

Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

The First Sunday of Advent

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, November 27, 2022 • 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

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 community: 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. We are delighted you're here - welcome home!

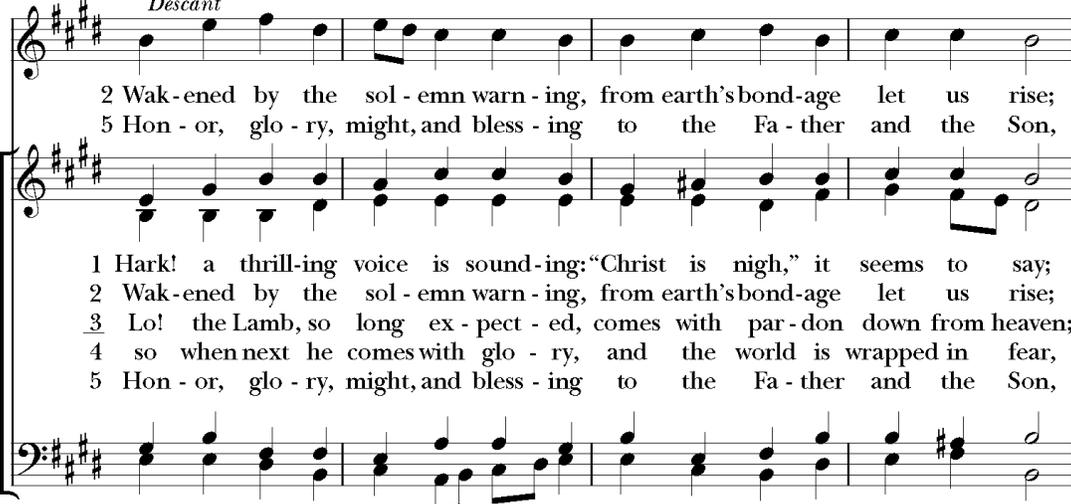
Prelude | A Rose E'er Blooming

Evelyn R. Larter
Denis Karp, flute

Opening Hymn 59 | Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

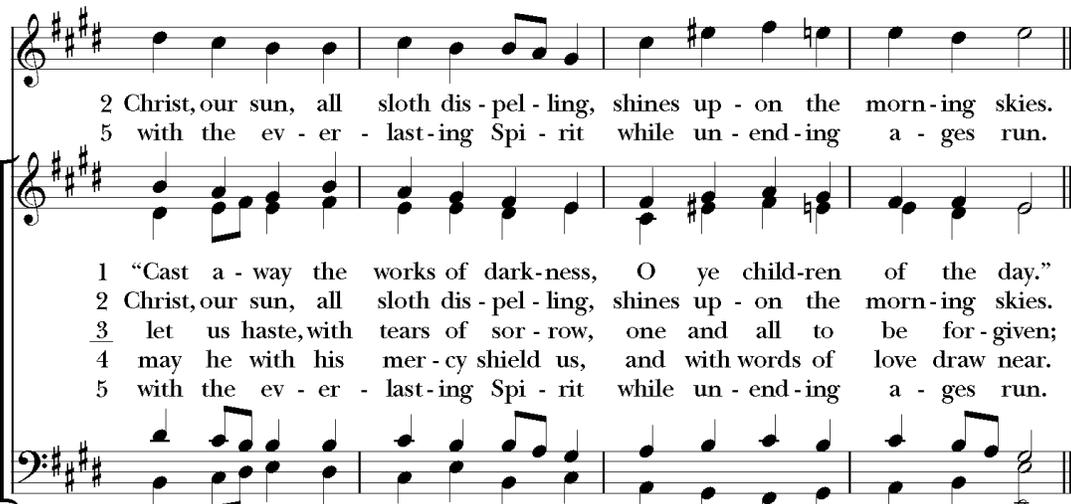
Merton

Descant



2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,



2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Lighting of the Advent Candle |

First Candle | The Candle of Hope

Celebrant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Celebrant: Today is the First Sunday of Advent, in which we recall the hope we have in Christ. God told Abraham that through him all the nations of the world would be blessed, because he trusted and put his hope in God. The Old Testament spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Savior would be born, a king in the line of King David. He would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations. We too believe in God's promise to send Jesus again to this world to establish his kingdom upon the earth. (A person lights the First Candle here)

Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

People: God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Son of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth, to make our hearts ready and to place our hope in you. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. **Amen.**

Response | Advent Candle Blessings

Barbara Wallace

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.**

Trisagion | BCP 356 (*said 3 times*)

Celebrant: Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

The Collect of the Day |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The people may be seated.

