree initiative here and elsewhere.

To participate, please provide one or more gifts for a girl or boy on our list. Each one will receive an outfit, consisting of pants and a top. Besides the clothing, there are three other categories this year for each angel: Need, Wish, and Favorite item.

Some parishioners prefer to sign up for just one slot, such as the practical (need) category for a single child. Some parishioners desire to complete the entire “package” for an angel by signing up in all four categories. Another shopper might choose the clothing (outfit) category for multiple angels.

We are launching this year’s drive in two steps. The first stage is fully online. Starting this week, you can go to the **Christ Church 2023 Angel Tree SignUp** to view the list and make your choices. It has instructions on the next steps. The second stage begins after Thanksgiving when the Angel Tree goes up in the Narthex. You can gaze at tags on the tree, in keeping with tradition, but the definitive list will be displayed nearby on a spreadsheet. For those in Old Brick, we’ll bring the list to you. In both locations, we’ll ask that you sign up for your angel by using the online form. You’ll get a slip with the child’s name, ID, and wished-for gift. Someone will be on hand after both worship services on Sunday, Nov. 26, and Dec. 3 to assist in logging on.

The deadline to bring in your **unwrapped** Angel Tree gifts will be 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8. Please put them under the tree or in the Parish Hall Operations Room. With your help, we will lift the hearts not only of the angels but of their families. Parents obtain the unwrapped gifts from The Salvation Army to prepare for a Christmas that will be much brighter than they could otherwise afford.

If you wish to participate by giving your time, please volunteer for one of two duties: Sign-up or Fulfillment. The former is to help people after worship on Nov. 26 and Dec. 3 to log on to a device to register. The other duty is on Dec. 9 when you collate packages or shop for - but not pay for - any unmet items. To volunteer, specify Sign-up or Fulfillment, or both, in an email to **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Kudos to All Who Have Helped Hungry Households by Donating to Our Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Howard County Food Bank

The table in the Narthex and the yellow bin at Old Brick were brimming with goods such as stuffing mix, gravy, and canned vegetables. These will brighten the holidays for many of our neighbors, as the **Howard County Food Bank** expects to feed about 1,000 people for Thanksgiving and another 1,000 for Christmas by distributing "Holiday Meal Kits." Christ Church partners with the **Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC)**, which operates the food bank. We further supported CAC with a monetary donation for its holiday meal kits. The drive ends Thursday, Nov. 16. On Friday, members of the Outreach Commission will deliver the bounty, which includes a few staples like pasta and peanut butter for after the holidays. Thank you for your generosity!

Columbia Community Care Shares Good News, Plans Holiday Help for Kids

There's good news for supporters of **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) and the youth and others who benefit from its services. Howard County has awarded its pantry location, the historic Columbia Flier Building, to CCC. The plan is to transform it into a community center called The Source, acting in partnership with **Columbia Concepts**, a group of diverse Howard County developers focused on creating equity.

CCC has also announced holiday activities to help kids and their families. Check the **CCC Facebook Group** for updates. Or to volunteer for a task such as sorting at the pantry building, 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia, go to the **"I Can Help" portion of its website**.

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

Please Donate All Kinds of Grocery Non-Perishables and Toiletries to FISH

FISH of Howard County needs non-perishable foods and toiletries. FISH provides committed support to select families in need. Please put donations in the basket at the altar or in the marked yellow bin on the breezeway between Old Brick and Parish Hall. The neighbors you help give thanks for all you do in their support.

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.



Thank YOU.

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.

Text Giving

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

Online Giving

You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing 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 info@christchurchcolumbia.org

You can read the latest Vestry-approved monthly report [here](#).



Christ Episcopal Church

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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Kiona Lookingbill, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Nytia Perry, *Nursery Care*

Jefferson Cuarezma Flores, *Sexton*

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