

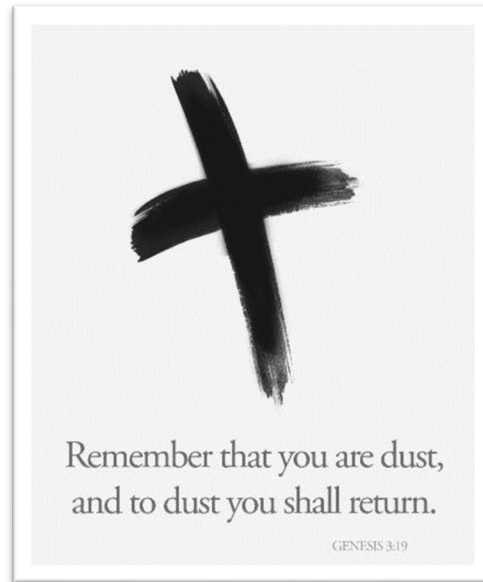
Christ Episcopal Church

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

Ash Wednesday

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 | 7:00 a.m. • 12:00 p.m. • 7:00 p.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!

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Choral Prelude | Steal Away

African American spiritual, arr. Malcolm Arnold

The people stand as able.

Salutation and Collect of the Day |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ***Amen.***

The people may be seated.

Reader: A reading from Joel.

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near--
a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
 a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
 nor will be again after them
 in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
 rend your hearts and not your clothing.
Return to the LORD, your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
 and relents from punishing.
Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
 and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the LORD, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
 gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
 assemble the aged;
gather the children,
 even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room,
 and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar
 let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
 and do not make your heritage a mockery,
 a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
 `Where is their God?'"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

***All:* Thanks be to God.**

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse at the 7:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m. service, and chanted at the 7:00 p.m. service.

Psalm 103 | *Benedic, anima mea*

Praise the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, praise his holy Name.

Praise the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgives all your sin
and heals all your infirmities,

Who saves your life from the pit
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness,

Who satisfies you with good things,
renewing your youth like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness and judgment
for all those who are oppressed with wrong.

He showed his ways to Moses,
his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
long-suffering and of great goodness.

He will not always chide us,
neither will he keep his anger forever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his mercy also toward those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he set our sins from us.

As a father pities his own children,
so is the Lord merciful to those who fear him.

For he knows whereof we are made;
he remembers that we are but dust.

The days of man are as grass;
he flourishes as a flower of the field.

For as soon as the wind goes over it, it is gone,
and its place shall know it no more.

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures forever and ever upon those who fear him,
and his righteousness upon children's children,

Even upon those who keep his covenant
and think upon his commandments to do them.

The Lord has prepared his throne in heaven,
and his kingdom rules over all.

O praise the Lord, you angels of his;
you that excel in strength,
you that fulfill his commandment;
and hearken unto the voice of his words.

O praise the Lord, all you his hosts,
you servants of his that do his pleasure.

O speak good of the Lord, all you works of his;
in all places of his do minion;
praise the Lord, O my soul.

A Reading from 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 |

Reader: A reading from 2 Corinthians.

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see-- we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able and remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give" you
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and

taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew, how small the debts men
 bid re - sent - ment cease; then, re - con - ciled to

grant us grace to live the words we say.
 will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owe to us, how great our debt to you.
 God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

The Gospel | Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

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

Sermon | The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The people stand as able.

The Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent |

Celebrant: Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept for a time, all kneeling as able.

Meditation during Imposition of Ashes | Let's Have a Union

Spiritual, arr. Hall Johnson
Catherine Hinton, soprano

The Imposition of Ashes |

Celebrant: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

People: **Amen.**

If you are imposing ashes at home, you are invited to do so with the following words:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

Psalm 51 | *Miserere mei, Deus*

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness; *
according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, *
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults, *
and my sin is ever before me.

Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight; *
that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou shalt judge.

Behold, I was shapen in wickedness, *
and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts, *
and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; *
thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Turn thy face from my sins, *
and put out all my misdeeds.

Make me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence, *
and take not thy holy Spirit from me.

O give me the comfort of thy help again, *
and stablish me with thy free Spirit.

Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked, *
and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my health; *
and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.

Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall show thy praise.

For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee; *
but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.

O be favourable and gracious unto Sion; *
build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations; *
then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.