The First Lesson | Isaiah 2:1-5

Reader: A reading from Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



I was glad when they said ___ to me, "Let us go ___ to the house of the Lord."

I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;

To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD, *
**the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the LORD.**

For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

Antiphon

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the LORD our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

Antiphon

The Second Lesson | Romans 13:11-14

Reader: A Reading from Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The Gospel | Matthew 24:36-44

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

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon | The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Nicene Creed | BCP 358

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.

Prayers of the People |

Gladly we gather in the house of the Lord. In unity, we praise His holy name. May we seek to do good and serve others. May the Lord teach us His ways and help us to walk in His path. We pray for peace and prosperity in our nation and throughout the Earth. **We walk in the light of the Lord.**

We ask Christ to bless the work of His Church in our needy world. May we be strengthened and encouraged to pursue Christ's truth and love. We pray for the Anglican Communion, for The Nippon Sei Ko Kai. In the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, we lift up the Parishes of Epiphany, Odenton; St. Alban's, Glen Burnie; and St. Margaret's, Annapolis. For our spiritual leaders, we ask our Lord's wisdom and guidance, especially our

Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Diocesan Bishops, Eugene and Robert; our Rector, Emmanuel, our Associate Priest, Marcia; our Deacon, Denise; our Seminarian Associate, Mike and our Rector Emeritus, Richard. We welcome all visitors and newcomers to Christ Church on this first Sunday in Advent and hope that our time in worship and praise has fed your Spirit. We are enriched by your presence. **We look for the coming of Christ.**

We pray for those who are ill, especially Samuel, Lucas, Shirley, Judith, Tanis, Andy, Cynthia, Neal, Valentin, Kandi, Bradley, Rená, Catherine, Mary Ann, Caroline, Joan, Gina, Megan, Alfred, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, Sherry, Nell & Kathleen, and those you now name. May they be wrapped in God's love and feel the healing presence of Christ at their side. We give thanks for the caring individuals who minister to those in need. We ask for God's protection for those serving in the military and in harm's way, especially Kevin DeBoissiere and Conner Warlow. We also pray for those who have died and entered eternal life, especially Adam Solomon, Alba Hicks & Daniel Berrel, and those you now name. Please comfort those who grieve. **We turn to our Lord for help in time of trouble.**

Our thanks are extended to Christ for the incredible blessings in our lives. This week our parish celebrates the birthdays of Erin, Matthew, Emily, Kayode, Rosa, Ginger, Gavin & Randolph, wedding anniversaries of Amanda & Hao Cheong, and Pauline & Harrington Gardner, and baptismal anniversaries of Grace, Rosa & Torgersen. As a community of faith, we share occasions of joy in our church family. **In Christ we live and move and have our being.**

Lord, grant that we may enter Advent, with great anticipation and hope of new life through the love of Jesus in each other and in the world. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin | BCP 360

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God,**
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace |

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

People: And also with you.

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

Welcome and Announcements |

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offering Choral Anthem | Zion Hears the Watchman Singing

JS Bach

Zion hears the watchmen's voices,
With gladness all her heart rejoices,
She eager wakes to greet the day.
See, her Lord from heav'n descending
With grace and truth and power unending,
Her day-star dawns with brightest ray.
O come, thou blessèd One, Lord Jesu, God's own Son.
Hosianna!
We follow there Thy feast to share,
And taste the joys beyond compare.

Glory now to God we render,
Who reigns on high in heavenly splendour;
Let every tongue in praise unite.
Lo, we enter heaven's high portal
To join the song of saints immortal
With angels round Thy Throne of Light.
No mortal joy can e'er with heaven's true bliss compare;
Alleluia!
Rejoice below, i-o, i-o,
Sing out In dulci iubilo!

The people stand as able.

Presentation Hymn | 380, V. 1

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 Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B | BCP 367

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:



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.*

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.**

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome at God's table.

You may receive just the bread if you prefer.

If you wish, you may dip the bread in the wine or drink from the chalice.

If you do not wish to take Communion, you may come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing.

If you would like Communion brought to you, please let an usher know.

Consecrated gluten-free wafers are available.

