



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

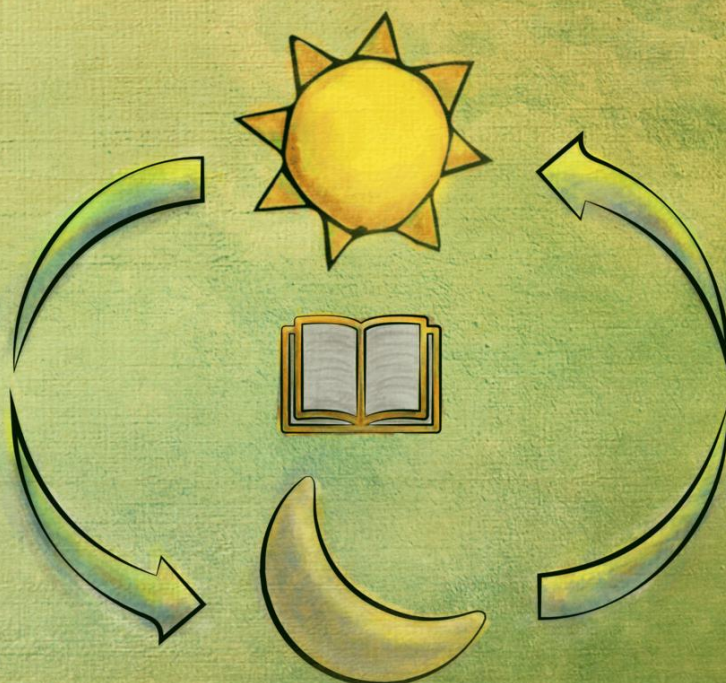
8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, October 25, 2026 | Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

*Blessed is the man who walks  
not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
but his delight is in the law  
of the LORD, and*

**ON HIS LAW  
HE MEDITATES  
DAY AND NIGHT.**

*PSALM 1:1 - 2*



### Welcome Home!

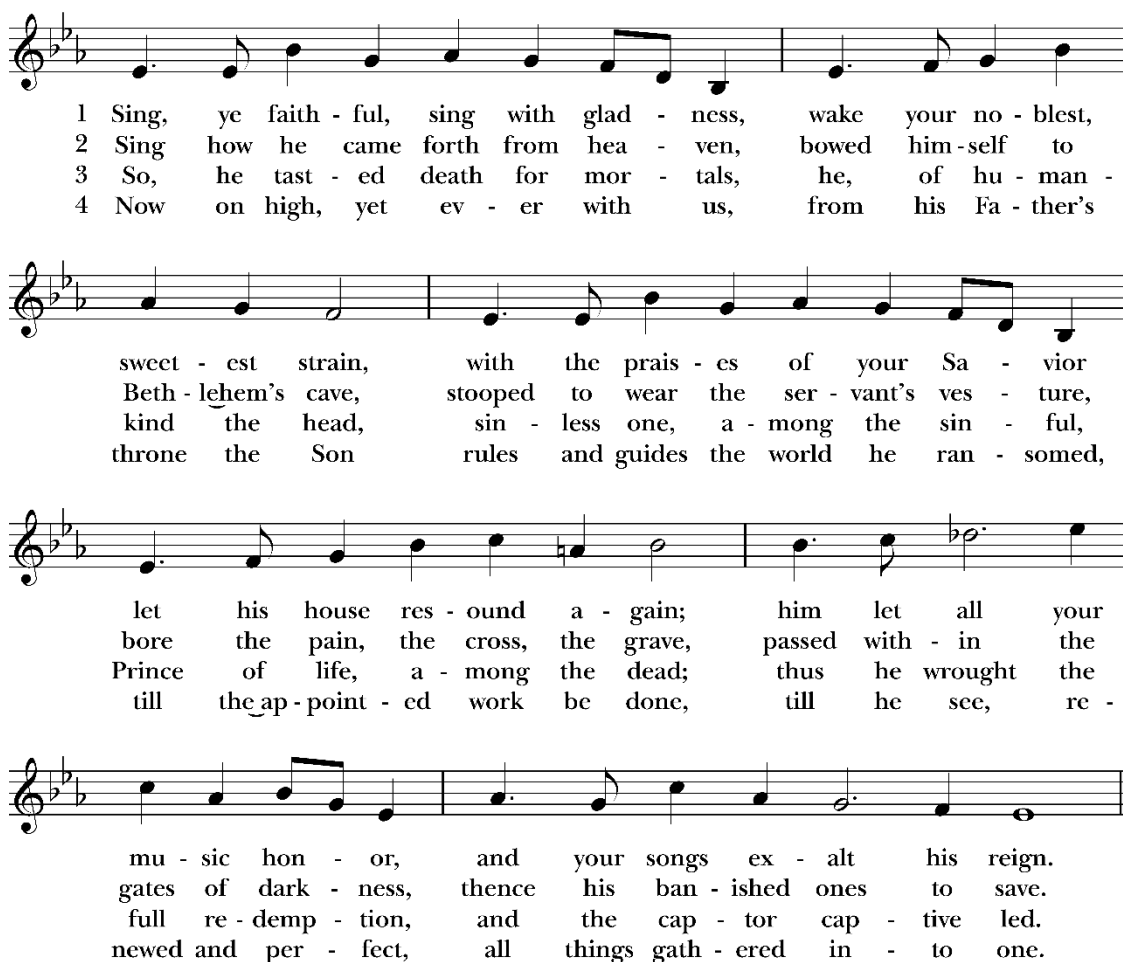
Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church:  
[www.christchurchcolumbia.org](http://www.christchurchcolumbia.org).