- All:** Most holy and merciful Father:
We confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
- Celebrant:* We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.
- People:** Have mercy on us, Lord.
- Celebrant:* We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
- People:** Have mercy on us, Lord.
- Celebrant:* We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness:
the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,
- People:** We confess to you, Lord.
- Celebrant:* Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
- People:** We confess to you, Lord.
- Celebrant:* Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
- People:** We confess to you, Lord.
- Celebrant:* Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
- People:** We confess to you, Lord.
- Celebrant:* Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
- People:** We confess to you, Lord.
- Celebrant:* Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done:
for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- People:** Accept our repentance, Lord.
- Celebrant:* For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
- People:** Accept our repentance, Lord.
- Celebrant:* For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
- People:** Accept our repentance, Lord.
- Celebrant:* Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;
- People:** Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.
- Celebrant:* Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
- People:** That we may show forth your glory in the world.
- Celebrant:* By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

People: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Celebrant: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Peace |

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

People: And with thy spirit.

Welcome and Announcements |

The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Offertory Anthem | Lord Jesus, Think on Me

Georgiann H. Toole

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.**

Eucharistic Prayer I | BCP 333

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant:

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer | BCP 336

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: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Fraction Anthem | *Spoken at the 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. service.*

All: **O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,**
 have mercy upon us.
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
 have mercy upon us.
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
 grant us thy peace.



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

on us. O Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have

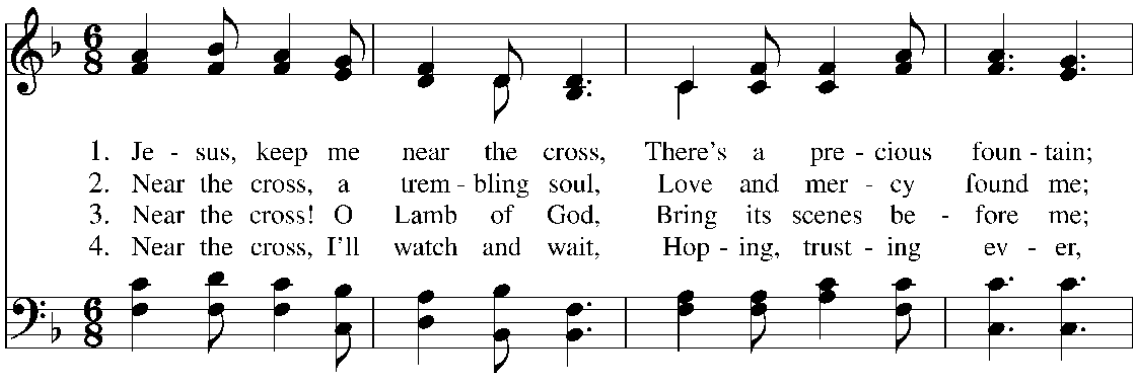
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

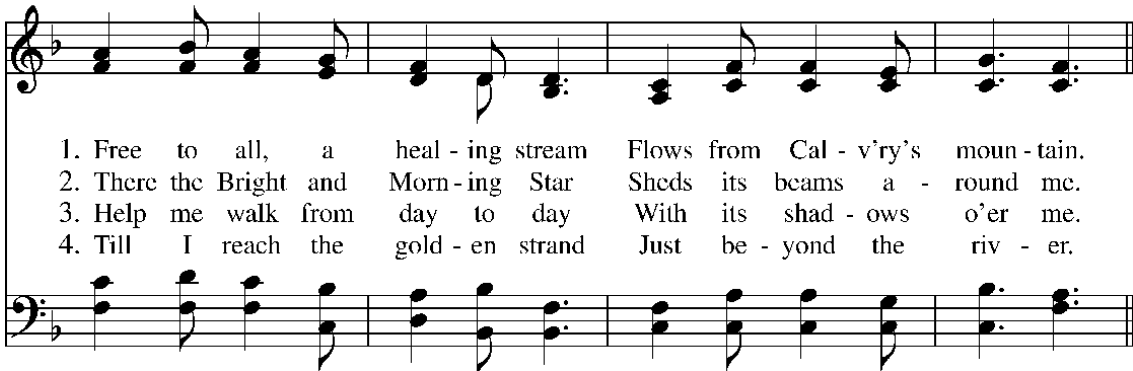
world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access |

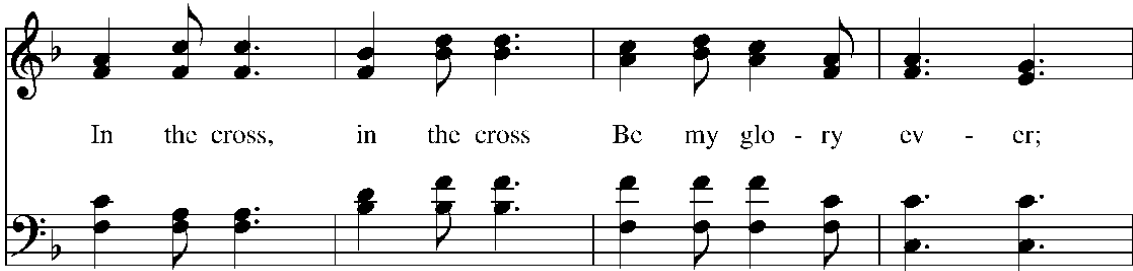
All: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.



1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;
 3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4. Near the cross, I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



1. Free to all, a heal - ing stream Flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 2. There the Bright and Morn - ing Star Sheds its beams a - round me.
 3. Help me walk from day to day With its shad - ows o'er me.
 4. Till I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er;



Till my rap - tured soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

Post-Communion Prayer | BCP 339

Celebrant: Let us pray.

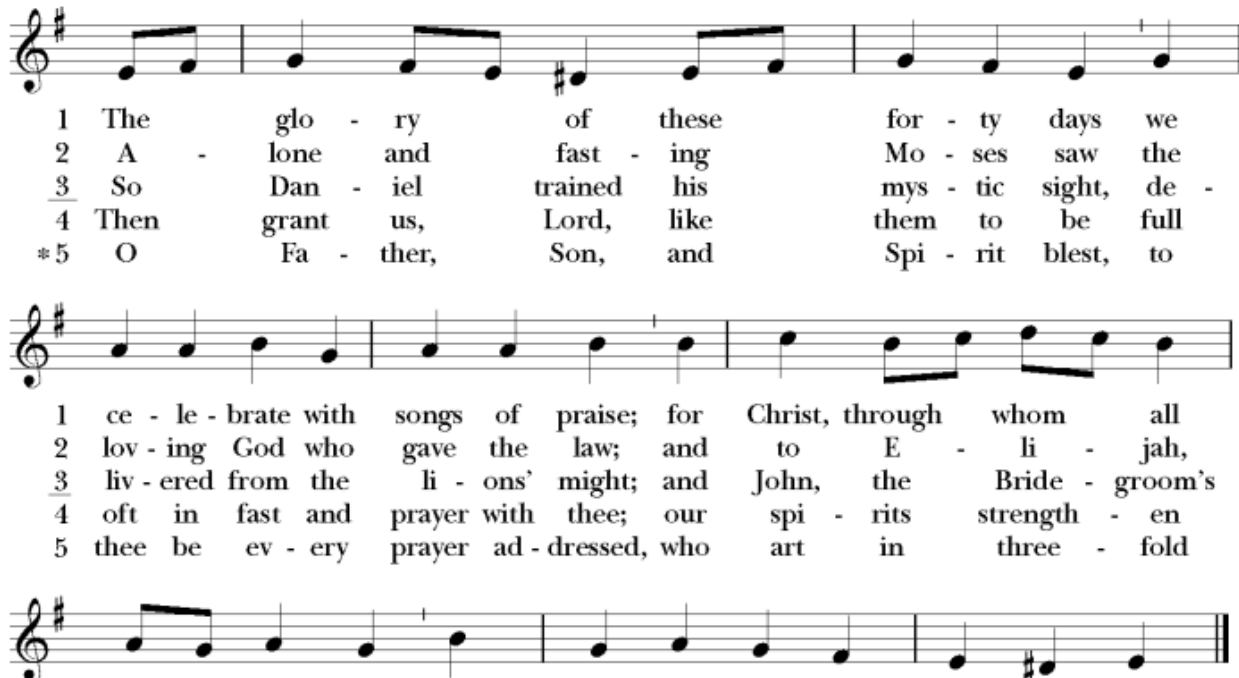
All: Almighty and everliving God,
we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us,
in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us;
and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son,
the blessed company of all faithful people;
and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.
And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father,
so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing |

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

Closing Hymn 143 | The Glory of These Forty Days

Erhalt uns, Herr



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full
*5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to

1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold

1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

The Celebrant dismisses the people, who respond:

Thanks be to God.

(The Alleluias are omitted during Lent)

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Rebecca Warlow
Robin Bradley
Kayode Fatodu
Sonni Aribiah
Nancy Winchester

PARISH CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 am	Ash Wednesday Service – Old Brick
10:00 – 11:00 am	Take Off Pounds Sensibly – Parish Hall, lower level
12:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service – Old Brick
7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service – New Brick
8:00 – 9:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, February 23

8:00 – 8:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 8:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, February 24

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Taizé Service – Old Brick
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Christ Church Book Club – Zoom
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, February 25

8:30 am – 12:00 pm	Lenten Reflection Day – Old Brick
2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
6:30 – 7:30 pm	Men of Christ Church Gathering – Stumpy's Hatchet House
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Youth Group Trip
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

Sunday, February 26

8:00 – 8:45 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:30 – 9:00 am	Breakfast – New Brick, lower level
8:45 – 9:30 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 – 9:30 am	Family Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 – 10:15 am	Sunday School – Parish Hall & New Brick, lower levels
9:30 – 10:30 am	Bible Study – Parish Hall, conference room
9:30 – 10:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick
10:30 – 11:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – 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
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Jazz Vespers – New Brick

Monday, February 27

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

Tuesday, February 28

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
11:00 am – 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
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Vestry Meeting – Old Brick & Zoom

Wednesday, March 1

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
10:00 – 11:00 am	Take Off Pounds Sensibly – Parish Hall, lower level
6:30 pm	Lenten Supper Series – New Brick
8:00 – 9:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

Thursday, March 2

8:00 – 8:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Howard County Home School – New Brick, lower level
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lenten Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
7:30 – 8:30 pm	AA Women Only – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 – 8:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, March 3

7:00 – 7:30 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Taizé Service – Old Brick
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Christ Church Book Club – Zoom
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, March 4

2:00 – 3:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
8:00 – 9:00 pm	NA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

For a digital copy of this service leaflet with working links, etc., visit the main page of our website.

Lent at Christ Church

Our website's page with details of the 2023 Lenten schedule is now live. There are many traditional services and gatherings, as well as several new ones, and we hope to see you at many of them. Visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org/lent often, as we'll update things there regularly.

Lenten Reflection Day – This Saturday

Christ Church's Spiritual Life Commission presents Lenten Reflection Day on Saturday, February 25th. This year, we are very blessed to have our own Seminarian Associate, Mike Looney, lead us in prayer and meditation as we deeply examine our 2023 theme, *Be an Instrument of God's Peace*. Lenten Reflection Day includes a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m., continues with the day's program, and wraps up around 12 noon with an informal Eucharist. We hope that you'll find time to join us for this exceptional start to the Lenten season.

Sunday Youth Formation

Every child is welcome to Youth Formation at 9:30, and you can find the details on **our website's Youth Formation page**. The Christ Church Youth Group (grades 5-12) also meets Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the basement of the Church Office building. If you are interested in having your child join the CECYG, please email Todd for more information - youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org

And you adults! Have you considered a calling to help nurture the youth of Christ Church? We are in need of more teachers and assistants now than ever! No experience is required - we will provide all the materials and you will be on a team with an experienced leader. If you are able to help - even just once a month - with this important ministry, **please email our Youth Minister, Todd Domer.**

Sunday Morning Adult Formation

Lent is a period where we prepare ourselves with prayer, fasting, repentance, spiritual discipline, and self-denial. During the 2023 season of Lent, Sunday Circle will explore other faith traditions' perspectives on sin. We will have lead practitioners of the Hindu, Muslim, Judaism, and Quaker faiths talk with us about how sin is perceived and understood in their faith tradition. Please join us on March 5th, 12th, 19th, and 25th for this insightful four-part series. We also have Bible Study and other Adult Formation gatherings every Sunday morning.

Jazz Vespers – Sunday Evening

Jazz Vespers is a special liturgy of Evening Prayer. Jazz Vespers will combine scripture readings, prayer, poetry, silent meditation, and rich music. Christ Church is offering this special service during the 2023 Lenten season with the hope that different opportunities for prayer, music, and reflection will deepen our spirituality. Please join us in the New Brick Sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. for this uniquely enlightening service. There will be light refreshments after each service.

CEC Youth Gathering

Our February Youth gathering will be laser tag at Shadowland in Columbia. Want to join us? Email Todd Domer at youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org

Men Of Christ Church Gathering

Join us for an 18-and-older MOCC Gathering next Saturday, Feb. 25th at 6:30 p.m. at Stumpy's Hatchet House, 6695 Dobbin Road. Interested to learn more about the MOCC? Please contact Duane Smith at cduanesmith@verizon.net.

WOCC Upcoming Events

Upcoming WOCC events: Wednesday, March 1 @ 6:00 p.m. - the Wednesday Evening Lenten Series meal will be provided by the WOCC; and Saturday, March 11th @ 10 a.m. - we'll have a Guided Labyrinth Walk at St. John's in Ellicott City. Look for details in upcoming news and information bulletins. Come and join us for these events. If you have other good ideas, please share them with us. Also, the next WOCC Meeting is Monday, March 6 at 1:00 p.m. We will be meeting in person (NBLL) and also via Zoom and will publish the link a week before the meeting.

Centering Prayer - Mondays

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. Email the church office for the Zoom link.

Lenten Supper Series – Wednesdays

One of the most cherished traditions at Christ Church during the season of Lent is the Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series. We are always thankful to the members of the Spiritual Life Commission, who work so hard to put this event together. This series offers five weeks of insightful and life-enriching seminars on our theme for this year, *Be an Instrument of God's Peace* - taken from St. Francis of Assisi's beautiful prayer. The guest presenter for this first week is Bishop Robert Ihloff, Assisting Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland. We begin at 6:30 p.m. with a communal supper in the Great Hall – this week, food is provided by the WOCC - and follow it with the evening's presentation. We then conclude with a brief, informal Eucharist.

Christ Church Choir - Thursdays

C'mon, all of you who like to sing! Adult Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m. and everyone is welcome to take part! **You can find links to the registration forms 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, email music@christchurchcolumbia.org.

CEC Book Club - Fridays

During Lent, we will discuss *How Then Shall We Live? 4 Simple Questions that Reveal the Beauty and Meaning of our Lives* by Wayne Muller. Why not join us for an hour or so on Friday evenings for a lively discussion? We are a friendly bunch and appreciate everyone's input and thoughts. The book can be purchased online at your favorite digital retailers. Interested? Email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com or text her at 301-452-7115.

Christ Church Podcast - Later in 2023

In a recent *Gatherings*, Father Manny discussed the idea of creating a Christ Church Podcast, a homegrown, multimedia collaboration of our parish's many features, talents, and interests. That idea is gaining steam for a launch later this year, but we would love to involve some more people to help make this the best it can be. If you enjoy writing, are interested in researching the multilayered history of Christ Church, have an interest in audio production, like to shoot videos on your phone or camera, enjoy composing, singing, or playing music, have a particular topic you'd like to share with others, love to draw or paint... we can find a place for each of you! We're meeting again in two weeks (date and time TBD) and you're invited to join us to see how you can be an important part of this new venture. If you'd like more information or are interested in joining us, please speak with **Fr. Manny, Ann Barnes**, or email Chris at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Let's Go, Christ Church! Buy Tickets for Bridges to Housing Stability's Chilifest by March 9th to Help End Homelessness in Howard County

Bridges to Housing Stability – an organization dedicated to preventing/ending homelessness in Howard County – is holding a **"ChiliFest & Cornhole Tournament"** on Sunday, March 19th, from 1- 4 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Howard County. The Bridges' leaders are looking forward to doing in-person events again "for camaraderie, and to jazz people up" about ending homelessness. While there will be no chili cookoff this year, you can purchase tickets for chili meals prepared by Absolutely Perfect Catering (\$25 each) to be eaten at the event, or for carryout. Bridges is planning a festive event, and we're hoping our parishioners will participate (**Christ Church has won the "Golden Ladle" in the past for donations raised**).

The deadline to buy tickets for chili meals and cornhole registration is March 9. When buying online, look for the green box labeled "Continue to your info." Next, choose the category "Individual" and look for the wording: "Credit the following congregation with my purchase." You'll find Christ Episcopal Church in the alphabetical dropdown list. You also can purchase tickets (\$40 for 2 registrations) to compete as a team in the cornhole tournament. The cornhole competition will be outdoors, weather permitting.

There will also be live music by School of Rock, door prizes, a 50/50 raffle, and an in-person auction that includes amazing baskets. For additional information and to purchase tickets, click on **this link**. Let's go, Christ Church! With parishioners' generous support through past contributions, Christ Church will be a "Tabasco" Level sponsor. The Outreach Commission at its Feb. 13 meeting voted to donate \$500 in Vestry-approved funds to become a sponsor.

Save the Date: DreamBuilders Mandatory Meeting for Summer Mission Trip - March 4

If you are interested in joining DreamBuilders to repair homes in Kentucky in June, make sure you attend our **mandatory** meeting on Saturday, March 4th, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be at Temple Isaiah (12200 Scaggsville Rd., Fulton). We will have all the information you will need about the June trip, but if you have any questions before then, please see or **email Cathy Gold at cgold2000@aol.com**. It'll be a life-changing event, for you and for the people we're helping in Kentucky. Hope to see you there!

Turkish Embassy Collecting New Blankets, Sleeping Bags, Mats, and Tents

Many earthquake survivors lack shelter, and the Turkish Embassy has **posted a plea** for in-kind donations of new or unused blankets, sleeping bags, mats, and tents. They are being flown daily to Turkey, which is in the midst of a bitterly cold winter. You can take these items directly to the Embassy, which is located at 2525 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008. Or if you want to help but require assistance from someone else who can transport the purchased items to the Embassy, please email Christ Church Outreach at **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

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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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