Fraction Anthem | Be Known To Us

St. James Advent Service, Shephard, arr. Richard Shephard

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus Christ, in the break - ing of the bread.

God of hope and God of pro - mise, you have pre - pared a ban - quet for us,

Come, Lord Je - sus, come and cheer, Come and make thine Ad - vent here.



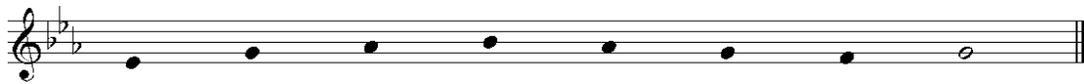
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 *6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom - to death a - u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age c - ter - nal - ly.

Post-Communion Prayer | BCP 365

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

The Blessing |

The Celebrant blesses the People, who respond Amen.

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
 3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
 5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
 2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
 3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
 4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
 5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Dismissal |

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

Postlude | Sonata in F Major, IV Allegro

Benedetto Marcello
 Denis Karp, flute

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PARISH CALENDAR
NOVEMBER 27 TO DECEMBER 4

Sunday, November 27 – First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am	Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast – Great Hall
8:30 – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 – 9:30 am	Family Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 – 10:15 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick
10:30 am	Eucharist – New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Monday, November 28

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Zoom

Tuesday, November 29 - #GIVINGTUESDAY

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Ho Co Homeschooling Cooperative – New Brick, lower level
11:00 – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
12:30 – 2:00 pm	Japanese Play Group – Outside New Brick

Wednesday, November 30

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
10:00 am	TOPS – Parish Hall, lower level
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
8:00 – 9:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, December 1

8:00 – 8:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Ho Co Homeschooling Cooperative – New Brick, lower level
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Bible Study – Old Brick & Zoom
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Advent Compline – Old Brick
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level

Friday, December 2

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Taizé Service – Old Brick
6:00 – 10:00 pm	Confirmation Retreat – New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Book Club – Zoom
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

(continued)

Saturday, December 3

8:00 am – 1:00 pm	Confirmation Retreat – New Brick, lower level
8:30 – 11:30 am	Advent Quiet Day – Old Brick
11:00 am – 12:30 pm	Alda Hicks Memorial Service – New Brick, upper level
12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Ada Hicks Repast – New Brick, lower level
1:00 – 4:30 pm	Event Rental – New Brick, upper level
2:00 pm	AA Meeting, Parish Hall, lower level
2:30 – 6:00 pm	Event Rental – New Brick, lower level
8:00 – 9 pm	NA Meeting, Parish Hall, lower level

Sunday, December 4 – Bishop Ihloff's Visit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication,
email to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening

Sunday School & Confirmation Classes Resume Next Week

There are no Sunday School or Confirmation classes this weekend, but they will resume on December 4th.

Adult Formation this Sunday

There are no Parenting Group or Bible Study gatherings this weekend, but Sunday Circle will take place in Old Brick at 9:30 a.m. Join us for *Welcome to Advent - Journeying to Bethlehem*. We'll discuss Advent practices, traditions, and resources to help us as we journey through Advent to Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. We will explore the history of Advent, Advent wreaths, the meaning of each Sunday in Advent, and Advent resources such as #AdventWord and Journeying the Way of Love. You can also join us virtually for this gathering; **the Zoom link is HERE**, Meeting ID is **847 9910 4117** and the Password is **AFSC**.

Coffee Hour is Back!

We are looking for Coffee Hour hosts for the 8:30 a.m. (in Old Brick) and the 9:30 a.m. (in New Brick) gatherings. **The sign-up sheet is online** and you are welcome to sign up for one, or for both! This is a great opportunity for fellowship and fun, and a great way to get to know your fellow parishioners. You can work by yourself, in couples, or with another family. Ministries are also encouraged to sign up. All you need to do is provides snacks (homemade or store-bought), brew the coffee, stay for the coffee hour, and help tidy up. Training will be provided. Questions? Please contact the church office at office@christchurchcolumbia.org or 410-381-9365.

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 if you have any questions – office@christchurchcolumbia.org

(continued)

Your Church Needs You!

We are in need of more ushers, chalicists, and lectors for both Sunday services. You will serve on rotational schedules (not every week) and during select events. There are no age requirements or limits, and TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED, so please consider helping out!