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 492 | Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness

*Finnian*



1 Sing, ye faith - ful, sing with glad - ness, wake your no - blest,  
2 Sing how he came forth from hea - ven, bowed him - self to  
3 So, he tast - ed death for mor - tals, he, of hu - man -  
4 Now on high, yet ev - er with us, from his Fa - ther's

sweet - est strain, with the prais - es of your Sa - vior  
Beth - lehem's cave, stooped to wear the ser - vant's ves - ture,  
kind the head, sin - less one, a - mong the sin - ful,  
throne the Son rules and guides the world he ran - somed,

let his house res - ound a - gain; him let all your  
bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed with - in the  
Prince of life, a - mong the dead; thus he wrought the  
till the ap - point - ed work be done, till he see, re -

mu - sic hon - or, and your songs ex - alt his reign.  
gates of dark - ness, thence his ban - ished ones to save.  
full re - demp - tion, and the cap - tor cap - tive led.  
newed and per - fect, all things gath - ered in - to one.

### OPENING ACCLAMATION |

*Celebrant:* Blessed by God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**People:** And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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**

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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 | Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18

Reader: *A reading from Leviticus.*

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

## THE PSALM

Psalm 1 | *The Two Ways*



Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*

**nor lingered in the way of sinners,**

**nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \*

**and they meditate on his law day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water,

bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*

**everything they do shall prosper.**

It is not so with the I wicked; \*

**they are like chaff which the wind blows a-way.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment I comes, \*

**nor the sinner in the council of the I righteous.**

For the Lord knows the way of the I righteous, \*

**but the way of the wicked is I doomed.**

## THE EPISTLE | 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Reader: *A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians.*

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand as able.*

## SEQUENCE HYMN 697 | My God, Accept My Heart This Day

*Song 67*

1 My God, ac - cept my heart this day, and make it al - ways thine,  
2 Be - fore the cross of him who died, be - hold, I pros - trate fall;  
3 A - noint me with thy heaven - ly grace and seal me for thine own,  
4 Let ev - ery thought and work and word, to thee be ev - er given;

that I from thee no more may stray, no more from thee de - cline.  
let ev - ery sin be cru - ci - fied, and Christ be all in all.  
that I may see thy glo - rious face, and wor - ship near thy throne.  
then life shall be thy ser - vice, Lord, and death the gate of heaven.

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,  
“Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet”’?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

*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-eous-ness,

5  
Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

Optional Ending

9

For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord on - ly, that

13

mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

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

## THE SERMON | Kevin Berthoud, *parishioner*

*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 |

As children of God, we are called to be holy and just, to serve and to love. In this way, may we relate to our community and the world, live in strength, and hope for the future. Let us re-dedicate ourselves to God's work, saying: **Lord, help us walk in humility and faith.**

