




CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:00 A.M.

Thursday, January 1, 2026 | The Holy Name - New Year's Day



O LORD OUR
GOVERNOR, HOW
EXALTED IS YOUR NAME
IN ALL THE WORLD!

PSALM 8:1

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 680 | O God Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass. The melody is in G major, indicated by one sharp (F#). The rhythm is primarily quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1 through 5 on the left.

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

OPENING ACCLAMATION |

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY |

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

People: Amen

*The St. James Christmas Service***Joyously**

Glo - ry be to God on high,
 Je - sus Christ, we now de - clare
 Prai - ses to the Ho - ly One,
 To all peo - ple, peace on earth, An - gels, shep - herds
 Lamb of God and Lord of Love. Grant us mer - cy,
 Prai - ses sing in high - est heav'n; To the Fath - er
 draw - ing nigh, Join to ce - le - brate His birth.
 hear our prayer, Give us grace from heav'en a - bove.
 and the Son and the Ho - ly Spi - rit giv'n.
 Glo - ri - a
 1. in ex - cel - sis De - o! 2. in ex - cel - sis De o!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY |*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.***People:* And also with you.***Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | Numbers 6:22-27

Reader: *A reading from Numbers.*

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites. You shall say to them,

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The following psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

THE PSALM

Psalm 8 | *Dominus noster*

O Lord our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

Out of the mouths of infants and children *
your majesty is praised above the heavens.

You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, *
to quell the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, *
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses.

What is man that you should be mindful of him? *
the son of man that you should seek him out?

You have made him but little lower than the angels; *
you adorn him with glory and honor;

You give him mastery over the works of your hands; *
you put all things under his feet:

All sheep and oxen, *
even the wild beasts of the field,

The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, *
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

O Lord our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

THE EPISTLE | Galatians 4:4-7

Reader: A reading from Galatian.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN 80 | From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

Vom Himmel Hoch



1 From heaven a - bove to earth I come to bring good
2 to you this night is born a child of Ma - ry,
3 This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your
4 The bless - ing which the Fa - ther planned the Son holds



news to ev - ery - one! Glad tid - ings of great
chos - en vir - gin mild; this new - born child of
sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your
in his in - fant hand, that in his king - dom



joy I bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:
low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sa - vior be and from all sin will set you free.
bright and fair, you may with us his glo - ry share.

THE GOSPEL | Luke 2:15-21

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eousness,

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 people may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON | Natalie Bedard

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.

(continued)

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 |

We enter the New Year with hope. We hope we may always gather as a community of faith in safety and real joy. We hope that all families will have the food and housing they need. We look forward in hope to a year of peace, prosperity and love. Lord of hope, in this new year, guide us on your path, help us to live joyfully, thankful for your many gifts, and looking forward to blessings yet to come. **God be with us.**

We pray for our Church Leadership: for Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop, Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard & Marcia, and Seminarian, Yehinuel. We give thanks for all those who help us worship, especially Larissa for our music, to the altar guild, to the readers, and to Chris for keeping us all connected throughout the year. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Diocese of Seychelles –The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for: Holy Nativity, Baltimore Immanuel, Glencoe and St. Andrew's, Baltimore. **God be with us.**

We pray that we will bring the message of Christmas with us into the new year, and that we may use this new beginning to do God's work: to feed the hungry; to welcome the refugee; to reach across divisions and build trust; to seek justice and equality; to share our many gifts; and, to bring Christ's light to the world. **God be with us.**

We pray for all those suffering in mind, body or spirit. We pray especially for Clarence, Steve, Diane, Natasha, Mildred, Nancy, Patrick, Winifred, Priscilla, Kayode, Rachan & Sherry, and those you now name. We pray for all the caregivers that they may find strength and restored hope in Your word. We pray for those who are hungry and thirsty, and especially for our friends at Grassroots and at the Route 1 Shelter. We pray for all those working with Columbia Community Cares, the Howard County Food Bank, LEMS, and the FISH organization, that they may find the resources and energy to continue Your work in our community. **God be with us.**

We ask God Our Father to accept in His loving arms all who have departed this life, especially all of those from the Christ Church community who have passed this year, and those you now name. We pray for all who mourn them that they may heal in the warmth of your love. **God be with us.**

We thank you Lord for the many occasions we have to celebrate. We rejoice with all those members of our church family who are celebrating birthdays, especially Liam, Francis, Ryan, J.B., Angela & Don, wedding anniversaries of Emily & Ron Aubin and Preethi & Sam Jackson, and baptismal anniversaries of Gavin, Elizabeth & Michon. **God be with us.**

Holy Spirit, be with us this year. Help us to see the gifts You present us every day. Help us to see our neighbors' needs and recognize our ability to help them in some way. Kindle in us the flame of love and hope, so that all we meet will see You through our good works. **Amen.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION |

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

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

THE PEACE |

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

People: And also with you.