- **Ushers:** welcome, seat, and direct parishioners during the service
- **Chalicists (Lay Eucharistic Minister):** assist the clergy in the distribution of the Eucharist
- **Lector (Lay Reader):** read aloud to the congregation throughout the year.

Please contact Yetti Lipede at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for more information.

Sunday School Help is Very Much Needed!

Sunday school is in need of helpers in our classes. We are so blessed with the many young children in our program! In order to be in compliance with church regulations, we need at least 2 adults in each class, and they will help supervise the children and assist the teachers. Please contact Jennifer Atkins (dandjatkings@verizon.net) if you are able to assist or have any questions.

Pledge for 2023

At Christ Church, we are so blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who support our ministry of faithful service, and we pray that each of you will prayerfully consider your contribution to Christ Church for the coming calendar year. Our in-gathering service was earlier this month, but you can bring your pledge cards to church with you at any time. You may also pick up a pledge card in the Narthex, or [pledge online](#) (choose "Pledge for 2023" in the *FUND* dropdown menu). Thank you very much for your support of our vital common life.

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Bishop Sutton recently led a day-long retreat at Christ Church that focused on Centering Prayer and how it can help manage life's crises and stresses. Centering Prayer is a unique method of prayer that helps us be present and open to God, moving us beyond conversation with Christ and towards communion with Him. Everyone is welcome to join us for this special gathering on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom link is [here](#), Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340** and Password is **Centering!**

Christ Church Choir - Thursdays

Adult Choir takes a holiday break this week but resumes next Thursday, December 1st from 7:30-9 p.m. [You can find links to the registration forms for both the Adult and Children's Choirs on our website's Music Ministry page.](#) 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 choir! If you're interested, please speak with Larissa or email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

The Jesse Tree - Begins Thursday

The Jesse Tree is a way of telling the story of God's plan from the beginning of time to redeem His people by sending a Savior. It follows the lineage of key people in the Old Testament that God uses to tell His story from Creation through Christ's birth. It is a daily December countdown to Christmas Day through the telling of a story, and the creation of an ornament that acts as a symbol and visual reminder.

(continued)

As a family in your home each day, you're invited to light a candle and read the day's story below. In addition to this, we also provide a daily, printable ornament that you can decorate and hang on their own Jesse Tree, or they can bring them to church on Sunday and hang them on our parish Jesse Tree that's in the Narthex. Visit our website at christchurchcolumbia.org/jessetree and feel free to speak with Mother Marcia if you would like more information.

Advent Quiet Day - Saturday, December 3rd

Advent Quiet Day will take place in Old Brick on Saturday, December 3rd from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. This time together helps us to focus and retain our perspective in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We are pleased to have Reverend Barbara Seras leading our morning retreat; she was ordained at our own Christ Church and served as Associate Rector with the Rev. James Shields. She is now Priest-in-Charge at St Paul's in Manheim, Pennsylvania, and serves as a Chaplain to Pensioned Clergy. She is still waiting for her dream to take life - *A Place Apart* - a faith community of prayer and study. Please note that we will have COVID-19 precautions in place with required masking for this gathering. We'll gather in Old Brick prior to beginning for breakfast and conversation, so join us at 8:30 a.m. We will then have readings, discussions, and times for quiet meditation, and conclude with an informal Eucharist. For further information contact: Ellen Hoke by calling 301-452-7115 or emailing efboudreau1@gmail.com. We hope that you'll join us for an enriching time together.

First Wednesday Fellowship - December 7th

Join us for the final FWF gathering of the year, taking place on Wednesday, December 7th. We'll begin at 6 p.m. for a communal supper of catered Jamaican food, and follow it up with activity time from 7 - 8 p.m. This time, we will decorate cookies to be delivered with our meal ministry, make holiday cards to send to shut-ins and to those in the military, and have a white elephant gift exchange! Please bring a wrapped gift - it can be silly, tacky, weird, or fun! More info will be here in the coming weeks. Join us!

WOCC's News Updates

WOCC Christmas Luncheon: Our Annual Christmas Luncheon will be held next Sunday, December 4th at 1:00 p.m. at King's Contrivance Restaurant. It will be wonderful to be able to gather in person again after so long! The cost will be \$45, and includes a 3-course meal, sides, bread, non-alcoholic beverages, and gratuities. **You can sign up now through this Sunday, November 27th, in both Old Brick (at the back) and New Brick (in the Narthex) or let us know by emailing wocc@christchurchcolumbia.org.** You can pay by check, or by using Realm. If by check, please make it out to Christ Church, with *WOCC Christmas Luncheon* in the memo line. If you are paying by Realm, please use the usual **Online Giving Form**, select "Women of Christ Church" from the *FUND* dropdown menu, and write "Christmas Luncheon" in the *MEMO* line. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Tomlinson.