We ask Your grace and guidance for all elected leaders throughout the world, that they may govern with justice and the courage to do what is right for their people. We pray for peace and the resolution of armed conflicts in our world. We pray for unity and understanding in our own country. In our church, we pray for including our Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard, Marcia & Natalie. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we remember The Church of the Province of Central Africa. In our diocese, we pray for Grace, New Market, St. Andrew's, Glenwood and St. Barnabas', Sykesville. We lift up all who are new or visiting with us today. We pray: **Lord, help us to walk in Your ways.**

We pray that our hearts rejoice in the living God. We offer our deepest gratitude and ask Your blessing for Christ Church staff and lay leaders. We give thanks for those parishioners who have become new vestry members. We pray all our leaders may continue to do Your work with wisdom and grace wherever they may best serve You, saying: **Lord, help us to walk in Your ways.**

We pray for all those in need and those who suffer from illness of mind, body, or spirit, especially Nancy, Ivy, Joi, Lenore, Shannon, Ally, Sean, Maggie, Liam, Ashley, Kimberly, Kaci, MaryAnn, Brandon, Clarence, Mildred, Kayode, Rachan & Sherry and those you now name. May they and their caregivers find their courage in You. We also pray for those in service to our country who are in harm's way. Hold us all in the palm of your hand. We pray: **Lord, help us to walk in Your ways.**

We remember all those who have left their earthly home especially Lee Harvey, and now abide with You, especially those you now name. Comfort those who mourn them with Your peace that passes all understanding. We pray: **Lord, help us to walk in Your ways.**

With grateful hearts, we rejoice in the birthdays of Kenneth, Ellen, Fran, Brian & Derek, and the baptismal anniversaries of Duane, Lexi, Janeene, Stacey, Andrew & Diana. We thank You and pray: **Lord, help us to walk in Your ways.**

Good and gracious God, you call us to be disciples carrying out your mission. Transform us through the power of your Spirit. Open our hearts to acknowledge your many blessings, to use your gifts wisely, to share generously, to serve joyfully, to live responsibly, to be a gift to others. Help us nurture a stewardship way of life, which connects, serves, and impacts our communities. Guide us as we prayerfully discern how to give of our time, talents, and treasures, to further your kingdom on earth. We pray, **Through Christ our Lord, AMEN**

## CONFESSION & 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 | Little Prelude in E Minor

*Please scan to give.*



*John S. Dixon  
Handbell Choir*

### PRESENTATION HYMN 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 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

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:



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."

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.**

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. **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 LEVAS 270 | Lamb of God

*Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis*

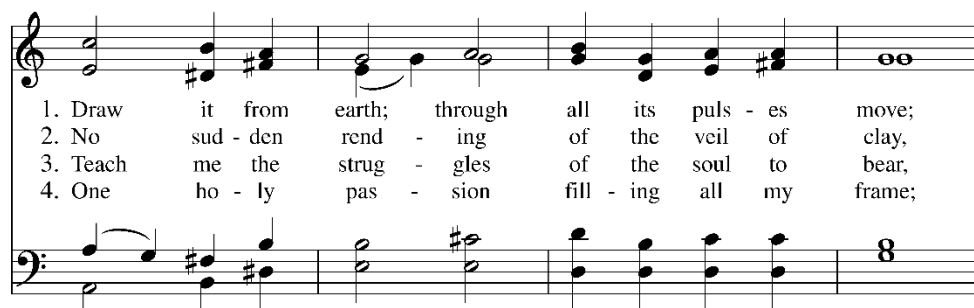
*organ*

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

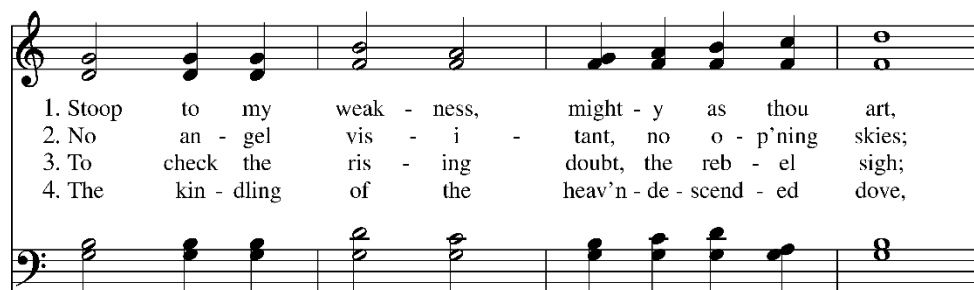
COMMUNION HYMN LEVAS 119 | Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart *George Croly/Frederick Atkinson*



