

# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

February 13, 2022: Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

You may stream the 10:30 a.m. service from Christ Church's [website](#), [YouTube](#), or [Facebook](#) pages

## THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE – Berceuse from Vingt-Quatre pieces en style libre, Op. 31

*Louis Vierne*

Ola Oladipupo, organist

INTROIT – Christ Is Our Guiding Light

*Eric Law*

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

OPENING HYMN 48 – O Day of Radiant Gladness

*Es flog ein kleins Waldvoegelein*



1. O day of ra - diant glad - ness, O day of joy and light, O  
2. This day at the cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth; this  
3. This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, his Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear; his  
4. That light our hope sus - tain - ing, we walk the pil - grim way, at



balm of care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright; this  
day for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth; this  
liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through Bread and Wine made near. We  
length our rest at - tain - ing, our end - less Sab - bath day. We



day the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune, sing,  
day our Lord vic - to - rious this Spi - rit sent from heaven, and  
jour - ney on, be - liev - ing, re - newed with heaven - ly might, from  
sing to thee our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son; the



"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.  
thus this day most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given.  
grace more grace re - ceiv - ing on this blest day of light.  
Church her voice up - rais - es, to thee, blest Three in One.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

## GLORIA

*8:00 a.m. service*

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

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

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

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

## SONG OF PRAISE – Gloria

*Jacque Berthier/Taizé*

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

*Refrain*

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

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

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.  
***Amen.***

*The people may be seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse--  
who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind  
and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

*The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.*

PSALM 1

*Beatus vir qui non abiit*

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 wicked; \*  
**they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \*  
**nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, \*  
**but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

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

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the  
 2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to  
 3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and  
 4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give

se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.  
 dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;  
 for his dwell - ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.  
 us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

## THE GOSPEL

Luke 6:17-26

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

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

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,  
 for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
 for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,  
 for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich,  
 for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now,  
 for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,  
 for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

SERMON

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

*The people stand as able.*

THE NICENE CREED

*All:* We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

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

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We gather this morning as modern-day disciples of Jesus to receive his message that the poor, the hungry, the mourning, the excluded, the reviled, the hated, and the defamed are blessed by Jesus.

We pray: **Lord, help us as your disciples to be a blessing to all.**

Lord, we honor the Susquehannock Nation who once occupied the land on which Christ Church is built. We ask your blessing on the souls of enslaved people of this area whose labor throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries contributed to the establishment and support of Christ Church.

We pray: **Lord, help us as your disciples to be a blessing to all.**

Lord, guide the leaders of this world to help the poor, the hungry, the reviled, the hated, the defamed, and the excluded. Bless Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Diocesan bishops; Manny, Marcia, and Denise, our clergy; and Richard, our clergy emeritus, that they may continue as faithful ministers to your people. With thanksgiving we pray in our Diocese for the people and the work of the churches of St. John's, Deer Park; St. Matthew's, Oakland; and St. Peter's, Lonaconing, and in the Anglican Communion for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai. We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and newcomers who worship with us today.

We pray: **Lord, help us as your disciples to be a blessing to all.**

We pray for all those ill, hungry, homeless, and facing any dangers or oppression, especially Carmen, Janayah, Chad, Caroline, Jess, Tinny, Catherine, Mary Ann, Norman, Amos, Jim, Chuck, Bunmi, Alta, Alfred, & Ashley, and those we name. Through your power may they be healed. Please be present with those who live in fear, especially Faizan and Fazal.

We pray: **Lord, help us as your disciples to be a blessing to all.**

Lord, we mourn for those we have lost, especially Christian Johnson, and those we name. We also rejoice and leap for joy for your promise that their reward is great in heaven.

We pray: **Lord, help us as your disciples to be a blessing to all.**

Lord, we ask your blessings on those who celebrate birthdays this week: Cheryl, Anne, Norbert, Laura & Cherry Lynn. May the coming year be one of love and joy for them.

We pray: **Lord, help us as your disciples to be a blessing to all.**

Lord, we are the body of Christ, striving to belong to each other and to love all. By the power of the Holy Spirit, having heard the Good News in this place today, send us out into the world to be a blessing to all we encounter. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

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

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

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING – With a Voice of Singing

*Martin Shaw*

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.  
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.  
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.  
The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.  
O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name,  
make his praise to be glorious.  
With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Alleluia.  
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.*

*The people stand as able.*

PRESENTATION HYMN 124, V. 5

*Puer Nobis*



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

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

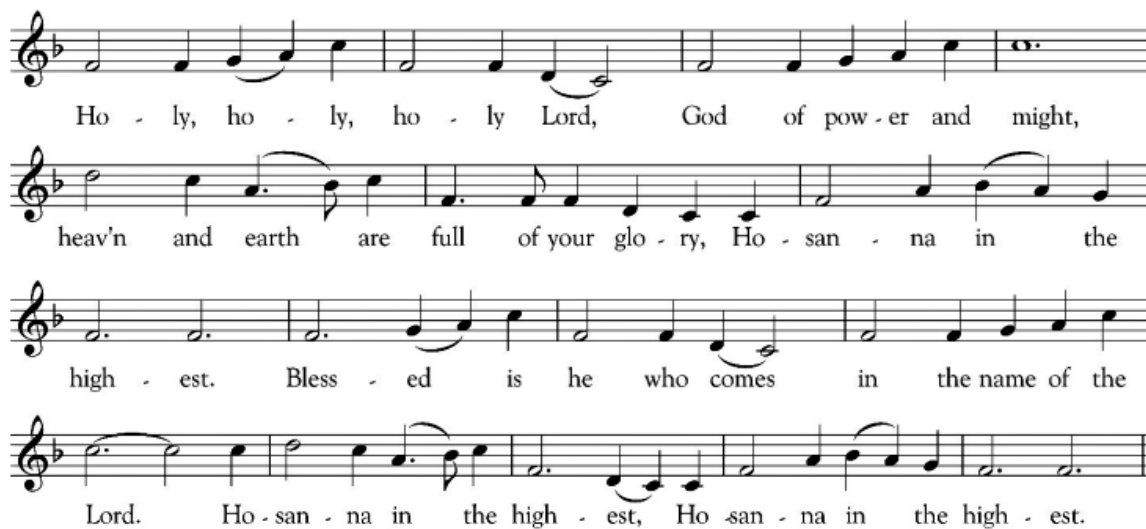
***People:* Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

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



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

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



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

*The Celebrant continues*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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

## FRACTION ANTHEM – This is the Body of Christ

*John Bell*

This is the bo-dy of Christ, bro-ken that we may be whole; this cup, as prom-ised by  
God, true to his word, cra-dles our Lord: food for the good of the soul.

1. Seek ye — first the king - dom of God  
 2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,

and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be  
 seek and ye shall find, knock and the door shall be

add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
 o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

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

THE BLESSING

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

CLOSING HYMN LEVAS 184 – Blessed Assurance

*Assurance*

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. —

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, — Prais - ing my  
sav - ior all the day long; — This is my sto - ry, this is my  
song, — Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long. —

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE – Fanfare for Organ

*Richard Proulx*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**Epiphany VI: This Sunday** | Join us at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. for the Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany, as Father Manny leads us in worship. At the start of this new year, Christ Church requests that all parishioners attending services in-person **complete our brief attendance registration form** before coming to the New Brick Sanctuary. Just check the box(es) of those services you expect to attend so that we can keep tabs on the number of attendees and maintain a safe environment for all. Thank you very much.

**Youth Formation: Sunday School** | Every child is always welcome to join us virtually for Sunday School, with both sessions beginning at 9:15 a.m. If this is your first time, the registration form is located **here** and you can send completed ones to [ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org) to enroll. You can receive the elementary-age Zoom link by emailing Jennifer Atkins at [dandjatkins@verizon.net](mailto:dandjatkins@verizon.net). The older youth session is run by our Youth Minister, Todd Domer, and you can reach him by emailing [youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org) for those Zoom details.

**Adult Forum: Sunday Circle** | **Sunday Circle** gathers each Sunday in February and engages in critically important Conversations on Race hosted by Christ Church's Racially Aware Group of Episcopalians. Throughout the month, you can join us either in person or virtually via Zoom, and we hope that you do. The link is **here**, Meeting ID is **830 0680 9158** and Password is **AFSC**. This Sunday, February 13th, we will consider how the **Diocese of Maryland's Truth and Reconciliation Commission** is addressing the topic of reparations, and what that may look like at Christ Church. You can also view last Sunday's Zoom recording by visiting **here**.

**Confirmation Classes Begin in March** | Christ Church is offering Confirmation classes for all high school students in 2022 and will begin on Sunday, March 6th. At this time, we'll temporarily hold these classes online via Zoom and make adjustments as we go along. It is our hope that our candidates will be confirmed by one of the Bishops of Maryland later this year; we'll share that date when it becomes available. If you are interested in learning more about Confirmation and/or registering for the class, please reach out to Fr. Manny at [revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org).

**Centering Prayer – Mondays** | Centering Prayer has moved to 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!**

**Adult and Children's Choir - Tuesdays and Thursdays** | Our choirs have resumed activities for both youth and adults, and everyone is welcome to join... so maybe 2022 is your year! Children's Choir meets on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Adult Choir meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. If you've ever been interested in joining our choir, now's that time... and this invitation is open to every parishioner. No experience is necessary, and the more people who join us, the better we sound! Please email Len Langrick, our Director of Music, at [music@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:music@christchurchcolumbia.org) to learn more.

**Lectionary Bible Study – Wednesdays** | Bible Study takes place on Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., discussing and reflecting on the readings for the coming Sunday. Our next gathering's readings are located **here**. You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and we'll all study and learn together. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is **885 9287 2661** and the Password is **CECBible**.

**CEC Book Club – Fridays** | The CEC Book Club is going strong and is always welcoming new members to join our virtual gathering. For about an hour each Friday evening, we discuss the current book and plan future ones. We hope that you'll find time to join us for this engaging and enlightening group discussion. The Zoom link is **here**, Meeting ID is **894 0227 6226** and the Password is **CECbooks**. Log into Zoom and join us any or every Friday.

**Shrove Tuesday / Mardi Gras - March 1<sup>st</sup>** | Join the Christ Church Youth Group as we host the 2022 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Supper on Tuesday, March 1st at 6:30 p.m. More information and tickets will be made available starting next week. **Contact Yetti Lipede** if you have any questions.

**Taizé Worship Services in Lent - March 4<sup>th</sup>** | Beginning on Friday, March 4th at 6 p.m. in Old Brick, CEC will offer a series of six Taizé worship services including chants, prayers, Scripture, intercessory prayer, and silence. Mother Marcia, a long-time adherent to the Taizé community and frequent visitor, will lead the service. This form of worship, based on the practice of the Taizé community in France, offers a time of quiet and intentional reflection, worship, and drawing closer to the Presence of God in Christ Jesus.

The founder of the Taizé community, Brother Roger, explains: "What we usually call 'worship' the Taizé community simply calls 'Prayer'. Taizé Prayer consists of 'short chants, repeated again and again, giving them a meditative character. Using just a few words, they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God."

Silence is also an important component and a welcome gift to Taizé worship. The use of lighted candles and icons offers a visual invitation to pray silently in the presence of others and God. Although chants and even prayers are sung, there is no requirement to be musically gifted to participate. For more information, **email Mother Marcia** or simply join us in Old Brick any Friday during Lent, beginning on March 4th.

**Women of Christ Church - March 7<sup>th</sup>** | The next WOCC meeting takes place via Zoom on Monday, March 7th at 1 p.m. If you're a woman aged 18 or older, you're already a member of the WOCC, so join us and see what's happening!

We've also published our calendar of events for 2022, so **please check it out** and join us in our activities. We've got lots of opportunities coming up in March, so mark your calendars:

- March 21st is our trip to Maryland Women's Heritage Center to celebrate Women's History Month. **Email us for details.**
- We've been invited by St. John's in Ellicott City to their Saturday afternoon guided Lenten Labyrinth walks. Guides will be available between 2:30 and 5:30 each Saturday in Lent, beginning March 5th. We visited the site last fall; you can see our report about that experience **here.**

**Pick Up Your Pledge Envelopes** | The 2022 pledge envelopes have arrived and are available for pickup now. They are located in the Narthex, but if you need to make other arrangements, please **email the Church Office.**

**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.

**Christ Church's Grief Support Group** | If you are grieving a loss and would like to occasionally join a group of others for mutual support and learning, please let us know. Christ Church is planning on creating a Zoom gathering, led by Mother Marcia, for those who might find comfort in sharing &/or listening to experiences of processing loss. This group would meet on a schedule that's most convenient for all participants. Mother Marcia is also happy to meet individually to offer pastoral care and counseling, so if you're interested in taking part in either gathering, **please email** or speak to her at any time.

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**Knitters... We Need You!** | The Christ Church Prayer Shawl Group has recently been very successful in creating prayer squares, so we are in abundance of those. We do, however, need help in knitting complete prayer shawls at this time. There are several people who are in need of one, but we don't have any to offer to them. If you are interested in knitting a prayer shawl, they can be made approximately 20" wide and 60" long, and knit in a machine-washable material (cotton or acrylic are preferred). An example of a completed prayer shawl can be seen [here](#). The fun in making these is that the knitter is creating something with love to comfort someone in need and that they can be creative in choosing a design or creating their own. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Kathy Lyon at [rklyon@cablespeed.com](mailto:rklyon@cablespeed.com).

**Christ Church Survey** | At Christ Church, a team of clergy and parishioners are beginning to plan for the future of worship and Christian education and formation. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing a survey with the congregation to gather your thoughts on these matters at Christ Church. We encourage everyone to complete the survey when it comes out so that we have enough information to help inform our planning. Stay tuned.

**Request for Palms** | Ash Wednesday is only three weeks away. We invite you to return your palms from Palm Sunday last year to Christ Church so they may be burned and used for Ash Wednesday services this year. We hope you will then join us for our Ash Wednesday services on March 2nd, as we will have services at 7:00 a.m., 12 noon, and 7:30 p.m. We will have *Ashes to Go* on Ash Wednesday morning, as well. More information will be shared soon.

**We Can Use a Few More Ushers and Lectors... How About You?** | Several people have recently offered to help out during Christ Church services, and we are extremely grateful to each of you! We do have several spots available for more volunteers, so we encourage you to consider becoming an usher and/or lector for the occasional Sunday service. You will know your schedule well ahead of time, and all ushers and lectors will receive training before scheduling. Please contact Yetti Lipede at [ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org) for more information.

**Diocese of Maryland's COVID Update for This Week** | The Omicron variant continues to increase the number of cases throughout the region. The most recent Diocesan update can be read in full [here](#). Please note that masks are still required at all times while indoors at Christ Church, and we encourage those with compromised immune systems to remain home on Sundays and worship virtually. As always, we'll continue our dialogue with the appropriate organizations and adjust restrictions with care and consideration. **Email us if you have any questions.**

**African Team Ministries is Back - This Sunday** | After 2020's COVID-19 hiatus and 2021's abbreviated booth, ATM is back! Handcrafts will be on display from Sunday, February 13th through the 27th, and at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 1st, if it's held. This ministry provides East African, primarily Kenyan, artisans with a market for their beautiful creations. Come & see intricate wood carvings, primitive musical instruments, eye-catching soapstone décor, natural elements nativity sets, stunning necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and more!

We also need volunteers to help with set-up, selling, and pack-out. If you are interested in helping and are available after services or on Shrove Tuesday, please contact Sara Kirkpatrick at [kirkpasf@gmail.com](mailto:kirkpasf@gmail.com), leave a message at 410-730-6797.

**A Valentine's Treat: Grassroots Meal Drop-Offs and In-Person Service at DRC are Each Scheduled for this Monday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>** | In a consolidated approach to feeding the hungry, parishioners are invited to share the love on Valentine's Day by doubling their recipes or trying out this volunteer opportunity for the first time. As usual, Christ Church will purchase fried chicken at Weis and depend upon your bringing side dishes to make the meals. And once again, on Monday, February 14th, we're cooking for two separate groups of diners.

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The first group is made up of 40 to 50 homeless friends at the Dorsey Center's Day Resource Center (DRC), which is operated by **Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center**. At the start of the pandemic, Grassroots suspended DRC operations and Christ Church put its duties on hold. The DRC reopened on a modified basis in late 2021, closed due to the Omicron surge, and then reopened this month. A team of four Christ Church volunteers will be serving a midday meal in person on our usual day –the second Monday of the month.

The second group of diners resides at Grassroots' Live-in Facility, where the staff serves the food. We have been providing an evening meal menu – fried chicken and side dishes cooked by parishioners – on a monthly basis since early in the pandemic. To keep our commitment to feed the hungry at both locations, the Outreach Commission has arranged for Christ Church to provide both meals on the same date.

If you're cooking only for the Live-In Facility's evening meal, plan to arrive between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. at the parking lot outside Old Brick. Bring a side dish, a dessert, or items for the pantry to be enjoyed round-the-clock by the 50 residents at the Freetown Rd. facility. Click on the **Christ Church Grassroots Meal link on SignUpGenius** to view a suggested menu. Please go online to list what you'll bring no later than noon on the Sunday prior to Monday's meal.

If you're cooking or volunteering for the midday meal at the DRC, plan to arrive between 12:45 and 1 p.m. at the parking lot outside Old Brick. Bring a side dish, a dessert, or items for the DRC pantry. Click on a different link, called the **Christ Church Dorsey/DRC Meal link on SignUpGenius** to view requested items and indicate how you'll help.

If you're cooking or bringing pantry items for both meals, plan to arrive between 12:45 and 1 p.m. at the parking lot outside Old Brick. The dish and supplementals for the evening meal can be left in the Parish Hall kitchen. Or, depending on the dish or the supplemental item, such as brownies or fruit, you can do that on a Sunday if your items are clearly marked.

If you plan to volunteer in-person to serve the midday meal at the DRC, please be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and have a flu shot. For questions, please email **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org** so we can put you in touch with co-coordinator Nancy Winchester.

One of the volunteer duties is a driver who departs the DRC when the shift ends at 4 p.m. to transport any fried chicken, side dishes, and desserts from one Grassroots site to the other. We've always taken the leftovers to the Freetown Rd. Live-In Facility. Now we are consolidating both our food and our efforts.

Both the DRC and the Live-In Facility have wider needs for their pantries and welcome in-kind donations to be dropped off for delivery on the second Mondays. Look for the monthly needs list under the words "Related Files" on each of the sign-up sites.

**Inviting One and All to Get Involved in Christ Church Outreach - This Monday** | What better time than Valentine's Day to get more fully involved in helping others! The Outreach Commission invites you to join in during our monthly meeting to learn more about opportunities in 2022. It will be held virtually at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 14th. The Zoom link is **here**, Meeting ID is **876 3365 4968** and Password is **Outreach!**

**Leaders of Saint Luke's Youth Center Will Visit Christ Church on Feb. 13 to Express Gratitude for Support; Outline Volunteer Opportunities in Baltimore** | St. Luke's Youth Center operates year-round as the nonprofit **SLYC** from the former St. Luke's Episcopal parish at 217 N. Carey Street, Baltimore, MD. Two of its leaders plan to say "thank you" in person for our support in 2021 by attending Christ Church on Feb. 13.

Please save the date so that you can greet them in person or virtually. They expect to be present for Adult Forum at 9:30 a.m., for the 10:30 a.m. worship service, and at the Zoom Coffee Hour that follows online.

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Engagement coordinator Darlene Clark and Executive Director Amanda Gardner Talbot will be available to talk about SLYC's collaborative model that includes families, staff members, supporters, and volunteers from several Episcopal parishes. The **Episcopal Diocese of Maryland** is among the partners.

They'll also answer any of your questions about in-person tutoring and other volunteer opportunities that you may wish to explore as individuals or in small groups (see flier). The church has its own parking lot and follows pandemic protocols to keep everyone safe.

SLYC offerings range from its "Moms on a Mission" program to SLYC After School, which impacts 40 young people, ages 4 to 19. Requests to parishes for "time, gifts, and talents" go well beyond after-school activities or tutoring students in math, reading, and writing. For example, there are needs for carpenters, architects, and landscapers or for grant-writers and graphic designers.

The Outreach Commission liaison to SLYC is Michon Semon, whom last August was accompanied by parishioner Nancy Winchester at a presentation to mark the end of summer day camp. Christ Church contributed monetary support to help make the camp a success. At the ceremony hosted by St. James, Lafayette Square, toddlers to teens performed (see photos). Since then, Nancy has donated one of her lovely, handmade quilts for SLYC fund-raising.

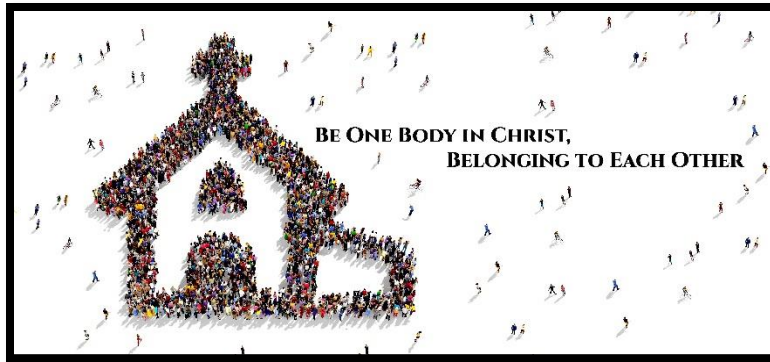
Plan to meet the SLYC leaders on Sunday and learn more. Or you can email the executive director at **amanda@bmoreslyc.org**

**Columbia Community Care Needs 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. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sunday. You'll find CCC updates, such as requests for volunteers at its three distribution sites, posted in the **CCC Facebook Group**.

**Baltimore Seafarers News** | As a reminder, the Women of Christ Church gather donations for Seafarers throughout the year. At this time, they are looking for magazines, cards, notebooks, gloves, hats, and scarves. If you'd like to donate any of these items, the "Seafarers" box is under the table in the Tower Room of New Brick.

**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 its 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.**



## **LAST CHANCE!**

### **Send Us Your Lenten Meditations**

For the last 20 years, Christ Church has compiled and published a Lenten Meditation Book each year, which is distributed to parishioners the weekend preceding Ash Wednesday. It is composed of parishioner submissions that center around that year's Spiritual Life Theme, and assists us all in times of quiet contemplation.

The theme for this year is "*Be One Body in Christ, Belonging to Each Other*" which **[you can read more about on our website.](#)**

The LMB - nearly 80 pages last year - shares these submissions and helps us prepare ourselves for rebirth and renewal at Easter. We also post Meditations on our website and social media each weekday during Lent. We strongly encourage everyone to submit their favorite prayer, song, story, poem, reading, or reflection to Ellen Hoke at **[efboudreau1@gmail.com](mailto:efboudreau1@gmail.com)**, or place it in the Spiritual Life mailbox in the Church office.

**THE DEADLINE IS THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH.**

The LMB depends entirely on your contributions (which you can submit anonymously if you wish), and so we hope you'll take part in this important collaboration. **[Learn more about the LMB on our website](#)**, and read some of the past years' Lenten Meditations **[here](#)**.

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## **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. Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving, and so as we celebrate the season of giving, we want to highly encourage all who have not fully completed their pledge for 2021 to remember their faithfulness. We also want to appeal to all who have not as yet returned their pledge for 2022 to remember their 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](mailto:info@christchurchcolumbia.org)**



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Len Langrick, *Interim 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