Springfield Hospital Christmas Gifts Gathering: We are gathering gifts for our Springfield Hospital friends again this year. You can bring them with you to the WOCC Christmas Luncheon, where we will have a table set aside for them. You can also drop them off in or near the Springfield bin in the Tower Room. Their "wish list" is the same as previous years, and is posted on the bin and on the Luncheon poster in the Narthex. We will need your donations by Sunday, December 18th. Please do not wrap your gifts, and do not include glass containers, manual razors, or medications. Thank you for your support of Springfield Hospital!

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Diocesan Reparations Fund

At Christ Church, we are raising \$10,000 for the Diocesan Reparations Fund as a way to honor the lives of the enslaved people whose labor helped to build and support Christ Church and as part of our mission to extend the love and embrace of Christ. We invite each of you to prayerfully make a gift towards the Reparations Fund to help us meet our goal by Epiphany, January 6, 2023. To date, we have raised \$3,700. Checks can be made out to Christ Church with Reparations Fund in the subject line or you can make a donation through Realm and pick The Diocesan Reparations Fund as the fund to which you are donating.

Through grants, the Diocesan Reparations Fund infuses money into programs that are building up Black communities and helping to repair the breach caused by systemic racism in Maryland and in the United States. **Six grants** were awarded in the inaugural year of 2022 including a grant to the St. Luke's Youth Center (STLC) which Christ Church supports.

From Bishop Sutton's **pastoral letter** on reparation, May 2019: For us, "repairing the breach" is not a mandate from a government or leader, but a mandate from our God to commit to the rebuilding of a relationship between the world and God, between individuals and communities and to seek a better world for our children... Please join me in studying the issue of reparations and prayerfully consider how all of us in the Diocese of Maryland – of whatever race, background, or national origin - can together embark on this journey of repairing the breach we've all inherited from our nation's past.

Learn more through **the Diocesan website**, the *Trail of Souls: A Journey Toward Truth and Transformation* **video**, and Bishop Sutton's **sermon** at General Convention this past summer.

What a Haul! Thanks for Donating 462 Pounds of Thanksgiving Side Dishes for Distribution by the Howard County Food Bank

Many Howard County households will be enjoying nutritious and festive Thanksgiving dinners, thanks to the generosity of Christ Church parishioners. We collected 462 pounds of goods such as stuffing mix, gravy, and canned fruits and vegetables. Thanks to each and every participant!

With your help, the **Howard County Food Bank** expects to feed about 1,000 people for Thanksgiving and another 1,000 for Christmas by distributing "Holiday Meal Kits." Christ Church partners with the **Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC)**, which operates the food bank. We further supported CAC with a monetary donation to make sure the type and amount of protein in its meal kits will match the nutritional needs of each household.

On Nov. 18, Outreach Commission member Dione Mahoney and her husband, Jim, loaded and delivered the food, which included some pantry staples at CAC's request. Our thanks go out to the Mahoneys!

Angel Tree Drive Continues to Fulfill Christmas Wishes of a Dozen Children

We've launched our annual effort to brighten Christmas for 12 children ages 10-to-12 to meet a need identified by the Howard County (Central Maryland) division of **The Salvation Army**. The nonprofit organization oversees the Angel Tree initiative here and elsewhere.

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The Outreach Commission invites you to purchase new clothing and other wished-for items to complete Christmas gift “packages” for young angels. Each girl or boy on our list will receive an outfit, consisting of pants and a top. Besides the clothing, there are three other categories for each angel: Wish, Need, and Educational Item.

Some parishioners prefer to sign up for just one slot, such as the practical (need) category for a single child. Some parishioners desire to complete the entire “package” for an angel by signing up in all four categories. Another shopper might choose the clothing (outfit) category for multiple angels.