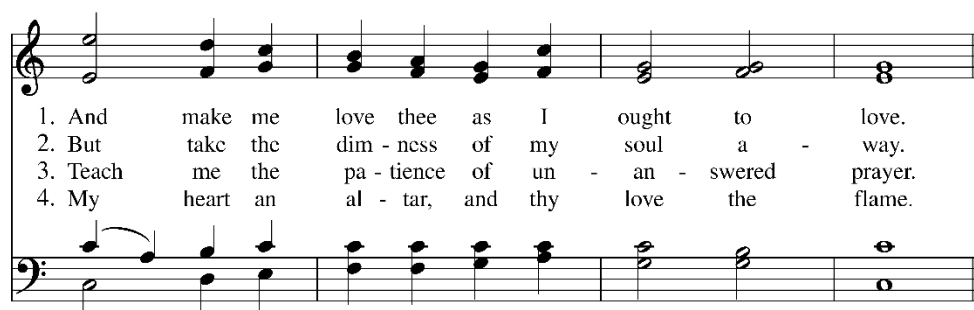
1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,  
 3. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;  
 4. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love.



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 - scend - 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC 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 376 | Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*Hymn to Joy*

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.

## THE DISMISSAL |

*The Celebrant dismisses the people who respond:*

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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## Assisting in Worship Today

### Altar Guild

Cheryl Lucente, Pam Foreman, Leigh Smith, Sandra Griffin

### 8:00 a.m. Service

**Chalicerist:** Dione Mahoney

**Lector/Reader:** Dione Mahoney

**Usher:** Kayode Fatodu

### 10:30 a.m. Service

**Acolytes:** Chloe Spencer, Hope Spencer, James Mercer

**Chalicerists:** Cheryl Lucente

**Lector/Reader:** Sandra Griffin

**Ushers:** Cherry Williams, Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams,  
Betty Dagne, Alex Amponsah

### Tellers

Mary Oladipupo, Sarah Mugo



**A NIGHT IN THE EMERALD CITY**  
— CHRIST CHURCH'S 2026 AUCTION —

**ONLINE BIDDING BEGINS NOV. 3**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7  
6:00 P.M. IN THE GREAT HALL**

[ChristChurchColumbia.org/Auction](http://ChristChurchColumbia.org/Auction)

# PARISH CALENDAR

## OCTOBER 25 – 31, 2026

### **Sunday, October 25**

|                  |                                                        |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am          | Holy Eucharist – Old Brick                             |
| 8:45 – 9:30 am   | Coffee Hour – Old Brick                                |
| 9:00 am          | Family Service                                         |
| 9:30 – 10:20 am  | Sunday School, Sunday Circle                           |
| 10:30 am         | Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, UL                 |
| 11:00 – 11:30 am | Coffee Hour - Zoom                                     |
| 4:30 – 7:30 pm   | Total Restoration Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL |

### **Monday, October 26**

|                |                                          |
|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am        | Morning Prayer Livestream                |
| 6:00 – 8:30 pm | Food Addicts Anonymous – Parish Hall, LL |
| 7:00 – 8:00 pm | Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom      |
| 7:00 – 8:00 pm | Refugee Ministry Meeting – Zoom          |

### **Tuesday, October 27**

|                    |                                          |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am            | Morning Prayer Livestream                |
| 11:00 am– 12:00 pm | Weekly Staff Meeting                     |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm    | Coffee Hour – Zoom                       |
| 1:00 – 10:00 pm    | IRC Prep – Parish Hall, LL               |
| 4:30 – 6:00 pm     | Larissa Recital Practice – New Brick, UL |
| 6:00 – 8:00 pm     | Boy Scouts – Old Brick                   |
| 6:30 – 9:00 pm     | Vestry Meeting – Hybrid                  |
| 7:30 – 9:00 pm     | CEC Book Club – Zoom                     |

### **Wednesday, October 28**

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 7:00 am        | Morning Prayer Livestream        |
| 4:00 – 5:00 pm | Exercise Class – Parish Hall, LL |

### **Thursday, October 29**

|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 7:00 am         | Morning Prayer Livestream       |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm | Healing Eucharist – Old Brick   |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm | Coffee Hour – Zoom              |
| 6:30 – 9:00 pm  | Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, UL |
| 6:30 – 9:00 pm  | EfM: Fast Track – Zoom          |
| 7:30 – 9:00 pm  | Boy Scouts – New Brick, LL      |

