

# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MD

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

### First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 9, 2022 | 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

You can stream the 10:30 service from Christ Church's website, YouTube, or Facebook pages

#### THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE – Now the Silence, Now the Peace

arr. Charles Ore

INTROIT – Christ is Our Guiding Light

Eric Law

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

OPENING HYMN 135 – Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Salzburg

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;  
4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen-dent light,  
man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;  
and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.  
branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;  
man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,  
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.  
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.  
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in man made man-i - fest.  
cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man-i - fest.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

## GLORIA 8:00 a.m. service

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

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

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

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

## SONG OF PRAISE – Gloria

*Jacque Berthier/Taizé*

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

*Refrain*

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

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

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. ***Amen.***

*The people may be seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:1-7

Thus says the LORD,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.  
Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;  
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
and to the south, "Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth--  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

*The refrain is sung by all at the beginning and conclusion of the Psalm at the 10:30 a.m. service.*

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee: How great Thou

art, how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to

Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

*The following Psalm is read responsively at the 8:00 a.m. service*

*The Psalm is sung by the choir at the 10:30 a.m. service.*

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*

**ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*

**worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;

the God of glory thunders; \*

**the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**

The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*

**the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*

**the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*

**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;

the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \*

**the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*

**and strips the forests bare.**

And in the temple of the LORD \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.

The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace. *Refrain - sung by all*

## THE EPISTLE

Acts 8:14-17

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.


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

## SEQUENCE HYMN 121 – Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized


*Caithness*



1 Christ, when for us you were bap - tized, God's Spi - rit on you came,  
2 God called you his be - lov - ed Son, called you his ser - vant true,  
3 Straight-way and stead-fast un - til death you then o - beyed his call  
4 Bap - tize us with your Spi - rit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,



as peace-ful as a dove and yet as ur - gent as a flame.  
sent you his king-dom to pro-claim, his ho - ly will to do.  
free - ly as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.  
that, like-wise in God's ser - vice we may per - fect free - dom find.



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

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

## SERMON

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

*The people stand as able.*

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Father?

***People:* I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***People:* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***People:* I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

*Celebrant:* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Today is the first Sunday after the Epiphany, when we commemorated the revelation of Jesus to the Magi and thus to all people. We have put away our Christmas decorations and transitioned from anticipating Jesus' birth to discerning its meaning in our own lives and in the mission of the church.

***We pray for your guidance, Lord.***

Today's readings assure us of your love and presence. That we have nothing to fear because you are with us. May we take heart, when we feel overwhelmed and afraid, to take the path you reveal to us.

***We give thanks for your love and protection, Lord.***

We lift in prayer the work and people of La Iglesia Anglicana de Chile; of St Andrew the Fisherman, Mayo; of St James', Lothian; of St Mark's Deale; and of St Paul's Prince Frederick. We give thanks for the leadership of our Presiding Bishop, our Diocesan Bishops and our Christ Church clergy. We warmly welcome all newcomers and visitors who worship with us today. We pray for those who are ill or injured, including Jim, Mark, Erin Cassidy, Chuck, Shahra, Sherry, Bunmi, Frantz, Sam, Chad, Alta, Alfred, Kathleen, Ashley & Jeanette, and those you now name. We are grateful for the healing of Father Manny and others with COVID. We give thanks for the vaccines and for the perseverance of medical researchers and health care workers in their efforts to prevent and treat these infections.

***We pray for continued healing and an end to suffering, Lord.***

We give thanks for the lives of the departed, including those we now name. We pray that their family and friends find comfort in your presence. ***We pray that you give them the blessing of peace.***

This week we celebrate the birthdays of Greta, Chad, John, JB, Monica, Deepti, Daniel, Caleb & Ronald. May they have many more joyful occasions in the years to come. ***We give thanks to you, Lord.***

We pray that 2022 will bring an end to violence in homes, schools, streets and anywhere individuals might choose to harm others. We pray for all refugees, for those suffering from housing and food insecurity, for those imprisoned, and for those around the world experiencing oppression and persecution. We also pray for understanding and common ground by people from different viewpoints in solving our many problems. ***Help us be part of the solutions, Lord.***

May we find moments of quiet in the week ahead in which we can discern your will for us, and may we then draw strength from your love for us as we work to carry out your will. ***Amen.***

## THE PEACE

***Celebrant:*** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING — Shall We Gather at the River

*arr. Aaron Copland*

*Shall we gather by the river, Where bright angel's feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the throne of God?  
Yes, we'll gather by the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river That flows by the throne of God.*

*Soon we'll reach the shining river, Soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace.  
Yes, we'll gather by the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river That flows by the throne of God.*

### PRESENTATION HYMN 124, V. 5

*Puer Nobis*

To God, the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re - vealed in earth - ly night,  
to God the Ho - ly Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

*The people stand as able.*



## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

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

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

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

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

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

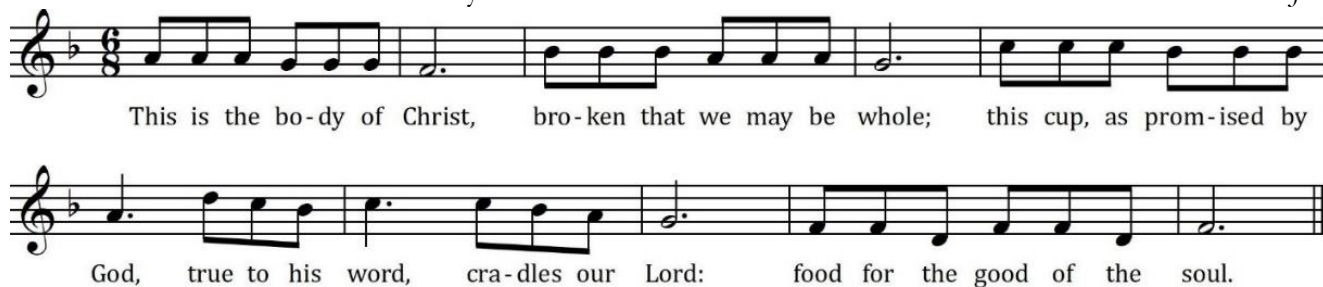
## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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

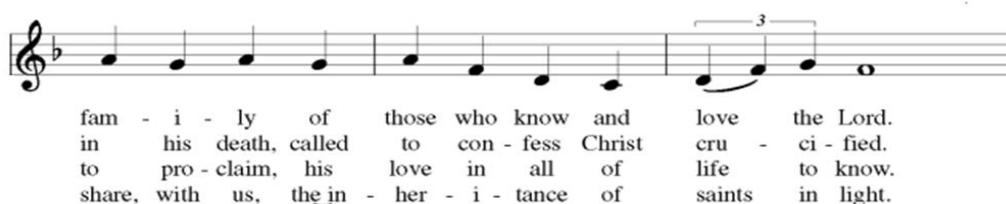
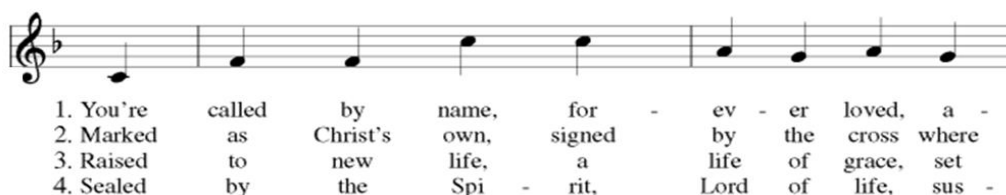
## FRACTION ANTHEM – This is the Body of Christ

*John Bell*



This is the bo-dy of Christ, bro-ken that we may be whole; this cup, as prom-ised by

God, true to his word, cra-dles our Lord: food for the good of the soul.



## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

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

# THE BLESSING

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

## CLOSING HYMN 690 – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*CWM Rhondda*

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;  
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,  
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,  
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -  
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.  
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

## DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE — Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*arr. Paul Manz*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to [communications@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:communications@christchurchcolumbia.org)

**Youth Formation: Sunday School** | Join us for Sunday School this weekend, the first sessions for 2022. The registration form is located [here](#), and you can send them to [ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org) to enroll your child(ren). Elementary school sessions begin at 9:15 a.m. and you can receive the Zoom link by emailing Jennifer Atkins at [dandjatkis@verizon.net](mailto:dandjatkis@verizon.net). The older youth session begins at 9:30 a.m. and is run by our Youth Minister, Todd Domer. You can reach Todd at [youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org) for Zoom details.

**Adult Forum: Sunday Circle** | **Sunday Circle** regathers this Sunday with a new theme of Renewal and Reconciliation. That morning will feature Fr. Manny discussing the sacramental Reconciliation rite in our Book of Common Prayer. Later this season, we will explore healing, renewal, and commitment to change. Join us each Sunday from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in Old Brick. Questions? Contact **Mother Marcia** or **Jenn Lavanish**.

**WOCC Meeting – Monday** | The Women of Christ Church hold their first meeting of the new year this coming Monday, January 10th, when we'll build the calendar of events for 2022 and make plans towards doing good things for Christ Church and its entire family. The Zoom link is [HERE](#), the Meeting ID is **853 6298 9793**, and the Password is **WOCC2022**. See you in the Zoom Room!

**Adult and Children's Choir - Tuesdays and Thursdays** | Adult Choir has resumed its weekly gatherings as of this evening, and Children's Chorus starts back up on January 11th. Everyone is welcome to join the choirs, so maybe 2022 is your year! Please email Len Langrick, our Director of Music, at [music@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:music@christchurchcolumbia.org) to learn more.

**Bible Study – Wednesdays** | Bible Study gathers in person next Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and will be a discussion on the readings for that coming Sunday. **Next week's gathering focuses on these readings.** You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and let's all study together.

**Christ Church's 2022 Lenten Meditation Book** | For the last 19 years, Christ Church has compiled a Lenten Meditation Book, which is distributed to parishioners the Sunday preceding Ash Wednesday and assists us all in times of quiet contemplation. The LMB shares parishioners' submissions and helps us prepare ourselves for rebirth and renewal at Easter. We also post these Meditations on our website each weekday during Lent, and provide special musical selections each weekend. Our website is viewed by our congregation and by many thousands of individuals worldwide during the Lenten season.

The Lenten Meditation Book is a fully collaborative project made of wonderful prayers, songs, stories, poems, | readings, and personal reflections from Christ Church parishioners. This year, we must have all your submissions in by February 13th in order to put this publication together in time. Submit yours by email to Ellen Hoke at [efboudreau1@gmail.com](mailto:efboudreau1@gmail.com), or place it in the Spiritual Life mailbox in the Church office. You can also speak with Ellen for more information, or for an example of past years' submissions. More information will also be in next week's *Gatherings* email and on our website.

**We STILL Need More Ushers and Lectors!** | Your Christ Church needs your help! We need ushers and lectors for both services, especially during the 8 a.m. service. You will serve at specified scheduled services and select events, will know your schedule well ahead of time, and all ushers and lectors will receive training before scheduling. Please contact Yetti Lipede at [ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org) for more information.

**Garden Tribute for Seiko Shields** | As a tribute to Seiko Shields, we are collecting spring and summer bulbs for flowering plants to be planted around the church grounds. This will become a living memorial called *Seiko's Garden*. You are invited to drop bulbs off at the Church Office or in the basket located on a Narthex table.

**Diocese of Maryland's COVID Update for New Year's** | With the uptick in cases throughout the region, **we are currently back in the Orange Phase**, with most of Maryland in the Red Phase. The most recent Diocesan update

can be read in full [here](#). Please note that masks are still required at all times while indoors at Christ Church, and we'll continue our dialogue with the appropriate organizations and ease restrictions with care and consideration.

**Help Feed the Hungry as One of Our Grassroots Meal Drop-Offs Will Take Place as Planned on Monday, Jan. 10** | You are invited to cook a side dish or a dessert for the evening meal at the Live-In Facility operated by [Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center](#) on Monday, Jan. 10. Please plan to arrive between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. at the parking lot outside Old Brick.

Other than homemade menu items, you are also invited to bring goods for the pantry to be enjoyed round-the-clock. Granola bars and fruits are popular with the 50 residents of the Freetown Rd. facility. Please click on the [Christ Church Grassroots Meal link on SignUpGenius](#) to view a suggested menu and to tell coordinators what you'll bring.

For parishioners who had welcomed a brief return to in-person volunteering, we're disappointed to share the news that the pandemic has interfered once again. Due to the surging omicron variant of the coronavirus, Grassroots has suspended many indoor operations at its Day Resource Center (DRC) at the Dorsey Center. No hot meals will be served in January.

Last month, Christ Church had successfully used a consolidated approach to feed the hungry for two groups of diners. On Monday, Dec. 13, the Outreach Commission arranged to purchase fried chicken at Weis and collect side dishes for both the midday meal at DRC and the evening meal at Grassroots' Live-In Facility (see photos on [this week's Outreach Blog](#)). In November, parishioners also provided meals at both locations after the DRC reopened following a long pandemic shutdown.

Organizers hope that hot meals at the DRC might resume next month. The drop-off date for the next meal at Grassroots Live-In Facility will be Valentine's Day – Monday, Feb. 14.

Please sign up online no later than noon on the Sunday prior to each meal on Monday. For questions, please email [outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org) so we can put you in touch with co-coordinators Nancy Winchester and Shahra Toth.

**Check Off a New Year's Resolution: Start to Get Involved in Christ Church Outreach by Attending Our Zoom Meeting on Monday, Jan. 10** | It's as rewarding to get more fully involved in helping others as it is to fulfill resolutions about diet and exercise. So why not start now? The next Outreach Commission meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 10. Join in virtually to learn more about opportunities in 2022 and to share your own ideas. This month's Zoom link is [HERE](#), the Meeting ID is **876 3365 4968**, and the Password is **Outreach!**

**Warm Wishes From West Baltimore Families of SLYC to Christ Church Families** | A New Year's greeting (*image above*) has arrived from the leaders, families, and children at [St. Luke's Youth Center](#), which had expressed gratitude for a donation last summer to its Camp Imagination. The nonprofit SLYC operates from the former St. Luke's Episcopal parish on N. Carey Street. SLYC is a collaborative of West Baltimore families working together with friends, neighbors, and partners to provide youth with critical resources, life-enriching experiences, and a safety net of support. If you wish to receive an electronic copy of its program report, please email [outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org).

The day camp served about 30 youth from ages 5 to 13 and involved 12 teen leaders and six professional art instructors. Children received more than 60 hours of reading and academic enrichment. The youngsters and their families also benefited from extended days that were made possible by a \$500 donation to SLYC approved by the Outreach Commission. The funds came from the Christ Church parishioners' contributions to General Outreach.

**Columbia Community Care Moves Indoors for Winter** | This is a reminder that the all-volunteer organization, [Columbia Community Care](#) (CCC) is changing some operations as winter arrives. Starting Saturday, Jan. 8, distribution will move indoors at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd. The Oakland Mills



Middle School (OMMS) site will relocate to the Barn/Teen Center indoor space in the Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place in Columbia.

There are no changes for Long Reach, which is already indoors at Long Reach Village Center, Suite 9, 8775 Cloudleap Ct.

Saturday hours are the same as before: 10 a.m. to noon for recipients, and volunteers and donation drop-off beginning at 9 a.m. There will be no Wednesday hours. You'll find updates such as requests for volunteers posted in the **CCC Facebook Group**.

At Christ Church, members of R.A.G.E and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to continue supporting CCC by collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers. Please put any of these items in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. You can drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sunday.

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

In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at [outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org). Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.

# Refugee Ministry: The Long Welcome

## Where are We Now?

Just over a week ago, the Afghan family we're sponsoring moved into their townhouse in Ellicott City. Since then, Ziba, Ijaz, Anwar, and Mati have been getting familiar with their neighborhood and surrounding areas in Howard County. And thanks to your generous donations, they're enjoying a comfortable, safe home as they transition to life here in the U.S. They express their deep gratitude for our support.

As Christ Church leads the ministry team of 35+ volunteers from three faith communities, we're now at the point of assisting with needs beyond shelter, clothing, and food.

Our team's progress to date in providing adjustment support includes:

- Setting them up with internet and phone service—critical for communicating with immediate family members still in Afghanistan
- Initiating the process of enrolling Mati in high school
- Scheduling the whole family for registration in *English as a Second Language* classes at Howard Community College, and starting complementary one-on-one English tutoring
- Providing bus passes and lessons on using public transportation in Howard County
- Building relationships and establishing trust with our ministry members

## What are the next steps?

Our ongoing adjustment support as Good Neighbor Partners with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) includes assisting in workforce preparation like interview practice, resume building, and mentoring. We'll also work with the family on financial literacy, engage in an intentional and ongoing conversation to support English skills development, and help them navigate their community—including fostering connections with other Muslim families.

In terms of financial viability, the family receives limited start-up funding from the government, most of which goes to cover a few months of rent. As they work toward obtaining employment and moving toward self-sufficiency, they will continue to depend on in-kind donations and on contributions that go toward rent, utilities, and other necessities. We've updated the **[Donation Needs for Family Support Signup Genius link](#)** (you can also scan the QR code at the bottom of this email), with a request especially for gift cards, so the family can decide on and purchase what they need on their own. Contributions can also be **[made online](#)** (choose the "Refugee Ministry" drop-down). Additionally, if you'd like to offer your time and talents to this ministry, please contact **[Jan Deboissiere](#)** or **[Cherrylynn Williams](#)**.

As the family gets acclimated and gains a comfortable level of trust (and when we can reasonably do so, given the COVID situation), we look forward to introducing Ziba, Ijaz, Anwar, and Mati to our Christ Church family. In the meantime, we'll keep everyone posted on their progress—and we *thank you* for all that you do to welcome and love thy neighbor!



## **WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH**

Because of your genuine and overwhelming acts of selflessness, kindness, grace, compassion, and love, you continue to give immensely to support and build our common life at Christ Church. You inject life into Christ Church so that we may be able to serve the world. It is your giving that has made it possible for us to accomplish some of the work that God has given us. The truth is that we have been able to minister and serve countless people because of your faithfulness, and for that, I thank God for each one of you and I thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

I also want to thank **YOU**. Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables Christ Church 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, and so as we celebrate the season of giving, I want to highly encourage all who have not fully completed their pledge for 2021 to remember their faithfulness. I also want to appeal to all who have not as yet returned their pledge for 2022 to remember their faithfulness. Lastly, to all of you who have given so much and yet still sense God's call to give some more, may you please remember your faithfulness.

### **Text Giving**

You can now 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 towards 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**



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The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Len Langrick, *Interim Music Director*

**Vestry**

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Tim Beaty • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • Greta Pike-Barnes •

Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman