



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, July 5, 2026 | Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome Home!

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

www.christchurchcolumbia.org.

This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone is welcome to receive communion at God's table, and the clergy are happy to speak with you at any time.

PRELUDE |

OPENING HYMN 718 | God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand

National Hymn

1 God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y
2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
past, in this free land by thee our lot is cast;
lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;
way, lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
be thou our ru - ler, guard - ian, guide, and stay
thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease,
fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
thy bount - eous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

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**

GLORIA S280 | Glory to God

Robert Powell

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
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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 | Zechariah 9:9-12

Reader: A reading from Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The following psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

THE PSALM

Psalm 145:8-15 | *Exaltabo te, Deus*

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is loving to everyone *
and his compassion is over all his works.

All your works praise you, O Lord, *
and your faithful servants bless you.

They make known the glory of your kingdom *
and speak of your power;

That the peoples may know of your power *
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

The Lord is faithful in all his words *
and merciful in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all those who fall; *
he lifts up those who are bowed down.

THE EPISTLE | Romans 7:15-25a

Reader: *A reading from Romans.*

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The people stand as able.

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

and in your wea - ri - ness lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, stoop down and drink, and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun;

I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 and in that light of life I'll walk till pil - grim days are done.

**The bracketed notes are to be treated as triplet groups.*

THE GOSPEL | Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

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

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
 we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

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 |

Almighty God, on this July 4th weekend when we celebrate the political independence of our nation achieved so many years ago, we are rightly confronted to provide the means to independence and freedom to so many in our land. Using the familiar words of a national hymn, we pray together “**America, America, God shed his grace on thee**”.

Shed your grace on us, Lord, that we may stand up for what we know is right. **Amen**

Shed your grace on us, Lord, that we may kneel down to show others what is right. **Amen**

Shed your grace on us, Lord, that we may each examine our own hearts that we may root out our intentional and unintentional bigotry, injustice, prejudices and discrimination, and make us new. **Amen**

Shed your grace on us, Lord, that out of these days when so many cry out “how long?” there may rise up in us a new and great commitment to right the wrongs of our society. **Amen**

Shed your grace on us, Lord, when we are afraid, when we fill up with frustration and dismay, when we cry bitter tears. Help us kneel down before you so that we may stand up to do the work that must be done.

Amen

Shed your grace on us, Lord, here at Christ Church, that we may be a beacon of hope, that we may do your work in this world, that we may welcome newcomers and visitors, that we may lift up our lay leaders and our ordained ministers. We pray for our parishioners and our loved ones who are ill in these days, especially Roger, Lee, Ashley, Kimberly, Lisa, Rita, Jim, Kaci, MaryAnn, Alta, Mark, Brandon, Clarence, Diane, Mildred, Kayode, Rachan & Sherry and those you now name. We pray for those we love who have died, especially we remember the victims of the Venezuelan earthquakes and those we now name. We pray for journey mercies for Luci (our acolyte) as she travels to school abroad. **Amen**

Shed your grace, Lord, on the people in all the churches of our Diocese, as this week we especially pray for St. Philip's, Annapolis, St. Stephen's, Severn Parish and Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore. In the worldwide Anglican Communion, this week we pray for the people and clergy in the Anglican Church of South America. **Amen**

Shed your grace on us, Lord, as we celebrate the birthdays baptismal and wedding anniversaries of fellow parishioners this week, especially Janiah, Andrew, Frantz, Dennis, Jan, Donna, Jo Emily, Donna, Betty, Suzanne, David & Suzanne Ziobro. We celebrate the birth of Molly to Katie & Ian Bucacink. **Amen**

Shed your grace on us, Lord, so that we may do the hard work before us to fulfill for all people the great hope and promise of our nation, bringing forth the day when all people in our land will be able to rejoice that we live in a nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. **AMEN**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION |

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

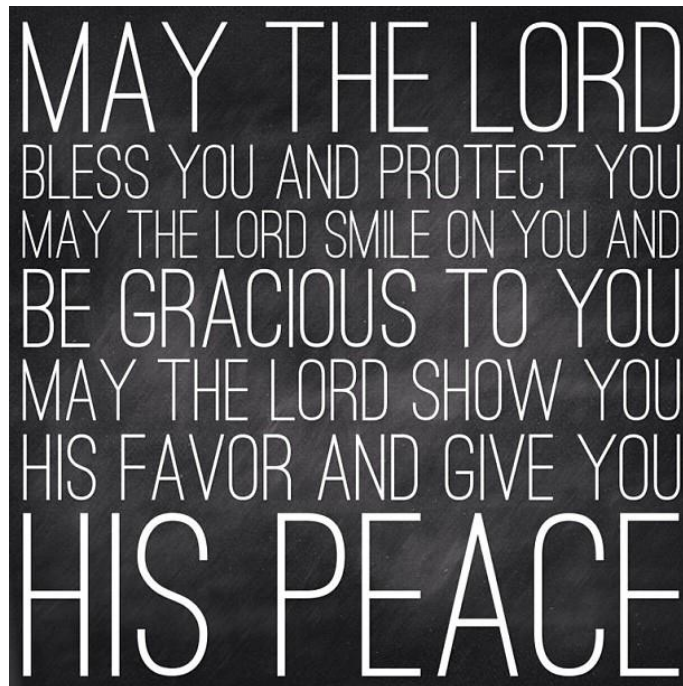
All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your 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.



MAY THE LORD
BLESS YOU AND PROTECT YOU
MAY THE LORD SMILE ON YOU AND
BE GRACIOUS TO YOU
MAY THE LORD SHOW YOU
HIS FAVOR AND GIVE YOU
HIS PEACE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |

Please scan to give.



1. Je - sus loves me! this I know, For the bi - ble tells me so;
 2. Je - sus loves me! He who died, Hea - ven's gate to op - en wide;
 3. Je - sus take this heart of mine, Make it pure and whol - ly thine;

1. Lit - tle ones to Him be - long; They are weak but He is strong.
 2. He will wash a - way my sin, Let His lit - tle child come in.
 3. On the cross you died for me, I will try to live for thee.

Yes, Je - sus loves me! — Yes, Je - sus loves me! —

Yes, Je - sus loves me! — The bi - ble tells me so.

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.

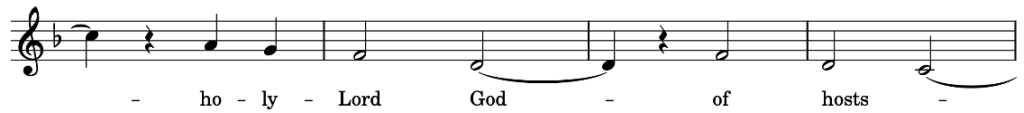
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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 has 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-DeLevis

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 717 | My Country 'Tis of Thee

America

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of
 2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the
 3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from
 4 Our fa - thers' God, to thee, au - thor of

lib - er - ty, of thee I sing; land where my
 no - ble free, thy name I love; I love thy
 all the trees sweet free - dom's song; let mor - tal
 lib - er - ty, to thee we sing; long may our

fa - thers died, land of the pil - grim's pride,
 rocks and rills, thy woods and tem - pled hills;
 tongues a - wake, let all that breathe par - take,
 land be bright with free - dom's ho - ly light;

from ev - ery moun - tain - side let freed - om ring.
 my heart with rap - ture thrills like that a - bove.
 let rocks their si - lence break, the sound pro - long.
 pro - tect us by thy might, great God, our King.

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.

EUCHARISTIC 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 719 | O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Materna

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
 and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

THE DISMISSAL |

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

POSTLUDE |

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Assisting in Worship Today

Altar Guild

Ivy Amponsah, Kathy Simms, Sonni Aribiah, Jai Fatodu

8:00 a.m. Service

Chalicer:

Lector/Reader: Audra Cox

Usher: Kayode Fatodu

10:30 a.m. Service

Acolytes: Abby Boyer, Anya Sheriff, Danny Jackson

Chalicerists: Ivy Amponsah, Kathy Lyon

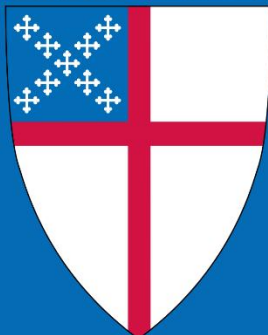
Lector/Reader: Kathy Lyon

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

Tellers

Brian Farnandis, Cherry Williams

EPISCOPAL 101



EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK,
BUT HAVEN'T



JOIN US FOR OUR ADULT INQUIRER'S CLASS

A SIX-WEEK SERIES ON ZOOM

BEGINS TUESDAY, JULY 7 AT 7:00 P.M.

INTERESTED?

SPEAK WITH FATHER MANNY OR MOTHER MARCIA AT CHURCH, OR
EMAIL INFO@CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG

PARISH CALENDAR

JULY 5 – JULY 11, 2026

Sunday, July 5

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Family Service
10:30 am Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, UL
11:00 – 11:30 am Coffee Hour - Zoom
12:30 – 5:30 pm Tabernacle of David – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
4:30 – 7:30 pm Total Restoration Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL

Monday, July 6

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
7:30 – 10:00 pm WOCC Monthly Meeting – Zoom

Tuesday, July 7

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am– 12:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00 – 1:00 pm Coffee Hour - Zoom
7:00 – 9:00 pm MS Support Group – New Brick, LL
7:30 – 8:30 pm 300th Yr Race & Slavery Committee Meeting – Zoom
7:30 – 9:00 pm CEC Book Club – Zoom

Wednesday, July 8

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
5:30 – 6:30 pm Refugee Leadership Meeting – Zoom

Thursday, July 9

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 – 1:00 pm Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:00 pm Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:30 – 9:00 pm Boy Scouts – New Brick, LL

Friday, July 10

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 12:00 pm Refugee Ministry Meeting – Parish Hall, LL
7:00 – 9:00 pm Friday Faith Film: OVERCOMER – Parish Hall, LL
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Livestream

Saturday, July 11

8:00 – 10:00 am Altar Guild prep
8:30 am – 12:00 pm Center for Spiritual Nourishment (CSN)
1:00 – 4:00 pm AA Meeting – Parish Hall, LL
3:30 – 4:30 pm Altar Guild prep



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



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

Join Us for Our Adult Inquirer's Series – Tuesdays Beginning July 7

Christ Church's clergy are presenting a summertime Adult Inquirer Class series for those interested in learning more about faith, stewardship, and the many elements making up our Episcopal Church. This is a welcoming, engaging, and foundational introduction to the history, theology, and traditions of the Church, designed for newcomers, long-time attendees, and anyone seeking a deeper understanding. This series is held on Zoom, and it begins on Tuesday, July 7, at 7:00 p.m., continuing for six consecutive weeks. If you might be interested, please speak with Father Manny or Mother Marcia at church, or [email](mailto:communications@christchurchcolumbia.org)/call the church office to express your interest. We will then send you the details and help prepare you for a unique and important step in your faith journey.

Let Love Lead You to Consider Joining the Christ Church Vestry

The nomination of candidates from our flock to stand for election to the Christ Church Vestry has begun! This year, four (4) slots are open, and if you are a baptized Christian who is 16 years or older and a giving member of record at Christ Church, you are qualified to become a candidate. We need your unique gifts to help us, so we hope you'll consider submitting your name.

The election will be held at our Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for Sunday, October 18. To offer to stand for election, contact our Vestry Nomination Committee by emailing nominations@christchurchcolumbia.org, and they will let you know what's needed for this process. You can also pick up a special *Let Love Lead* flyer in the Narthex, [or download a copy here](#). It outlines the responsibilities and commitments of a Vestry member to help you guide your decision. Thank you for your consideration.

Interested in Learning About EfM? This Might Be Your Chance to Join this Rewarding Program

Education for Ministry at Christ Church (EfM) is a rewarding long-term program, a unique, small-group series based on study and practice in theological reflection, helping participants discover and nurture their call to Christian service. The first few years of EfM at Christ Church have been extremely insightful for its participants, many of whom have experienced unexpected yet beautifully transformative experiences while gaining friendships with others in the study group.

Starting now, they're opening a few extra participant spots for next season for both sessions, which begin towards the end of this summer. Even if you're currently unsure whether it's the right fit for you, now is the time to ask questions and learn as much as you can from its current participants, so you can make an informed and prayerful decision. Learn more by visiting www.christchurchcolumbia.org/efm, and by speaking with Mother Marcia Davenport at church.

Three Films in Two Days – July 10 and 11

Next Weekend, George Toth presents a two-day film feature in the lower level of the church office building. Bring some shareable treats on Friday evening and watch *Overcomer* ([trailer](#)), a tale about a town that loses its main employer and is forced to overcome changes in a variety of ways. Then, at CSN the next morning, a double feature from the *Miracle* series is shown, so gather in the same space beginning at 8:30 a.m. (first film starts at 9:10). Info on the Center for Spiritual Nourishment is [on our website](#), as are details about these two films.

Let Your Spirit Bloom at the Center for Spiritual Nourishment – Next Saturday Morning, July 11

As summer reaches its height, we reflect on the ways that God is bringing us into greater fullness of life, how we are “blooming” into all that we were created to be. This month's wonderful sessions help us delve into these topics as well as into stillness and reflection in community. The 2nd Saturday Center for Spiritual Nourishment (CSN) provides opportunities to draw closer to God through an array of experiences that engage the mind, body, and spirit. Learn about the 2nd Saturday Center for Spiritual Nourishment [on our website](#), and see the special program details on offer in July.

Small Delusions (with Special Guest!) Summer Concert - Next Saturday, July 11

You know 'em... now you can sing and dance to them - Christ Church's favorite supergroup, Small Delusions (Jan, JB, and Shannon - with special guest Meghan Pruitt!), is delighted to announce their next gig in the warm confines of the New Brick sanctuary. In just a few weeks - July 11 at 1:00 p.m. - gather as they play all the memorable classics, and maybe even take a few requests. Heck, even bring your dancing shoes if you feel like it! **Definitely consider bringing a small dish or refreshments to share.** Looking forward to seeing you there!

MOCC Breakfast - Saturday Morning, July 18

Join us for French toast and fellowship - the MOCC breakfast is a monthly tradition, and in July, it will take place on Saturday, July 18. 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. You can also set a calendar reminder on your phone for every third Saturday of a month, for that's when we meet up for this tasty start to our weekend.

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.

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.

Learn the Latest About Your Christ Church - Read the Monthly Vestry Meeting Minutes

To ensure complete transparency with our parish family, we now share the minutes from each monthly meeting of the Christ Church Vestry. **You can read a PDF of the NEW Vestry meeting minutes here.** If you have any questions or wish to discuss something with a Vestry member, please stop by the Vestry Table at church on any Sunday morning.

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, the truth is that it requires a great deal of work by many people to keep Christ Church the well-run parish that it is. You can help your church by volunteering to be a Reader, Chalcist, Teller, the Inreach Ministry, or by 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 or speak with Pam Foreman or any other Altar Guild member setting up on Sunday mornings. If you want to know more about the Inreach Ministry, please speak with Michon Semon at church, complete the brief form at cecevents.org/Inreach, or email us at inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org, and we will get you started. For those interested in assisting as a Reader, Chalcist, or Teller, please call the Church Office at office@christchurchcolumbia.org or speak with Yetti.

Coffee Hour Signups

We are looking for people and ministries to occasionally help host the Coffee Hour that follows our 10:30 New Brick worship. This takes place in the Elevator Room of the Narthex right after worship concludes, is a great opportunity for fellowship and fun, and is a fantastic way to get to know your fellow parishioners. We simply gather for a few minutes to refresh ourselves before heading out to our weekend's other obligations. You can sign up at cecevents.org/Coffee.