### **Friday, October 30**

|                 |                                                     |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 7:00 am         | Morning Prayer Livestream                           |
| 7:00 pm         | Evening Prayer Livestream                           |
| 7:00 – 10:00 pm | Friday Faith Film: NEEDFUL THINGS – Parish Hall, LL |

### Saturday, October 31

|                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| All Day           | Halloween                  |
| 8:00 – 10:00 am   | Altar Guild prep           |
| 8:30 am – 4:30 pm | IRC Prep – Parish Hall, LL |
| 2:00 – 4:00 pm    | AA Meeting – Parish Hall   |
| 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](mailto:communications@christchurchcolumbia.org) by Tuesday evening.



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

### **Vision & Strategies Workshops - Begin this Sunday at 9:30 in Old Brick**

The Vision & Strategies committee completed its planning work by delivering the V&S Report at the Annual Meeting last Sunday. To support that transition, Vision & Strategies committee members will hold workshops beginning this Sunday, October 25, on the four presented ministry areas so existing groups can plan and begin the needed work together.

#### **Join us in Old Brick at 9:30 a.m.:**

- Sunday, October 25 - *Membership*
- Sunday, November 1 - *Outreach*
- Sunday, November 8 - *Communications*
- Sunday, November 15 - *Stewardship*

We hope that you'll read [the V&S Report](#) and come to these sessions with any and all questions, concerns, thoughts, and ideas, so that we can build a better Christ Church for the next three hundred years of parishioners - including us.

### **Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings**

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. Be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on Monday evenings. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church or by emailing [centering@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:centering@christchurchcolumbia.org).

### **Noonday Healing Eucharist - Thursdays**

Throughout the year, Christ Church offers a midday Healing Eucharist on Thursdays in Old Brick. A member of our clergy 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.

## Join the Christ Church Choir - Thursday Evenings

Get ready, all you singers and music lovers! The choir has resumed rehearsals in New Brick on Thursday evenings - Handbell Choir at 6:45 and Adult Choir at 7:30 - and all adults are welcome to join us. Whether you read music or not, have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit full-time or not, there's a place for you to give it a shot in our handbell &/or vocal choirs. If you're interested, please speak with Larissa at church on Sundays or email her at [music@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:music@christchurchcolumbia.org).

## Movie Night - Friday, October 30

The next film screening in the Parish Building's lower level will be *Needful Things* ([trailer](#)), starring Bonnie Bedelia and Ed Harris. What's it about? Well... "A mysterious shop of novelties, specialties, and antiques opens in the small town of Castle Rock, where the owner, Leland Gaunt (Max von Sydow), sells items that fulfill the deepest desires of his customers, the unwitting townspeople. Gaunt rarely asks for pecuniary compensation, but rather asks for odd favors and pranks orchestrated on others often seeming completely harmless. The threading of the pranks and misfortunes leads to community hostility and distrust, culminating in widespread chaos and severe violence. Only then does the sheriff begin to understand what is happening in his once-quiet and peaceful town and who is ultimately responsible. Truth becomes his weapon, and you need to see how it unravels the tapestry woven by Gaunt." You don't want to miss this one - gather and enjoy this early-90s tale; join us at 7:00 that night - and bring some munchies to share!

## Welcome Newcomers to Christ Church at the HoCo Pride Festival - November 1

Christ Church is proud to represent our community at this weekend's Howard County Pride Festival! The no-cost festival takes place Sunday, November 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods. We are looking for enthusiastic [volunteers](#) to staff our booth (canopy, table, and chairs provided), welcome festival-goers, and share Christ Church's message of God's inclusive love with our wider community. Whether you can give an hour or spend the afternoon with us, your presence and support make a meaningful difference. [You can learn much more about this event here](#), and [volunteers can register here](#). Thank you for helping us reach the wider community and let them know about Christ Church - a place that's truly for everyone.

## Taizé Vespers: *THANKSGIVING* · Sunday Evening, November 1

Taizé Vespers is a liturgy of Evening Prayer that combines scripture readings, prayer, silent meditation, and rich music. On the first Sunday evening of each month, Christ Church offers this truly beautiful service of contemplative prayer and music in the tradition of the Taizé community of France. This community promotes peace and justice through prayer and meditation. November's Taizé Vespers reflects on *Thanksgiving*, which is appropriate, given the season. Emphasizing attention to silence, prayer, and singing, Taizé offers an opportunity to give praise and thanksgiving for God's love and presence in one's life, to offer prayer for oneself and others, and to share in a supportive community. Gather with us at 6 p.m. in New Brick on November 1 for this powerful and peaceful worship.

## We Need Your Photo!

As our church community continues to grow and flourish, staying connected is more important than ever. Christ Church is creating a new to make it easier for everyone to reach out, connect, and care for one another, put faces to names, welcome newcomers, and help long-time members stay in touch across our services and ministries. The "faces to names" part of that is where you come in - we need your individual or family photo so we can add it to the Directory. Please email them to [office@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:office@christchurchcolumbia.org), and we'll add them. A directory helps our clergy, staff, and lay leaders easily recognize, reach, and support parishioners when they need pastoral care or community outreach. Knowing one another also better builds a tightly knit, supportive spiritual home where everyone is truly seen and appreciated, so thank you in advance for helping make this Directory a reality.

## **AUCTION TIME IS COMING! Begins November 3**

The countdown to the best Christ Church social event of the year is really, truly here! Many thanks to everyone who has donated - we have more than 130 items, and they are fantastic ones, too! If you need us to photograph your donated items, please bring them to the Parish Hall Conference Room between this Saturday, October 24, and Friday, October 30, during regular office hours. If you need assistance, please call the church office. If we don't need to photograph them, please drop them off on Friday, Nov. 6 and Saturday, Nov. 7 (more details later).

THEN..... get ready for AUCTION WEEK! That's right, this year's Auction takes place over a few days and in different ways. First comes the online portion from November 3 - 6, and [you can view that catalog here](#). You can bid on those from your own couch... and then check your bid... and see you're outbid... **and then counterbid!** The fun is in the competition - and in raising the most for our much-loved Christ Church! The main event, of course, takes place on Saturday, November 7, at 6:00 in the Great Hall - and we expect to see ALL OF YOU there (remember, there is childcare for all)!

## **FriendsGiving at Christ Church - Wednesday, November 4**

The November version of First Wednesday Fellowship is a festive one - we will celebrate FriendsGiving in the Great Hall! Bring your family and friends for a genuine turkey dinner with all the trimmings, we'll provide the delicious turkey, and you bring the trimmings. Whether you choose cranberry sauce, stuffing, mashed potatoes, or any other wonderful seasonal delights, they are sure to please. After dinner, we will take part in a service project that benefits others in our community. We are thinking about making Treat Bags for the teachers at Lake Elkhorn Middle School, but other ideas are also possible. No matter what, it's the season to be thankful, and we will do something in that spirit! So come, join us on Wednesday, November 4, at 6:00 in New Brick, and enjoy an early FriendsGiving together! Questions? Call the Church Office.

## **MOCC Breakfast - Saturday, November 21**

Join us for French toast and fellowship - the MOCC breakfast is a monthly tradition, and in November, it will take place on Saturday, the 21st. Set your GPS to [Silver Diner at 8250 Gateway Overlook Drive in Columbia](#). We'll meet at 9:30 a.m., and all ages are welcome. And stay tuned: on December 12, the MOCC will host its Christmas Dinner at the King's Contrivance Restaurant. They have no other information at this time, but be sure to save the date for now.

## **Provide Eucharist to Those Unable to Travel to Church as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor**

This year, we have had more people request [Communion to You](#), a service Christ Church provides to bring Eucharist to homebound parishioners. To fulfill this need, we require a few more Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV). If you're interested in helping with this vital ministry, please speak with Kathy Lyon at church or contact the Church Office. And if you require this service for yourself or someone you know, [please fill out this brief form](#), or call the Church Office. We will ensure that Communion gets there.

## **We Always Need More Help at Christ Church**

There are many roles in the church that most people don't think of regularly - or at all. However, many people do a great deal of work to keep Christ Church the well-run parish it is. You can help your church by volunteering as a Greeter, Reader, Chalcist, or Teller, serving in the Inreach Ministry, or assisting the Christ Church Altar Guild.