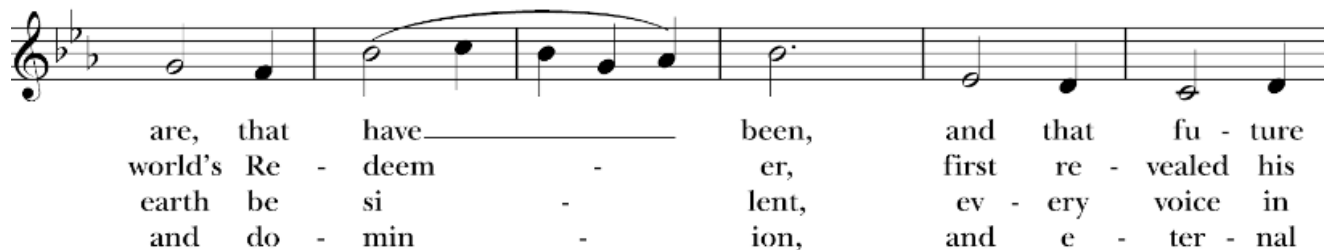
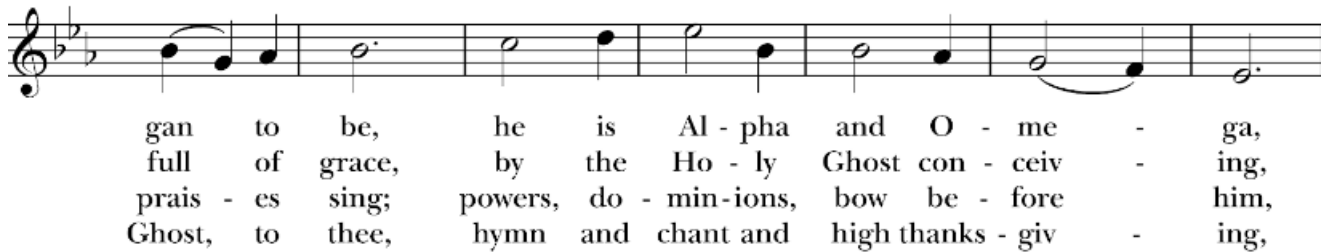
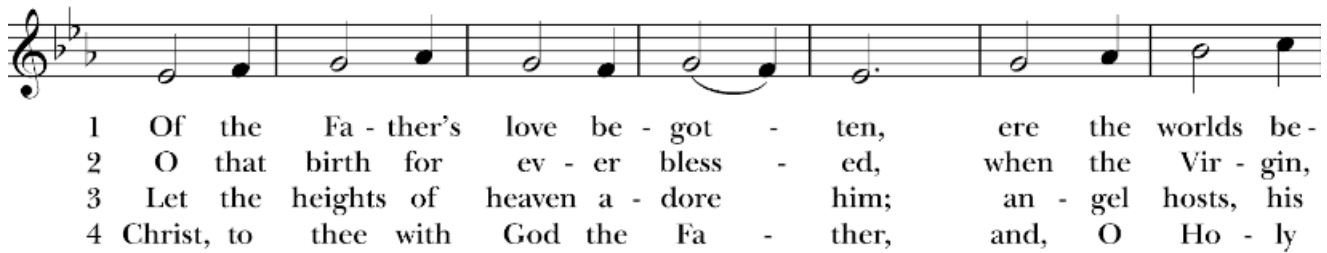
The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |

OFFERTORY HYMN 82 | Of the Father's Love Begotten vs 1-3

Divinum mysterium

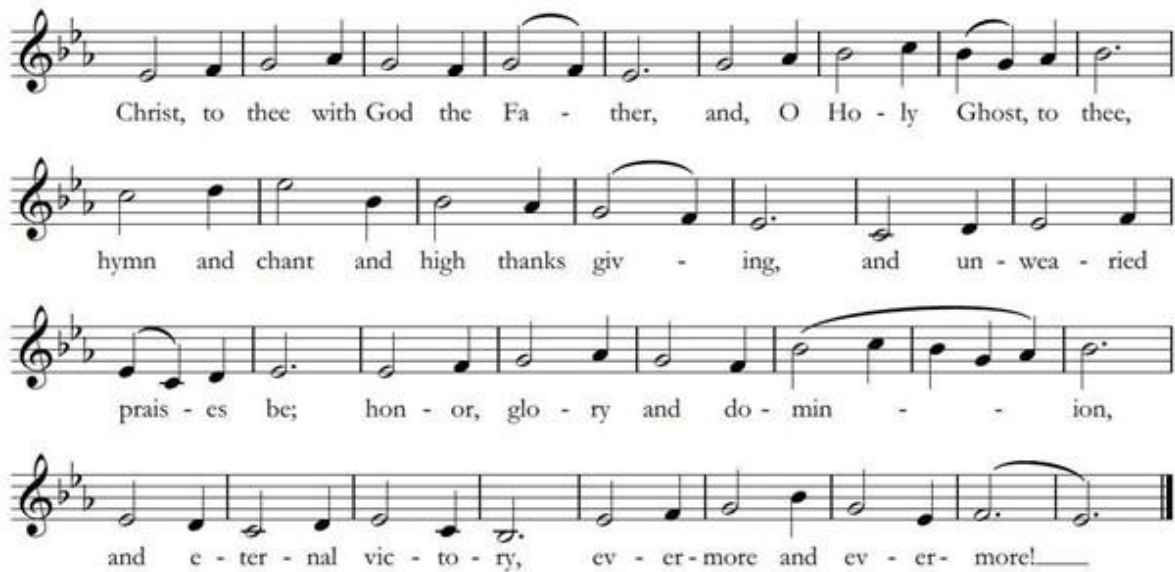
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DOXOLOGY |

Divinum mysterium v.4

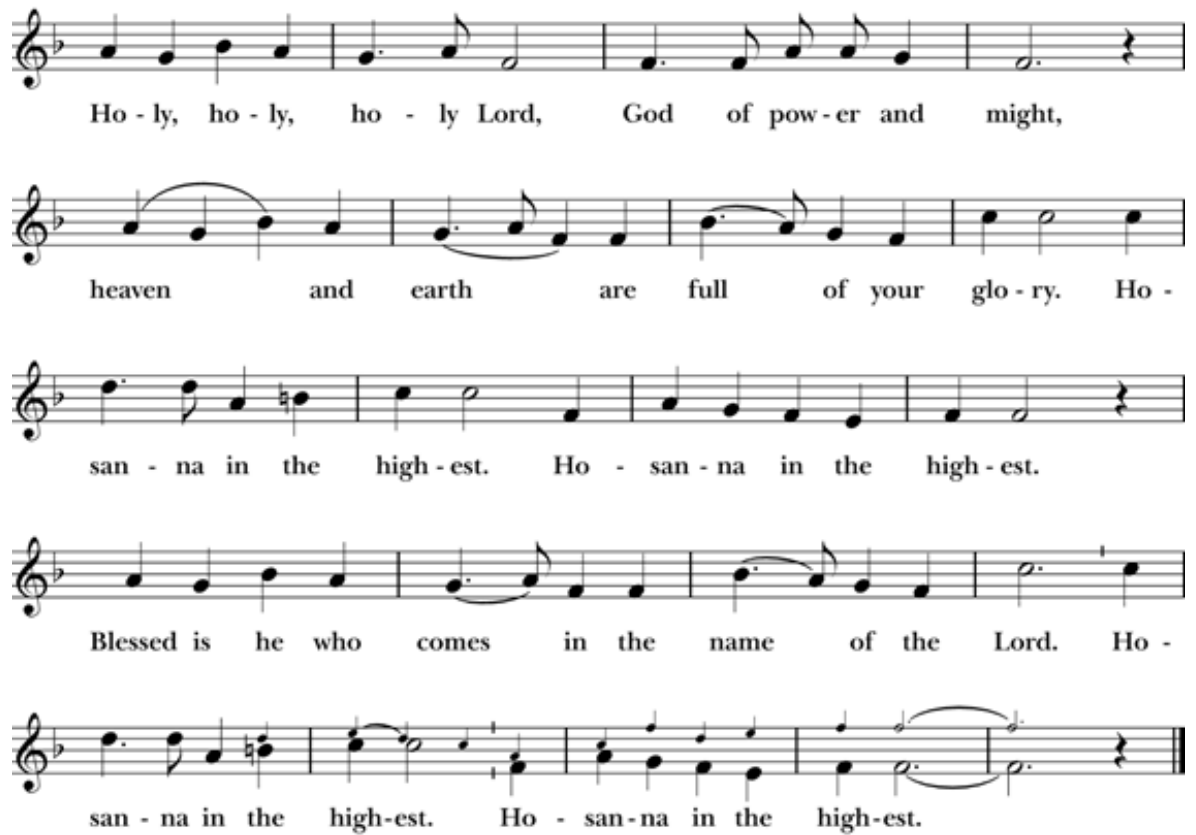


THE HOLY COMMUNION



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...
 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:



Celebrant: 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."

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: 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 |

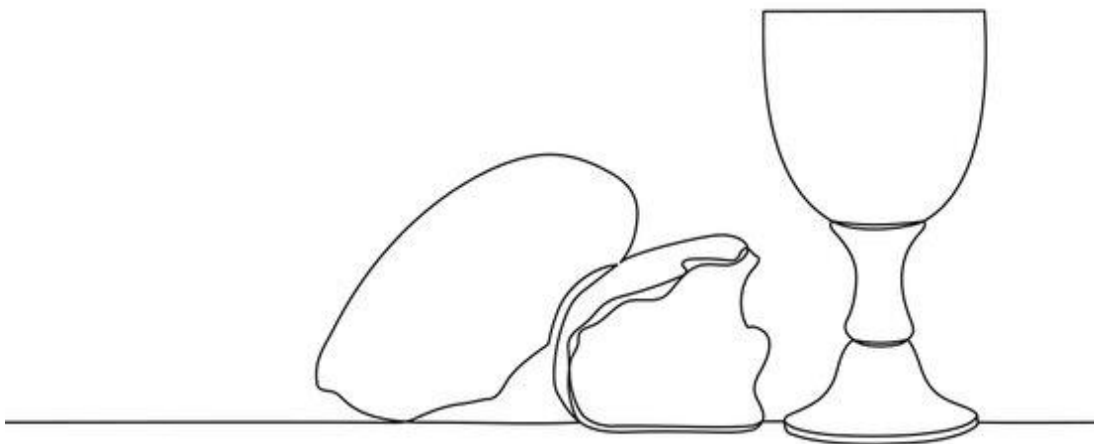
Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against 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 HYMN 324 (V2) | King of Kings

Picardy



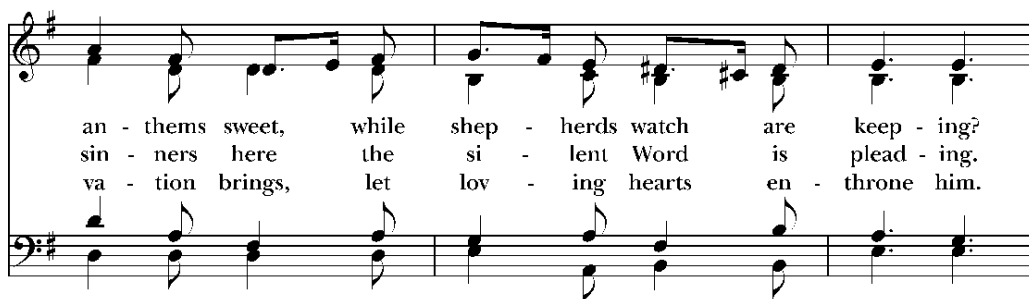
Unison or harmony



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in, such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

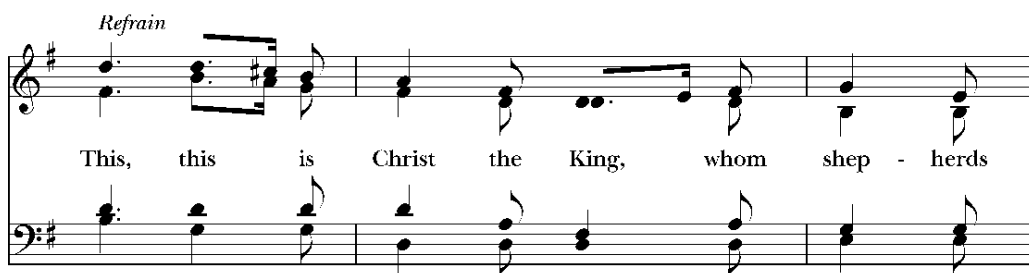


Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

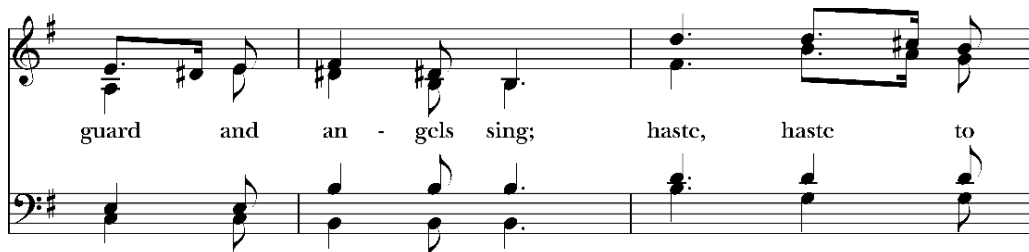


an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

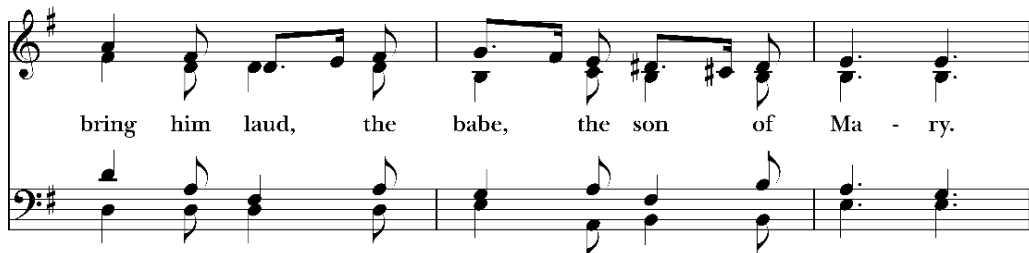
Refrain



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds



guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to



bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

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 100 | Joy to the world

Antioch

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and
heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
1 and 2 re - 3 far 4 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
as the curse is found, far
won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

THE DISMISSAL |

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

POSTLUDE | Joy to the World

arr. Hal Hopson

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Assisting in Worship Today

10:00 a.m. Service

Chalicer: Theo Jones-Quartey

Lector/Reader: Theo Jones-Quartey

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

Altar Guild: Cara Ocampo, Jai Jones

PARISH CALENDAR JANUARY 1 – 3, 2026

Thursday, January 1

All Day	New Year's Day
All Day	Office Closed
10:00 am	New Year's Day Service – New Brick, UL
4:30 – 7:30 pm	Total Restoration Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
6:30 – 9:00 pm	Education for Ministry (EfM): Fast Track – Zoom

Friday, January 2

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream

Saturday, January 3

2:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, LL
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Altar Guild prep

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



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

WOCC's January Meeting – January 5

The Women of Christ Church will have their first meeting of 2026 on Monday, January 5th on Zoom. Join them at 7:30 as they discuss plans for their 2026 events and create a calendar for the year. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is **898 1689 9010** and the Passcode is **WOCC**

First Wednesday Fellowship – January 7

The very first FWF of 2026 contains food to warm the insides and a game to warm the heart! Please bring soup, salad, or a dessert to share, and bring a game that's fun for groups to play! It might be cold outside, but we'll have a heartwarming time in the Great Hall.

Center for Spiritual Nourishment Returns in January - January 10

As we begin the new year, consider taking a break from the chaos and treating yourself to a peaceful morning in a soul-nurturing community. The 2nd Saturday Center for Spiritual Nourishment (CSN) provides opportunities for us to be in closer relationship with God by offering an array of experiences that engage the mind, body, and spirit.

Programs for January center around the theme “Sacred Vision” and include Conversations on Spiritual Practices, Spiritual Direction, Meditation, and Sacred Art. You can learn more about the 2nd Saturday CSN at our website www.christchurchcolumbia.org/spiritual-nourishment.

Pledge to Christ Church for 2026

We are incredibly blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who support our ministry of faithful service, and we hope that each of you will prayerfully consider your contribution to Christ Church for the next year, as well. Pledge cards and envelopes are available in the Narthex to fill out, or you can safely complete one on our website at christchurchcolumbia.org/2026-pledge. You can also call the church office, and they will send one to you in the mail.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for supporting our worship, outreach, youth, music, and every other vital part of our common life.

The 2025 Lenten Meditation Book: *Building Relationships through Love*

For nearly 25 years, Christ Church has published a Lenten Meditation Book and distributed it to our parishioners on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. The LMB is created with love and designed to assist us all in times of quiet contemplation, preparing ourselves for rebirth and renewal at Easter. Poems, quotes, stories of reflection, images, prayers, and inspirational pieces by writers or theologians - they all come together to make up this special booklet - one that you can take home with you and use each day throughout the season.

To accomplish this, we must have all submissions in by Sunday, February 1, to edit and publish this work in physical and digital form, the latter of which is viewed by many thousands of individuals worldwide throughout Lent. That gives us only one month for submissions, so please don't delay. You can submit these by name or anonymously - your choice. If you need help getting started, visit christchurchcolumbia.org/lenten-meditations and check out past reflections. Submit yours by email to SL@christchurchcolumbia.org or place it in the Spiritual Life mailbox in the Church office. Questions? Speak with Ellen Hoke at church, or email them to Ellen and Chris at the above address.



Christ Episcopal Church

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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*

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