You can provide Coffee Hour by yourself, as a family, or with other parishioners, but we are ideally looking for three individuals, one family, or one CEC ministry to provide Coffee Hour each Sunday, as this will help lighten the load. In fact, if we get just half of our parishioners volunteering, we should each only need to do this about once a year, so many hands make light work (and this is flavorful, as work goes!). All you need to do is provide snacks (homemade or store-bought), brew the coffee (we provide the machinery), and help clean up afterward. Training can be provided, and we'll give you a list of snack ideas if you wish. Questions? Please contact the church office at office@christchurchcolumbia.org, or call 410.381.9365. **Thank you!**

Donation to UNICEF Will Help Venezuelan Earthquake Survivors

On June 24, back-to-back earthquakes struck Venezuela, collapsing buildings and killing or injuring thousands. These 7.2- and 7.5-magnitude tremors were followed by multiple aftershocks, including one measured at 4.6 magnitude on June 29. A nation that was already challenged faces a vast humanitarian crisis, as described **by PBS in a June 29 news account**.

The Outreach Commission approved an immediate \$800 donation to UNICEF, which said in **an online post** updated on June 30 that it had mobilized to swiftly help displaced individuals and families, especially children. "UNICEF is scaling up its emergency response, deploying staff and supplies, with initial air shipments already arriving."

These are Vestry-approved funds derived from your pledges and contributions to Christ Church. Thank you!

Please pray for the people caught up in this immense tragedy. We are encouraged to do so collectively by **Episcopal Relief & Development** (ERD), which offered **a link** to its Prayers in a Time of Disaster. "We have been in touch with partners in Venezuela who are responding after powerful earthquakes struck," ERD said. "We pray for all who are affected. Join us."

Put Your Green Thumb to Good Use: Help Columbia Community Care to Tend Its Garden Plot at Freetown Farm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

Columbia Community Care (CCC) invites volunteers to help cultivate its garden plot at Freetown Farm, 8000 Harriet Tubman Lane, Columbia, Md., 21044, in partnership with **Community Ecology Institute** (CEI).

"Our garden plot at Freetown Farm offers something that our pantry alone can't -- fresh produce and a place to practice a more intentional relationship with food," CCC said in a **Facebook post on June 17**. Those interested are encouraged to learn more by reading an **article posted on May 21** to CCC's website, "From Farm to Pantry: CCC Puts Down Roots at Freetown Farm."

Volunteers are encouraged to sign up in advance for slots on Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m., on Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Go online to this **CEI signup form** to register for a slot, and choose "general volunteer" under "group."

CCC encourages both novice and experienced gardeners to help "plant, weed, and maintain this source of fresh, nutritious food for local Howard County families."

Continue to Support the MOCC's *Random Act of Kindness*

The MOCC's current R.A.K. (*Random Act of Kindness*) is supporting **Comfort Cases**, and they continue to need donations. A Comfort Case is a small duffel bag or backpack designed to provide comfort to youth entering the local foster care system - many enter with nothing more than a simple trash bag - an item that provides no comfort or dignity at all.

In today's world, the number of kids entering the foster care system is rising, and so anything that can be done to help provide a level of comfort, compassion, and care for the youngest in our world is welcome. The MOCC is accepting donations throughout the summer, and you can find details and the donation bin in the Narthex. You can also speak with Duane Smith, Ed Chrzanowski, or any MOCC member to get more information about Comfort Cases, or click the link above.



Christ Episcopal Church

6800 Oakland Mills Road
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 381-9365

www.christchurchcolumbia.org
office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Associate Rector for Children and Family Ministries*
The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*
The Rev. Yehinuel Odidi, *Seminarian Associate*
Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*
Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*
Yetti 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*) Diane Phillips-LaGuerre • Ronald Baran • George Toth • Sara Kirkpatrick
- Ed Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms • Jay Abbott • David James • Katie Adams • Jim Berkson