

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Sunday, August 28, 2022 | 10:00 a.m.

The wearing of face masks is currently required by all at Christ Church

You may stream this service from Christ Church's [website](#), [Facebook page](#), or [YouTube channel](#).

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN 376 – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Robert Powell

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

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.**

GLORY TO GOD – S280

Robert Powell

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 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. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Father:
re-ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the
Lord, 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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM SIRACH 10:12-18

Reader: **A Reading from Sirach.**

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord;
the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.

For the beginning of pride is sin,
and the one who clings to it pours out abominations.

Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities,
and destroys them completely.

The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers,
and enthrones the lowly in their place.

The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations,
and plants the humble in their place.

The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations,
and destroys them to the foundations of the earth.

He removes some of them and destroys them,
and erases the memory of them from the earth.

Pride was not created for human beings,
or violent anger for those born of women.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The following Psalm is read responsively by half verse.

PSALM 112

Beatus vir

Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last forever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.

Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.

A READING FROM HEBREWS 13:1-8, 15-16

Reader: **A Reading from Hebrews.**

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN LEVAS 184 – Blessed Assurance

Fanny Crosby

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! — O what a
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, — Vi - sions of
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, — I in my

1. fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! — Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
2. rap - ture now burst on my sight; — An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
3. sav - ior am hap - py and blest; — Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

1. God, — Born of His spir - it, washed in His blood. —
2. bove — Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. —
3. bove, — Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love. —



THE GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

THE NICENE CREED

All: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Today and always, let us act with compassion, generosity, and humility as we seek the Lord. When we listen to the Lord's teaching, open our minds and hearts to receive it, and our deliverance will be never-ending. Let us pray, **"O Lord, we lift our voices in joy and gladness."**

As the summer days draw to a close, we ask God's blessing on all students and teachers and all those who support them: principals, crossing guards, cafeteria workers, counselors, school nurses, teacher's aides, secretaries, cleaning staff, and parents. May the school year bring our students enthusiasm and curiosity as they continue to learn about the universe and your love that sustains us all. Let us pray, **"O Lord, we sing praises for your love and faithfulness."**

We pray for the Church, that it may continue to be a beacon of justice and light for all peoples. May Your Holy Spirit guide us as we seek to walk the path of truth, peace, and loving kindness. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for Christ Church, West River; St. James', Lothian; St. Mark's, Deale and St. Paul's, Prince Frederick. We ask God's grace and guidance for the leaders of our Church: our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishops, Eugene and Robert; our Rector, Emmanuel; our Associate Priest, Marcia, our Deacon Denise and our Rector Emeritus, Richard. Let us pray, **"O Lord, give us discerning hearts."**

We welcome with joy all visitors and newcomers who share in our worship today. We are many and we are diverse, but when we come together at the Lord's table, we are one family. Let us pray, **"We who are many are one body in Christ."**

May the Light of God shine on peacemakers throughout the world. We pray for all those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit; those lonely, homeless, hungry, imprisoned, oppressed, and for all refugees. In our parish, we lift up Valentin, Ray, Mary Lou, Joan, Gina, Coy, Megan, Mildred, Jim, Kathleen, Caroline, Catherine, Nell, Mary Ann, Sherry, Rena, Kandi, Bradley, Alta, Alfred, & Ashley, and those you now name. We pray for those in our parish family who serve our country in harm's way, especially Kevin Deboissiere and Conner Warlow, and ask your guidance and protection for them. Let us pray, **"O Lord, you care for the lowly. Surround them with your healing spirit and sustain them."**

We pray for those who have died and now dwell in the glory of the Lord, and those you now name. May those who grieve feel your presence holding them close and easing the pain of their loss. Let us pray, **"O Lord, your love endures forever."**

We celebrate the special occasions of our church family, especially the birthdays of Kirk, Dorothy, Janet, & Elizabeth, and anniversary of Shirley & Jesse Funches. Let us pray, **"O Lord, we give thanks and raise our voices in joy and gladness."**

Let us renew our faith, realizing that the Lord continues to unfold His purpose for our lives, day by day. May we all strive to see God in our daily comings and goings and doings. **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.*

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

OFFERING HYMN 671 – Amazing Grace

Nettleton

1 A - maz - ing that grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The people stand as able.

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

EUCCHARISTIC 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:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God
 of hosts. Heav-en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry, Ho - sa - na in the high - est.
 Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the
 Lord, of the Lord, Ho - sa - na in the
 high - est, ho - sa - na in the high - est.

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

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.**

Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness

of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and

see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Fine

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

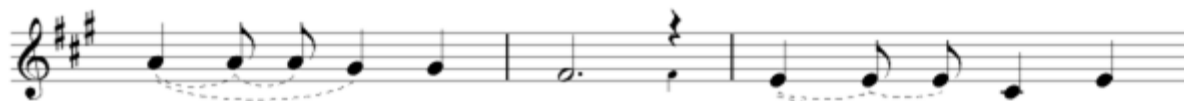
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.



1 I am the bread of life;— they who
 2 (The) Bread that— I will give— is my
 3 (Un-) less— you eat— of the
 4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion,
 5 (Yes,) Lord, we be - lieve— that—



1 come to me shall not— hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world,— and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of— Man— and—
 4 I— am the— life.— They who be -
 5 you— are the— Christ,— the—



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat— of this bread, they shall— live for
 3 drink— of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve— in me, e - ven— if they
 5 Son— of God who— has



1 me— un - less the— Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er.— they shall— live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die,— they shall— live for ev - er.
 5 come— in - to— the— world.—

Refrain

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up, and I will raise them up on the last day.

14

Final Ending

2 The
3 Un- day.
4 —
5 Yes, (z)

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER

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.

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 blesses the People, who respond **Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN LEVAS 194 – Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers

Refrain



Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For ³if you
lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, ³let me walk each
day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verses



1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r to
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness, Be my
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am
help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the
aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting
blind with - out thy Light to see. Lord, just al - ways
dark-ness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

D.C.

DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Pentecost XII: Our Parish Festival and Ministry Fair

The Annual Christ Church Parish festival and Ministry Fair are back! It's been so long since we have been able to safely host this special gathering. There's only one service this Sunday so we'll begin with our outdoor Eucharist at 10 a.m., followed by a fantastic festival of faith, food, fellowship, and FUN! Several Christ Church ministries will have tables set up around the campus so you can speak with their members and learn more about how they contribute to our common life - and how you can, too. Maybe you'll even choose to take part in the future!

An exciting item to commemorate the coming year at Christ Church is the design and sale of a new CEC t-shirt with all proceeds going towards supporting our parish. The shirt, which comes in men's, women's, and children's sizes and styles, has our new 2023 Spiritual Life Theme and logo on the back. The front simply tells the world that they, too, are welcome at Christ Church and shows them how to learn more about our incredible parish. Be sure to check the shirts out this Sunday (*pricing info coming soon*)... and grab yours before they're all gone!

We're also looking for volunteers to help set up and/or clean up, so if you can do so, **please email Jan Deboissiere**. Many thanks!

Join us as we collectively celebrate the gathering together of our entire parish family for the first time in years.

Howard County COVID Update

The number of positive cases in Howard County has decreased enough so that we are currently out of the "high community impact" tier. You can read the Diocese's latest report **here**.

We Need Altar Guild Volunteers

We are looking for a few more people to join the **Christ Church Altar Guild** this season. The Altar Guild is a vital group whose ministry is to care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish. Its members prepare the sanctuary for services and tidy up afterward. During certain seasons, Altar Guild members also supervise the decoration of the sanctuary of the parish with flowers. Any adult is welcome to take part in this essential ministry, and training is provided. Please speak with Jan DeBoissiere if you are interested - **jdeboissiere@gmail.com**

Altar Flowers and Gifts

If you would like to present Altar gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on an upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and 2022 sign-up sheet at **<https://tinyurl.com/CECaltargifts>**. You can also sign up and reserve a slot by using our **Realm Online Giving Form**; just choose "Altar Flowers and Gifts" from the *FUND* drop-down menu, and place the dedication name(s) and service date in the *MEMO* line. **Email the Church Office** with any questions.

Send in Your Vestry Candidate Nomination

It is time to nominate candidates from our flock to stand for election to the Christ Church Vestry. This year, there will be FOUR (4) slots open for election. If you are a baptized Christian who is 16 years or older and are a giving member of record to Christ Episcopal Church, you are qualified to become a candidate. We need your unique gifts to assist in guiding us, so we hope that you'll consider submitting your name. If you do, you'll need to draft a short biography of yourself stating why you want to stand for election, or what has called you into service. This year, the election will be held at our Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for Sunday, October 16th. To offer to stand for election, contact our Vestry Nomination Committee by emailing **nominations@christchurchcolumbia.org**. Thank you for your consideration.

Help! We're in Need of a Few More Tellers

Christ Church is in need of some tellers to assist with the counting of offerings, donations, and pledges. This process takes place after the 10:30 a.m. service each Sunday, but each Teller is only needed about once a month or so. Please speak with Yetti Lipede on Sunday mornings, or email her at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org if you might be interested or have any questions.

Christ Church Choirs Begin Soon, So Sign Up Now!

Calling all singers! Our Adult and Children's Choirs are looking for new and returning members! If you enjoy music and love to sing, then the choirs are the place for you! All are welcome, whether you read music or not, whether you have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit or not! Adult Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m. beginning next Thursday, September 1st and we sing at the Sunday 10:30 services throughout the year. The Children's Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 5-6 p.m. beginning September 6th and will sing for services at various times throughout the year. **You can find links to the registration forms on our website's Music Ministry page.** If you're interested, or if you have any questions, please speak with our Director of Music, Larissa Sanders, at church on Sunday or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

This Fall at Christ Episcopal Church

Earlier this year, we asked for your kind participation in a survey about our common life, and over this summer several groups of parishioners gathered regularly, keeping all of your survey responses in mind as they formulated a revitalized fall schedule. In addition to our already well-loved gatherings, there's a host of new services, programs, and activities that will be taking shape over the final third of this year, and we hope that you'll join us for many of these! Very soon, we'll launch a new page on our website that will outline many of these wonderful developments. That page will be at www.christchurchcolumbia.org/fall beginning this weekend, and you can visit it regularly for updates and links.

Sunday Morning Services - Beginning September 11th

As mentioned above, several groups were created this summer and one of them - the Worship Committee - designed a couple of new services for our Sunday mornings. We will begin each Sunday with an intimate 8 a.m. worship in Old Brick. Then at 9 a.m., our new Family Service will take place in New Brick Sanctuary, followed by Sunday School (Great Hall) for our youth, and Adult Forum: Sunday Circle (Old Brick) for the adults at 9:30. We then conclude the morning in the New Brick Sanctuary with our 10:30 Holy Eucharist, complete with music and choir. Nursery services are also available for those who need them, and that is downstairs in New Brick, as well. We hope that you'll find a few worship and formation gatherings that you'll join us for. These and other details will be on our website's new **Fall at Christ Church page** soon and feel free to speak with Father Manny if you have any questions.

Adult Forum: Sunday Circle - Returns September 11th

Sunday Circle, our adult Christian education program, returns on Sunday, September 11th, and continues throughout the rest of 2022. Father Manny will start Sunday Circle by leading three sessions on the Book of Common Prayer in September. In October, Sunday Circle will focus on stewardship, with sessions focusing on God's creation, how we love each other and our neighbors, money, and self. Fr. Manny will then lead us in an exploration of the Nicene Creed in November. Finally, as we journey through Advent we will delve into various types of prayer. We hope you will join us for Sunday Circle from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in Old Brick.

Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer takes place Mondays at 7 p.m. and is a form of contemplation, a method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God. We invite you to log in, see what Centering Prayer is all about, and how it can find a unique and valuable space in your own life. The Zoom link is [here](#), Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340** and Password is **Centering!**

The CEC Book Club Returns in September

The CEC Book Club is taking the month of August off and will regather in September with a new series of books for the rest of 2022. When we resume, we'll gather virtually every Friday at 7:30 p.m. We always enjoy having new people join our virtual gathering, so if you enjoy curling up with an insightful read and discussing it with others, join us! Just **email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com** for details.

First Wednesdays Fellowship - September 7th

Join us on the first Wednesday of each month for dinner and fellowship. The Fellowship committee has been hard at work planning some fun activities over the next few months. Our first Fellowship evening will be Wednesday, September 7th in the Great Hall of New Brick.

- **6-7 p.m.** catered dinner by Chipotle - Please RSVP to ensure we have enough food! **You can do so by using this link**, clicking the QR code at the bottom of this email, or calling the church office. Also, please donate as you are able to help offset the cost of the meal. An average meal costs about \$15. Bring your own beverage.
- **7-8 p.m.** Bunco and fellowship.

Meet some new friends and reconnect with others. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening, and hope that you'll all join us!

Christ Church Hosts a Retreat: *How Contemplation Can Heal A Violent World*

In the 25th Anniversary celebration of Contemplative Outreach of Maryland and Washington DC (COMW), the Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, Bishop of Maryland, COMW co-founder, will lead a full-day retreat on how contemplation is as relevant as ever in today's world of violence at all levels of our lives, both domestically and globally. Indeed, Centering Prayer, as one form of contemplation, is a method for stilling our minds, and in silence opening our hearts to peace and understanding, thereby creating a foundation for a nonviolent response to any event that occurs in our lives. This full-day retreat takes place on Saturday, September 10th at Christ Church, **and you can register and read more details here**. The Diocese is also looking for a few CEC parishioners to help provide help to participants visiting Christ Church for the first time. Those volunteers take part in the retreat free of charge. If you're interested, please call or email the Christ Church Office.

The 2022 Parish Retreat - September 29th

Christ Church's Annual Rehoboth Retreat will be again held at the Felix DuPont Retreat House in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware from September 30th to October 2nd. We are very blessed to have the Rev Marcia Davenport as our retreat leader, and we'll be centering on the Christ Church theme for the coming year: ***Be an Instrument of God's Peace***. There will be interactive programs filled with discussions and music on Friday evening, Saturday morning, and Saturday evening. Evening Prayer service or Compline will be celebrated on Friday and Saturday evenings, and we'll conclude with a special Eucharist in the Chapel on Sunday morning. There is also free time for all scheduled on Saturday afternoon. Beach walks, star gazing, kite flying, art museums, reading and relaxing on the deck, bird watching, and browsing in shops and outlets during our spare time are all possible.

Five delicious meals are provided by an in-house chef for dinner on Friday and Saturday, lunch on Saturday, and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. The cost for the entire stay with the aforementioned meals is as follows: Adults (age 12 and older): \$295/person. We are required to have 15 persons committed to staying at Dupont House in order to host the event. Sign-up by September 4th with full payment is due on arrival to Dupont House on September 30th. Accommodations are limited to 20 (There are 11 rooms; only family members are permitted to share rooms due to COVID concerns). The sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex. Any questions, please see, call, or text Ellen Hoke at 301-452-7115 or email her at **efboudreau1@gmail.com**. Please join us for a fun and rewarding time together!

GOING ONCE! GOING TWICE! SOLD TO NUMBER 39!!!!

What is it, you ask? Why, it's the 33rd Annual Christ Church Auction, of course! We have the excitement, we have the date, we have the venue! But the one thing we need from you is items to donate (can't have an auction without items to bid on, after all). Please think about what you can offer up for both the Silent and the Live Auctions, so we can raise as much as possible for our beloved Christ Church! You can consider items from your basement, closets, garage, or workshop. We're looking for well-preserved, Auction-worthy items, or you can choose to donate something new. Another option is to donate something that you create yourself - perhaps you can host a special dinner for 6-8 CEC friends, or contribute a week or two of a timeshare getaway, or offer to rake leaves or pull weeds in the winning bidder's yard. Such thoughtful auction gifts always generate buzz! Small items, large items, or anything in between - items such as homemade baked goodies, or baskets filled with various treats are all welcome. If you have questions about an item being Auction-worthy, or need our help submitting your donations, just email us at auction@christchurchcolumbia.org. You can also place your Auction donations directly into the Auction software [HERE](#). Don't forget - the fair market value is tax-deductible, and you will receive a written statement from the Auction Committee. Watch this space for more information!

Saint Luke's Youth Center Holds a Live Performance in Baltimore on Friday, Aug. 26, and Continues Its Quilt Raffle at Our Parish Festival

St. Luke's Youth Center, which operates year-round as the nonprofit [SLYC](#), invites everyone to attend a performance in person at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 26. It will be held on the campus of the University of Maryland, Baltimore in Leadership Hall, 685 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore MD, 21201.

The program features children who have been attending Camp Imagination, which has inspired a love of reading and writing through the visual and performing arts. SLYC held one session of its summer camp in June; it will conclude its second session on Friday, as described in [the July newsletter](#). To help children in West Baltimore attend, the Outreach Commission contributed \$500, and others at Christ Church also made donations.

We learned more about SLYC when Executive Director Amanda Gardner Talbot delivered [the Aug. 7 sermon](#) at Christ Church, speaking about faith.

Parishioners also met SLYC Engagement Coordinator Darlene Clark, who will appear during Friday's performance as "Granny Slam." She and others at SLYC will take a shuttle to Leadership Hall to simplify parking. You can join them by arriving no later than 3:45 p.m. at the former St. Luke's Episcopal parish, 217 N. Carey Street, Baltimore, MD, 21223.

Clark and SLYC participant TyJuan Hawkins helped Talbot launch its fund-raising raffle during their visit to Christ Church. It was made possible by parishioner Nancy Winchester, who donated one of her lovely, handmade quilts, this one in queen-size with an accompanying runner for the pillows.

The raffle continues on Sunday, Aug. 28 at the Christ Church Parish Festival, where members of the Outreach Commission will sell tickets. Buy 1 ticket for \$5, 5 for \$10, or 10 for \$25. If you wish to purchase tickets later, please email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Other venues for the quilt raffle will be area congregations that support SLYC, which counts the [Episcopal Diocese of Maryland](#) among its partners. The reparations task force of the diocese recently awarded a grant to SYLC and five other organizations. Read about the grants in [a May 25 press release](#) from the diocese.

Afghan Refugee Ministry Updates – New Ways You Can Help

- Support the Afghan Refugee Ministry “white elephant” table at the September 17 Christ Church flea market: donate items in very good condition, help at the table, shop at the table. Items you’re donating can be dropped off at Old Brick from 10am – 3pm during the week of Sept 12 (only during that week, please). Check-in with Aisha White in the church office who’ll show you where to put your donations. Nothing that's broken or damaged, please, nothing too heavy, and no clothing. Contact Paula Rees for more information - cprees@comcast.net.
- As we mark one year since the U.S. military left Afghanistan and the Taliban took control, your voice is needed to urge a resolution of the current *temporary* visa status of thousands of Afghans who helped the U.S. and were evacuated (the members of the Afghan family here in the U.S. that's sponsored by Christ Church are in this group), and *lack of visas* for thousands more Afghans who helped the Americans but who did not get out last year and remain in grave danger from the Taliban (the husband/father and son/brother of “our” Afghan family are in this group). Link to steps you can take (either quick or more in-depth) in support of the Afghan Adjustment Act on the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service website (www.lirs.org), under the “Take Action” tab.

Columbia Community Care Requests Diapers, Personal Care Items

At Christ Church, members of R.A.G.E and the Outreach Commission ask parishioners to continue supporting the all-volunteer organization, **Columbia Community Care** (CCC). Please collect diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Put them in the yellow bin, marked “CCC,” inside the Parish Hall on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sunday. Our representative is Violet Smith, who takes parishioners’ donated items to a CCC site for distribution on Saturdays. Updated information about distribution can be found on the **CCC Group on Facebook**.

Donate Snacks, Crackers, and Cookies to FISH in Bin on our Breezeway

Organizers for **FISH of Howard County** are continuing to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill their shopping lists. The yellow bin is between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your contributions to our neighbors in need.

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.





It is such a wonderful time in the life of our parish. Throughout the many challenges of the past couple of years, you have remained faithful, generous, compassionate, and diligent. Today, I'd like to share with you some of the exciting programs lined up for you this fall and beyond. I am grateful to the clergy, staff, and parishioners who worked so hard to put all of this together.

Our goal is to serve, and we are eternally grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

Please find below some of the exciting programs lined up for Fall @ Christ Church:

Children & Family Service

We are beginning a new worship opportunity for children and families at 9:00 a.m. This will be a 20–25-minute service with a children's homily and communion. Children will have the chance to actively participate in the service. Children and Family service will begin on September 11 in New Brick.

Sunday School

Sunday School follows immediately after the Children and Family service. Children will go downstairs with their parents to Sunday School. We are excited about the new curriculum we will offer for Children Formation. Sunday School will run for about 45 minutes, and we are hoping to have two separate classes for children. For questions about Sunday School, or to help us with this ministry, **please contact Jenn Atkins.**

Breakfast

Some of our parishioners are working to provide breakfast for Sunday morning. Breakfast will be in the Great Hall, right by the classrooms, and it will consist of juice, bagels, muffins, yogurt, fruits, etc. Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:30 a.m. To help with breakfast, please contact **Preethi Jackson, Kathy Chrzanowski, and Simone Kolnik.**

Parenting Seminar

During Sunday School, parents will get the opportunity of joining a Parenting Seminar. This will be an opportunity for parents to get to know each other, share the joys and challenges of parenthood, and learn new and exciting parenthood perspectives. The point persons for this gathering are **Mother Marcia**, **Jason Whong**, and **Sarah Thomas**.

Community Meal and First Wednesday Fellowship

One of the exciting programs for the fall is the Community Meal and First Wednesday Fellowship. This is an opportunity to meet some new friends and reconnect with others. The more exciting part is that children eat free, so parents don't have to worry about cooking dinner. Parents are encouraged to make a generous donation towards dinner. Our First Wednesday Fellowship evening will be on September 7th in the Lower Level of New Brick. Dinner is 6 - 7 p.m. and our first meal is catered by Chipotle. Please RSVP to ensure we have enough food! You can do so by using the QR code in this email, by using the link in the announcement below, or by calling the church office. Dinner will be followed by Bunco. For more information, contact **Jenn Adkins** or **Jason Whong**.

Children Choir

We are excited that our new Director of Music, Larissa Sanders, is also a 4th Grade Music teacher in Howard County. Children Choir meets on Tuesdays from 5-6 p.m. and is open to children from ages 6 and up. For more information about Children's Choir, or if you have any questions, please contact **Larissa**.

Thursday Bible Study

This is an opportunity for an in-depth study of the Bible. You don't need to know much, or anything, about it - all we want you to do is to come and learn with everyone else. Thursday Evening Bible Study will begin on September 8th. The class will study some of the major themes of Paul's Letter to the Romans and the Gospel of Matthew. Please bring a Bible and gather with us in Old Brick at 5:30 p.m. every Thursday. This class will be led by **Emmanuel Mercer** and **Marcia Davenport**.

Theology on Tap

Looking for a space where you can have a long chat about interesting religious articles on the pages of the New York Times, Washington Post, or the Wall Street Journal? This is an opportunity for informal, structure-free interaction and discussion with fellow parishioners on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. We will provide additional information about the venue. Please join us for a fun evening! For more information, contact **Sarah Thomas** and **Mike Looney**.

I hope you will find these programs fulfilling and spiritually nourishing.

Manny



Saturday, September 17th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Attention All Bakers:

Yummy goodies are needed for the Flea Market Bake Table!

Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Brownies, Cupcakes, Breads, Rolls, Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free, all versions are welcome! We will need your delicious contributions by 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 17th, or you can arrange with Ronnie Ivey to deliver them the day before. Our Flea Market attendees are always hungry for baked goods! We will have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex in early September.

The White Elephant Table Needs Your Contributions!

Here's your opportunity to pass on those special items you don't need anymore, to others who are looking for something just like that! And it's for a great cause - all the proceeds from the White Elephant Table will go to our Afghan Refugee Ministry.

Here's how to contribute:

- Donated items can be dropped off during the week of September 12-16 (M-F) during Christ Church Office Hours (10:00 - 3:00). Just buzz Aisha; she will tell you where to put them in Old Brick.
- All items should have a sticker or tag attached showing the price you are suggesting. Remember, this is a fundraiser, so don't be shy.
 - All items should be clean and in good repair/user-ready.
- Please consider the size and weight of your contributions - no extra heavy items or large furniture.

We Want Your Books!

Here's your opportunity to unload all those books you read during the pandemic, and pick up some new ones for cheap! We are looking for all kinds of books, including children's books. You can drop off your books at the Christ Church parish hall during normal office hours between September 12-16 (M-F, 10:00-3:00). Just buzz to get in, and follow the signs downstairs in the parish hall.

We Need Your Help!

This event is a huge undertaking, and we need help to make it run smoothly. We especially need people to help with parking and traffic flow, set-up and manning of the grilling and food station, and clean-up afterward. We will have sign-up sheets in the Narthex in early September, so please consider helping us out. The Flea Market is the biggest fundraiser for the Women of Christ Church, and all the proceeds are used for the Church. If you have any questions, please email us at wocc@christchurchcolumbia.org, or speak to any WOCC regular on Sunday.



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, we thank God for each one of you and thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

We 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.

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

THANK YOU.



Christ Episcopal Church

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office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Kathleen Lyon, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

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

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

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