To participate, you can simply go online to view the list and make your choices on the **Christ Church 2022 Angel Tree SignUp**. It has instructions on next steps. Or, if you prefer an in-person signup, make your choices starting Sunday, Nov. 27, when the decorated Angel Tree will be on display in the Narthex. You can gaze at tags on the tree, in keeping with tradition, but the definitive list of the children’s names and needs will be displayed on a nearby easel. For those in Old Brick, we’ll bring the easel to you.

In both locations, we’ll ask that you use the online form to sign up. Someone will be on hand after worship services on Sunday, Nov. 27 and Dec. 4 to assist if you wish to log on then. The deadline to bring in your **unwrapped** Angel Tree gifts is 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9. Please put them under the tree or in the Parish Hall conference room. With your help, we will lift the hearts not only of the angels but of their families.

If you wish to participate by giving of your time, please volunteer for one of two duties: Sign-up or Fulfillment. The former is to help people on Nov. 27 and Dec. 4 to log on to a device after services to sign up online. The latter takes place Dec. 10 when you collate packages or shop for -- but not pay for -- any unmet items. To volunteer, specify Sign-up or Fulfillment, or both, in an email to **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Columbia Community Care Takes a Holiday Break, Continues a Kids’ Gift Drive

Again this year, **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) is holding its annual holiday drive to gather gifts and treats for children from 2 to 12 years old, **as described in the CCC Facebook group**. CCC is also recruiting volunteers to help sort items and help to distribute them at Oakland Mills High School on Sunday, Dec. 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or until supplies run out.

For people who prefer a remote option, at least for shopping, CCC posted **an Amazon wish** list.

For the sake of simplicity, the Outreach Commission is suggesting parishioners buy kids’ books, coloring books, and arts-and-crafts items, all of which can be obtained at a reasonable cost from multiple retailers. Please drop off new, **unwrapped** items by 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9.

This is in addition to the typical collection at Christ Church, which consists of diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Please put the holiday items along with the usual ones in the yellow bin, marked “CCC,” inside the Parish Hall.

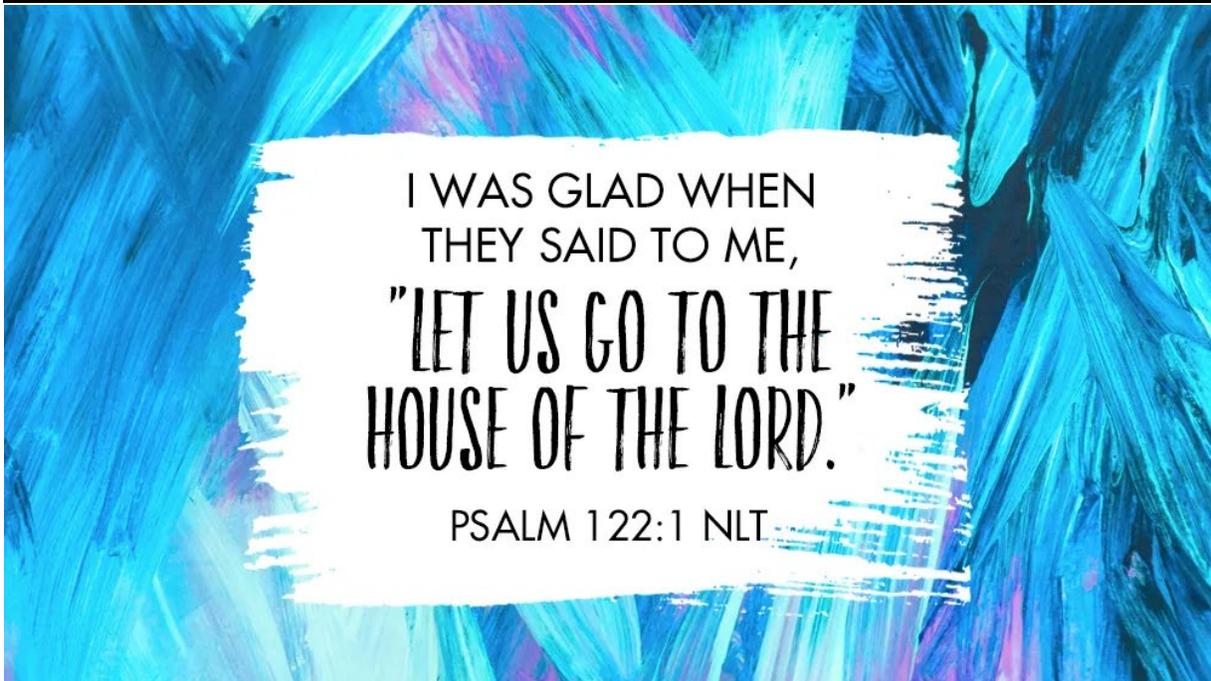
For those who volunteer or receive goods at CCC’s distribution sites, the organization is taking a Thanksgiving break. Sites and the shopper pantry will be closed and no home deliveries will be made on Saturday, Nov. 26. All volunteer slots that day have been canceled. CCC urges would-be volunteers to sign up for another day on its **“I Can Help”** site online.

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FISH Asks Our Prayers Along with Snacks and Cookies

Our representative from FISH of Howard County has had surgery. Paul Wisniewski is recovering; please pray for his good health. Pickups have resumed from our yellow bin between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Please continue donating cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill the shopping lists. 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.





#GIVING TUESDAY NOVEMBER 29th

Giving Tuesday is a global call to radical generosity that invites us to give to a charity of choice. Christ Church is inviting you to be radically generous with your kind support for our always-growing Music Ministry. With a simple click on our **Online Giving Form**, you can select "Music Ministry" from the dropdown menu. Every gesture - no matter what size - will help us deepen and strengthen our parish and community.

Music is such an important part of our worship experience. It can uplift us, comfort us, and help us to pray and praise God. At Christ Church, we are blessed to have many musically gifted members who share their time and talents with us. For some services, though - especially those around Christmas - we hire professional musicians to enhance our services and highlight this special season. These professionals are paid for their services, taking into consideration their travel time, practice time, instrument upkeep, and musical training.

When our choir was unable to sing in person together, some of our members were still able to make music together using handbells. These instruments are beautiful and can add so much to the service. We do not own a set of these instruments currently. In order to properly play the handbells, we would require folding tables, pads, cleaning cloths, gloves, and, of course, the bells themselves. The total cost for a 2-octave set of bells (24 bells) is over \$8,000. This would be a large purchase, but one that we could enjoy listening to and playing for many, many years. I have used handbells in other churches before and with people of all ages; children and adults alike enjoy playing them and can become more involved in music-making during our services.

Please consider a donation to the Christ Church Music Ministry on Giving Tuesday this year and help us continue to make a joyful noise. And if you have any questions, please reach out to Larissa on Sunday morning at church, **or you can email her**.

Thank you so much - we are incredibly grateful for your generous and giving spirit.

ADVENT

AT CHRIST CHURCH



PREPARE
THE WAY OF LOVE
THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

Advent at Christ Church is a time of waiting and of watching, of listening and of breathing, and of focusing on our search for Christ's love and peace in our lives as we prepare ourselves to celebrate his birth. This focus encourages us to slow down; Advent challenges the commotion that is commonly found around the holidays, and helps us stay grounded.

From worship and musical celebrations to communal dinners and holiday get-togethers, Christ Church has a full schedule of services and gatherings that you can take part in.

View our website's Advent and Christmas page for more information:
<https://www.christchurchcolumbia.org/advent-and-christmas>
and check **our parish calendar** for timing details.

A FEW OF OUR UPCOMING GATHERINGS:

- November 27: Advent I
- November 29: Giving Tuesday
- December 1: Advent Compline in Old Brick
- December 1: *The Jesse Tree* begins
- December 2: Taizé in Old Brick
- December 2: Confirmation Retreat begins
- December 3: Advent Quiet Day in Old Brick
- December 4: Confirmation Service in New Brick



WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH

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

We also want to thank *YOU*. Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables Christ Church to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us. We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness.

TEXT GIVING: You can now give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply text *CECGIVING* to **73256**, and you'll receive a secure link to our page where you can set up a one-time or recurring gift.

ONLINE GIVING: You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing towards your annual pledge or another offering. Whether it's a one-time donation or a recurring gift, you can go to our [overview page](#) for instructions and links. Signing up is fast and easy; if you need assistance doing so, or if you have any Stewardship-related questions, please contact us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org

THANK YOU.



Christ Episcopal Church

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office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Larissa Sanders, *Music Director*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

Jan DeBoissiere (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Denisa Abdallah • Jane Adams • Tim Beaty • John Curley • Beth Johnson • Sara Kirkpatrick

Andrea Leeman • Ray Lyon • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Alfred Titus-Glover