None of these requires weekly assistance - both only require a short amount of time every few weeks or so, but the impact you have on the entire parish is significant. For those specifically interested in the Altar Guild, email [altarguild@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:altarguild@christchurchcolumbia.org) or speak with Pam Foreman or any other Altar Guild member setting up on Sunday mornings. To learn more about the Inreach Ministry, speak with Michon Semon at church, complete the brief form at [cecevents.org/Inreach](http://cecevents.org/Inreach), or email us at [inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org), and we will get you started. For those interested in assisting as a Greeter, Reader, Chalcist, or Teller, please call the Church Office at [office@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:office@christchurchcolumbia.org) or speak with Yetti.

## **You Can Register for Sunday School**

From Autumn through Spring, Faith Formation is thriving at Christ Church, and anyone from pre-K to 12th grade is invited to gather with us next fall. It's a program of age-appropriate classes that's relevant and engaging, and we're looking forward to an exciting year! The Sunday School details are on [our website's Sunday School page](#).

Registration is now open, so [complete our registration form here](#) (one form per child, please), so we can reserve space for your children. If you have any questions or need assistance, please email [sundayschool@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:sundayschool@christchurchcolumbia.org)

## **Christ Church Supports the Howard County Food Bank & Other CAC Operations; You Can Help as Individuals at a Nov. 10th Fundraiser**

The Outreach Commission at its October meeting approved a donation of \$500 to the [Community Action Council of Howard County](#) (CAC), to be used for operations in the area of greatest need. These are Vestry-approved funds derived from parishioners' pledges and contributions. Thank you for helping our neighbors who are struggling. Soon we'll launch our annual Thanksgiving Drive for CAC's Howard County Food Bank. Stay tuned!

As an individual, you may wish to support CAC in other ways. Consider participating in a [fundraiser](#), "2026 Evening of Impact," for a capital campaign on Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Savelle, a renovated space formerly known as the Great Room. Ample free parking is available in the Savage Mill complex in nearby Savage, MD. A general admission [ticket](#) is \$150 for an evening of great food and beverages. Supporters may wish to [purchase a sponsorship](#) for a business or [donate](#) directly.

It's for a worthy cause. The CAC is the county's official anti-poverty, non-profit agency. Its "Cornerstone of Opportunity" [capital campaign](#) is intended to address rising demand for food assistance and affordable early childhood education, particularly along the Route One Corridor. CAC and government officials broke ground in Elkridge on a site that will house a more efficient food bank and an education center, as described in a [Sept. 26, 2025 county release](#). CAC received county and state funds to launch the project but must raise the balance.

## **Christ Church Donates to Christian Jail Ministry to Support Religious Education and Pastoral Care for Detainees and Their Families**

You could be among the volunteers at [Christian Jail Ministry](#) (CJM), which provides pastoral care to people who might otherwise be ignored. Again this year, the Outreach Commission approved contributing \$500 for its work at the Howard County Detention Center (HCDC).

"We would like to thank you for the financial support as well as your prayers," said Lead Chaplain Kevin Griffith. "We are truly having a tremendous impact in the lives of many men and women in the Howard County community."

He told of heartwarming moments at CJM's recent banquet as a returning citizen took the podium, "thanking our volunteers for walking alongside him as he re-establishes himself in the community."

Please pray for the ministry as CJM seeks to meet the spiritual needs of those detained at HCDC. Bible study is one way that CJM reaches them; our donations provide religious materials such as detainees' worksheets. Volunteers at partner churches grade the worksheets. If you are interested in participating, email [outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org).

## **Your Help is Needed to Provide Support for Comfort Cases, a Long-Standing Outreach Group for the MOCC - November 19**

The Men of Christ Church needs volunteers to help pack bags in support of Comfort Cases. If you are interested in helping out, please speak with Duane Smith at church or email [MOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:MOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org). You can also find flyers around the campus with more information.



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The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Senior Associate Rector*

The Rev. Natalie Tinner, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*

Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*

Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*

Yetti Lipede, *Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator*

Diya Jackson, *Office & Youth Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*

Shereen Benka-Coker, *Nursery Care Assistant*

John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

**Vestry**

- Denisa Abdallah (*Senior Warden*) • Greg Schuckman (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*)
- Shreya Chrzanowski (*Youth Liaison*) • Ronald Baran • George Toth • Sara Kirkpatrick
- Ed Chrzanowski • Jay Abbott • David James • Katie Adams • Jim Berkson • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover