



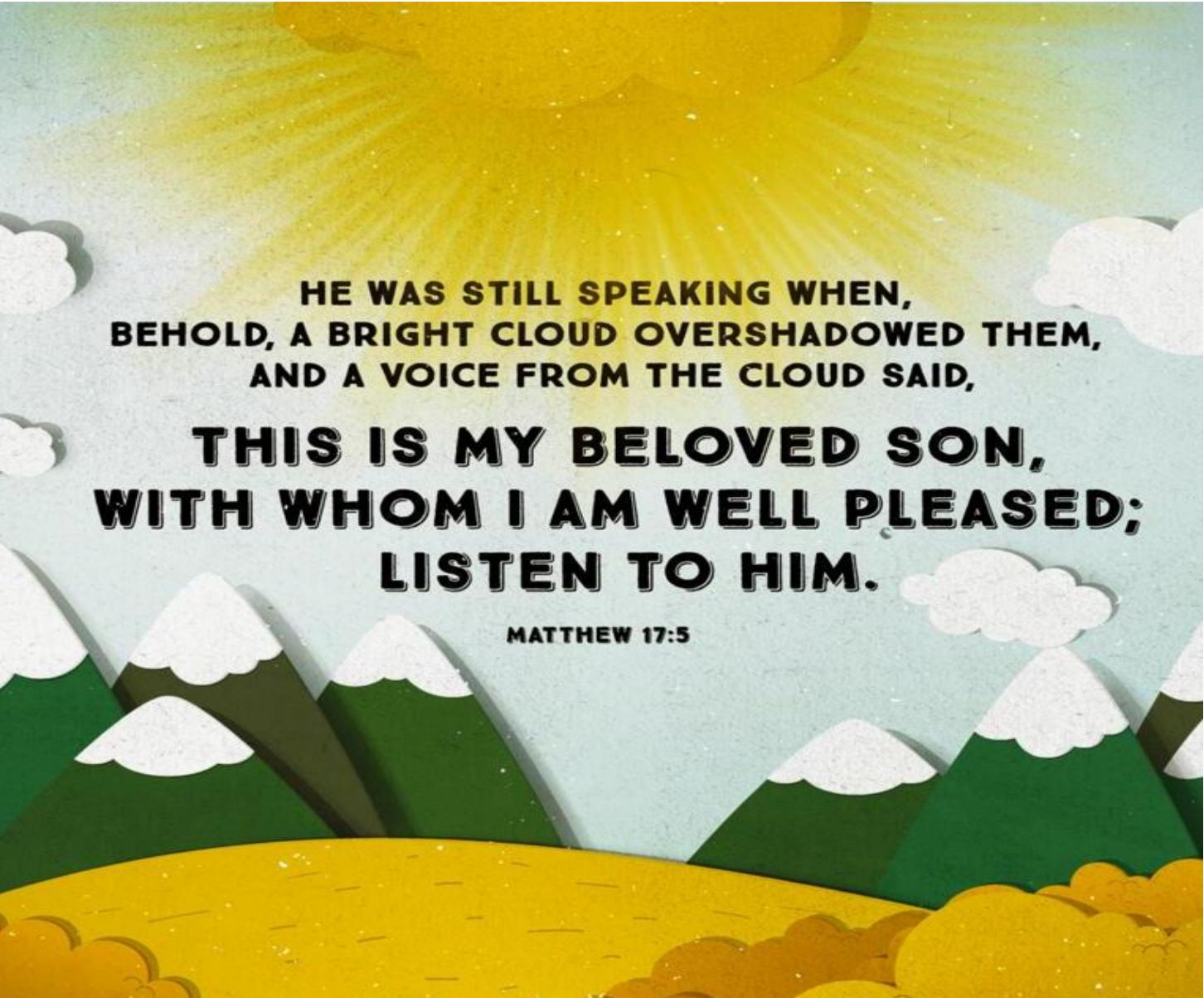
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, February 15, 2026 | Last Sunday after Epiphany



**HE WAS STILL SPEAKING WHEN,
BEHOLD, A BRIGHT CLOUD OVERSHADOWED THEM,
AND A VOICE FROM THE CLOUD SAID,**

**THIS IS MY BELOVED SON,
WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED;
LISTEN TO HIM.**

MATTHEW 17:5

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:

www.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.

PRELUDE |

OPENING HYMN 129 | Christ Upon the Mountain Peak

Mowbray

1 Christ up - on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in
2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came. God pro - claim - ing
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and pro - phets

glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,
li - jah speak - ing. All the pro - phets and the Law
in its thun - der Je - sus as his Son by name!
fade be - fore him; first and last and on - ly One,

with the saints and an - gels praise him. Al - le - lu - - ia!
shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing. Al - le - lu - - ia!
Na - tions cry a - loud in won - der! Al - le - lu - - ia!
let cre - a - tion now a - dore him! Al - le - lu - - ia!

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | Exodus 24:12-18

Reader: *A reading from Exodus.*

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 2 | *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

Why are the nations in an uproar; |

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats? ||

Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot to | gether, |

Against the Lord and against his Anointed? ||

(continued)

“Let us break their yoke,” they I say; |
“**let us cast off their bonds from I us.**” ||

He whose throne is in heaven is I laughing; |
The Lord has them in de- I rision. ||

Then he speaks to them in his I wrath, |
and his rage fills them with I terror. ||

“I myself have set my I king |
Upon my holy hill of I Zion.” ||

Let me announce the decree of the I Lord, |
he said to me, “You are my Son; this day have I be- I gotten you.” ||

Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your in- I heritance |
and the ends of the earth for your pos- I session. ||

You shall crush them with an iron I rod |
and shatter them like a piece of I pottery.” ||

And now, you kings, be I wise; |
be warned, you rulers of the I earth. ||

Submit to the Lord with I fear; |
and with trembling bow be- I fore him; ||

Lest he be angry and you I perish; |
for his wrath is quickly I kindled. ||

Happy are they I all |
who take refuge in I him! ||

THE EPISTLE | 2 Peter 1:16-21

Reader: *A reading from 2nd Peter.*

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN LEVAS 108 | Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Stead/ Kirkpatrick

1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, Just to take Him at His word.
2. O how sweet to trust in Je - sus, Just to trust His cleans - ing blood.
3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Je - sus, Just from sin and self to cease.
4. I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, Pre - cious Je - sus, Sa - vior, Friend;

1. Just to rest up - on His prom - ise, Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
2. Just in sim - ple faith to plunge me 'Neath the heal - ing, cleans - ing flood!
3. Just from Je - sus sim - ply tak - ing Life and rest and joy and peace.
4. And I know that thou art with me, Wilt be with me to the end.

Je - sus, Je - sus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!

Je - sus, Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust Him more!

THE GOSPEL | Matthew 17:1-9

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HYMN | Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eousness,
 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.
 For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord on - ly, that
 mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

Optional Ending

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 worshipped 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 |

Lord, steadfast faith, dedication and the indwelling of the Spirit of God are so important to all Your followers. May we live in the light of the Gospel and may our hearts reflect the knowledge and love of Christ. **Glory to the Living God**

We pray for our Lord's blessing on the worldwide Church and its work to reduce the burden of poverty, illness, violence, and despair and bring encouragement, hope and joy to all. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for All Saint's, Frederick, Christ the King, Woodlawn and our own Christ Church, Columbia. We ask for wisdom and compassion in the words and actions of our Spiritual leaders: our Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard & Marcia, and Seminarian, Yehinuel. We also hold our governmental leaders in prayer, our President, our Congress and our Judicial system that they may exercise good judgment with a spirit of cooperation and respect in their interactions and decisions. **Glory to our loving God**

We ask for healing of those suffering in body, mind or spirit, especially Kristin, Carol, MaryAnn, Alta, Mark, Clarence, Diane, Mildred, Kayode, Rachan & Sherry, and those you now name.. May God's presence comfort those in need. We are so thankful for the caretakers, family and friends who are so essential in helping to maintain the health and cheerful attitude of those who are ill. We also remember who have died and entered eternal life, especially those you now name. May we all reach out in love to those who mourn and offer understanding and loving friendship. **Glory to our everlasting God**

(continued)

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and newcomers who join us online in praise and worship today. We hope that our music, prayers, Spiritual Communion and reflections on the Word of God have nourished and refreshed your spirit. Christ Church offers many opportunities for ministry and service to the community for all interested individuals. We encourage you to join our ministries now or in the future. **Glory to our Lord who unites us all**

Yesterday, we celebrated Valentine's Day, a time of love and appreciation to all those important people in our lives. We also recognize those in our Parish who are celebrating occasions of joy this week, especially birthdays, wedding and baptismal anniversaries. We congratulate Mikailu, Patience, Anne, Cherry & Cheryl, Skip & Lorri Shepherd, and Susan, Theo & David. **Glory to God for all our blessings**

At the time of the Transfiguration of Christ on the mountain top, the followers of Jesus were told by a voice from Heaven, "This is my beloved Son, listen to Him." May we all listen intently to our hearts and walk in the way of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. **AMEN**

CONFESSON & ABSOLUTION |

Celebrant: 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.**

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 |

OFFERTORY ANTHEM | Ain'a That Good News!

W. L. Dawson

Please scan to give.



DOXOLOGY 380 vs 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 HOLY COMMUNION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

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

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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

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

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The Celebrant continues

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

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

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **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.

FRACTION ANTHEM S164 | Jesus, Lamb of God

from Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

COMMUNION HYMN LEVAS 119 | Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Croly/Atkinson

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
 4. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love.

1. Draw it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
 2. No sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 3. Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 4. One ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

1. Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 2. No an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - p'ning skies;
 3. To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
 4. The kin - dling of the heav'n - de - scand - ed dove,

1. And make me love thee as I ought to love.
 2. But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 3. Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 4. My heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

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.

EUCARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER | 8 & 10:30 a.m. service

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 HYMN | Shine, Jesus, Shine

Graham Kendrick

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining, Jesus,
Light of the World, shine upon us, Set us
free by the truth You now bring us, Shine
on me, shine on me.

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance,
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my
darkness,
Shine on me, shine on me. *Chorus*

CHORUS

Shine, Jesus shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory,
Blaze, Spirit blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy, Send
forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light.

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory, Mirrored here
may our lives tell Your story,
Shine on me, shine on me. *Chorus (2x)*

THE DISMISSAL |

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

POSTLUDE |

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Assisting in Worship Today

8:00 a.m. Service

Chalicist: Joan Harvey
Lector/Reader: Joan Harvey
Ushers: Jo Emily Knox

10:30 a.m. Service

Acolytes : Abigail Boyer, Daniel Jackson, Mikailu Sheriff
Chalicist: Cheryl Luente
Lector/Reader: Cheryl Luente, Javier Hernandez
Ushers: Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams,
Betty Dagne, Alex Amponsah

Altar Guild: Cheryl Luente, Leigh Smith, Pamela Foreman

Tellers : Catherine Miller, Lisa Taitt-Wynter

PARISH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 15 –21, 2026

Sunday, February 15

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour
9:00 am– 9:30 am	Family Worship – New Brick, UL
9:30 am – 10:30 am	Sunday School, Sunday Circle
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, UL
12:00 – 6:00 pm	Shrove Tuesday Prep (Youth Group) – New Brick, LL
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
1:00 – 5:00 pm	Education for Ministry (EfM) – Zoom & Parish Hall, CR
1:15 – 5:30 pm	Sundays @ 3 Concert – New Brick, UL
4:30 – 7:30 pm	Total Restoration Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL

Monday, February 16

All Day	President's Day - Office Closed
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous – New Brick, LL
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom

Tuesday, February 17

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am– 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – New Brick, LL
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club – Zoom

Ash Wednesday, February 18

6:00 am	Ashes to Go - Driveway
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 7:45 am	Ash Wednesday Service – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service – New Brick, UL
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service – New Brick, UL

Thursday, February 19

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lenten Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
6:30 – 9:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
6:30 – 9:00 pm	Education for Ministry (EfM): Fast Track – Zoom
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, LL

Friday, February 20

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 8:45 pm	Vigil Prayer with Mtr. Marcia – New Brick, UL

Saturday, February 21

8:30 am– 12:00 pm	Lenten Reflection Day – Old Brick
9:30 – 11:30 am	MOCC Breakfast – Another Broken Egg, Elkridge
2:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, LL
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Altar Guild prep



ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement to share with the church,
Please send to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL OF THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & LINKS

The 2026 Lenten Meditation Booklet - Available Today

The seventy-six-page edition of the 2026 Lenten Meditation Booklet is being printed as you read this, so this Sunday, February 15, please grab a copy. The LMB is a Lenten tradition that we look forward to creating each year - but it simply would not be possible without the beautiful, heartfelt, and inspiring submissions of your fellow parishioners - and this year, we have more than ever. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed! You'll find copies in the Narthex of New brick and in the rear of Old Brick. Be sure to get yours ASAP, though, as it's a limited print run and every copy typically "sells out!"

LENT at Christ Church

Our [Lent at Christ Church](#) page contains details for our worship, formation, and fellowship gatherings throughout the season. This is also where you can read our Daily Lenten Meditations, which will be published every weekday morning, both there and on our Instagram and Facebook pages. In addition to those, we'll have an inspirational *Saturday Song* posted every weekend, as well - something to enjoy, to lift your spirits, and to comfort your heart. This year, our website also has a Daily Office page that provides links to readings for each day of the season. We hope you'll find it a useful part of your Lenten journey.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - February 17

The incredible youth of Christ Church will once again host our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper! On February 17th, join us in the Great Hall of New Brick for this traditional start to the Lenten season. We begin gathering at 6:00 p.m., and seating is available until 7:30 p.m. Grab some delicious pancakes and treats as lively music plays and kids enjoy fun and games. It is \$15 for an individual and \$25 for a family, and you can pay in cash or via our [Online Giving Form](#) (select "Shrove Tuesday Dinner" in the dropdown menu).

Ash Wednesday - February 18

Ash Wednesday reminds us of our mortality and of what we are made of. To get our thoughts and hearts prepared for Lent, Christ Church offers three services with the Imposition of Ashes on Wednesday, February 18th. Gather with us at 7:00 a.m. in Old Brick, or in New Brick at 12:00 noon or 7:30 p.m. We'll also livestream the 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m. services on our website, YouTube, and Facebook pages.

Ashes to Go also returns, an opportunity for working commuters, students, and early risers to stop by and receive ashes as they start their day. We will offer a short prayer and administer Ashes to those who cannot be with us in worship that day, but who desire them. We'll have clergy in the lower-level parking lot from 6:00 to 7:00 that morning - just follow the *Ashes to Go* signs on the lawn. You can also have Ashes to Go administered during the day - call or [email the Church Office](#) and let us know what time you plan to come by the campus, and we'll meet you as you drive on by.

Lenten Healing Eucharist with Father Manny - Thursdays during Lent

Beginning February 19th and gathering each Thursday during Lent, Christ Church offers a midday Healing Eucharist in Old Brick. The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer leads this service of readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist.

Parishioners and community members are all welcome to join in a prayerful time in the presence of God, and to share in the wonderful mystery of God's love whilst we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in to reflect, pray, and participate in a service held in our beautiful, historic chapel.

Lenten Reflection Day - February 21

Christ Church's Spiritual Life Commission presents Lenten Reflection Day on Saturday, February 21, and we hope that you'll join us for this very special start to the season. We are proud to welcome Reverend Kirk Kubicek, who will lead us as we prayerfully reflect on our 2026 theme, *Building Relationships through Love*.

Lenten Reflection Day includes a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m., is followed by the day's program, and then wraps up around noon with an informal Eucharist. We hope that you'll find time to join us for this exceptional and inspirational start to the Lenten season. Questions? Email Ellen Hoke and the Spiritual Life Commission at SL@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God, a gathering that takes place every Monday. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. Be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings. [The Zoom link is here](#), the Meeting ID is 817 6254 3177, and the Passcode is CP. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church or by emailing centering@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Christ Church Book Club - Tuesdays

The Christ Church Book Club is an informal online conversation that decides on a book and discusses it as a group, offering different perspectives and experiences. The first book of the 2026 season will be *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Mariann Edgar Budde, Episcopal Bishop of Washington since 2011. It's a brief read; we'll tackle and discuss a chapter or two each week. In 2026, the CECBC will gather via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., beginning this Tuesday, January 20th. [The Zoom link is here](#), the Meeting ID is 853 4359 7339, and the Passcode is CECBC.

Christ Church Choir - Thursdays

C'mon, all you singers and music lovers! Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings in New Brick, and everyone is welcome to take part. 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 Vocal or Handbell Choirs! If you're interested, please email music@christchurchcolumbia.org

MOCC Monthly Breakfast - February 21

Join us for French toast and fellowship - the MOCC breakfast is a monthly tradition. This month, it will take place on Saturday, February 21 at Another Broken Egg. We'll meet at 9:30 a.m., and all ages are welcome. See you there!

Get Your Tickets to the 'More Than Hope' Concert on Sunday, Feb. 23

The fourth annual "More than Hope" event in support of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers will be held at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 15, at the Owen Brown Interfaith Center, 7246 Cradlerock Way in Columbia. Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased [here](#). The [Interfaith Refugee Ministry](#), led by Christ Church, encourages attendance. The multicultural concert,

presented by Leslie Ebert and Jay Green, features dance, music, and a celebration of how immigrants enrich our society. The speaker will be from the [Amica Center for Immigrant Rights](#), formerly CAIR Coalition. All proceeds will be shared by Amica and Comité Latino de Baltimore, a Baltimore-based nonprofit whose work is described on [its Facebook page](#).

Christ Church Sunday School Helps LEMS - March 8

On Sunday, March 8, the younger Sunday school students and their parents will gather to assemble snack bags for LEMS instead of holding classes. Please come ready to help with this project for Lent!

Help DreamBuilders By Taking a Chance on an iPhone Raffle or Buying Coffee, Tea, and Chocolates On Sale at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Look for fair-trade coffee, tea, cocoa, and chocolates being sold to benefit [DreamBuilders](#). The goods will be available at the entrance to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, Feb. 17, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. You'll also have the chance to win an iPhone 17 Pro worth nearly \$1,200. Buy one raffle ticket for \$20 or three for \$50. No more than 200 tickets will be sold. You need not be present at the March 14 drawing to win. It's all for a good cause so teams can prepare to rebuild after disasters. The group plans to travel once more to Hazard, Ky., from June 21-27 to build homes after devastating floods.

As mentioned, March 14 is the day to come enjoy a spaghetti dinner and bid on a wide and wonderful variety of items and activities, all in support of DreamBuilders. This is our largest fundraising event of the year. Proceeds help make our building projects possible. We will need lots of help to make this event a success, and we will be looking for donations for the auction, too.

WOCC at Toby's Dinner Theatre - April 17

The Women of Christ Church met this past week and finalized their 2026 events calendar. From fantastic dinners to theatrical productions, nature walks to movie screenings, it's all there.

Next up: a night at Toby's! Join us for *The Wizard of Oz* on Friday, April 17. Family and friends are welcome to a night of food and fun as we gather at 6:00 p.m. for the buffet dinner, followed by the feature production. The cost is \$85. for adults and \$81. for children, and you can pay via Realm (write TOBY'S in the memo line). You can sign up in the Narthex, and must do so by March 15th.

Community Action Council Gets Funds to Help Families in Need

In response to community needs, the Outreach Commission at its February meeting approved a donation of \$1,000 to the [Community Action Council of Howard County](#) (CAC). These are Vestry-approved funds derived from parishioners' pledges and contributions. Thank you for helping others when they need it most.

The CAC is the county's official anti-poverty, non-profit agency, offering several essential [programs](#) for residents in need. The most recent aid will go toward housing assistance to help households keep a roof overhead. Other programs include the Howard County Food Bank, energy assistance and weatherization, and early childhood education.

CAC posted a snapshot of its impact in Fiscal Year 2025: 309 students educated, 202 families saved from homelessness, 1,021,154 meals distributed, 2,372 families kept their lights on, and 651 homes made more energy efficient. With your help, that work continues.

CAC President Tracy Broccolino expressed her gratitude to Christ Church for its donations in 2025. "Thank you for your community partnership," she wrote in a letter dated Jan. 30, 2026. "Your support is invaluable to us."

LEMS Kindness Pantry UPDATE

Thanks to all of you who have faithfully signed up for items on the Kindness Pantry list! It's a great way to celebrate Valentine's Day for our community.

We have a few more things that are still needed: 4 jars of pasta, 2 small bottles of dish soap, 2 boxes of kitchen-sized trash bags, and, as always, coats and hats. Please put your items in the blue bin in the narthex of New Brick by this Sunday, February 15.

If any of you want to help with the food distribution, please let Cindy, Jan, or Sara know you can come. We typically arrive around 2:30 for setup, and the Pop-Up Pantry runs from 3:30 to 4:30. Here is the link to [the SignUpGenius form](#). Thank you - we deeply appreciate your generosity and compassion.

Please Bring Diapers, Non-Perishables for CCC/FISH, And Consider Volunteering from Home to Take Phone Calls From Neighbors in Need

FISH and [Columbia Community Care](#) (CCC) partnered last year and merged their pantries. CCC continues to hand out food at three sites on Saturday mornings and by home delivery to Howard County residents. For information, visit [Get Help](#) online.

FISH continues to pick up donated goods from Christ Church and others. Please put non-perishable food and personal care products in the altar basket or in a bin just inside the Parish Hall. Look for a combo label "FISH/CCC". Please bring baby wipes and diapers, especially large sizes.

FISH will continue to provide telephone support to Howard County residents, offering guidance and financial assistance, because the personal touch is very important when people are in crisis. You could be the one to lend a helping hand, by lending an ear!

As a phone volunteer, you can help from your home by giving just one day a month to assisting those who could benefit from financial assistance from FISH. Training is provided. For information, ask parishioner and FISH treasurer Andy DeLong or email him at andydelong.fish@gmail.com. Thank you always for your support.

Kenya Connect 5k Run - March 28

Kenya Connect, an outreach partner of St. John's in Ellicott City, is holding its 12th annual 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, March 28th, at St. John's. The 5K builds community while supporting the work of [Kenya Connect](#) to provide children with options and new pathways in rural Kenya.

We welcome individual participants or a team from Christ Church. We will have post-race goodies, including a Kenyan crafts market with items made by women and men in our village. We also provide hand-carved medallions from Wamunyu to the top three women and men in all age categories.



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The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Associate Rector for Children and Family Ministries*

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*
The Rev. Yehinuel Odidi, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*
Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipedé, *Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator*

Diya Jackson, *Office & Youth Ministry Coordinator*
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