



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, March 1, 2026 | Second Sunday in Lent

MY HELP
COMES FROM
THE LORD
THE MAKER
OF HEAVEN
AND EARTH
PSALM 121:2

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 147 | Now Let Us All With One Accord

Bourbon



1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in
 2 The cov - e - nant, so long re - vealed to
 3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has
 4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in
 5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so



1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our
 2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -
 3 not re - turned, but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,
 4 your own i - mage were we made; help us, lest in anx -
 5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for



1 heaven - ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion and his fast.
 2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in love sub - lime.
 3 turn your face and grant re - pent - ance for our pride.
 4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to be be - trayed.
 5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.

OPENING ACCLAMATION |

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth for ever.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY |

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, have mercy upon us

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | Genesis 12:1-4a

Reader: A reading from Genesis.

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

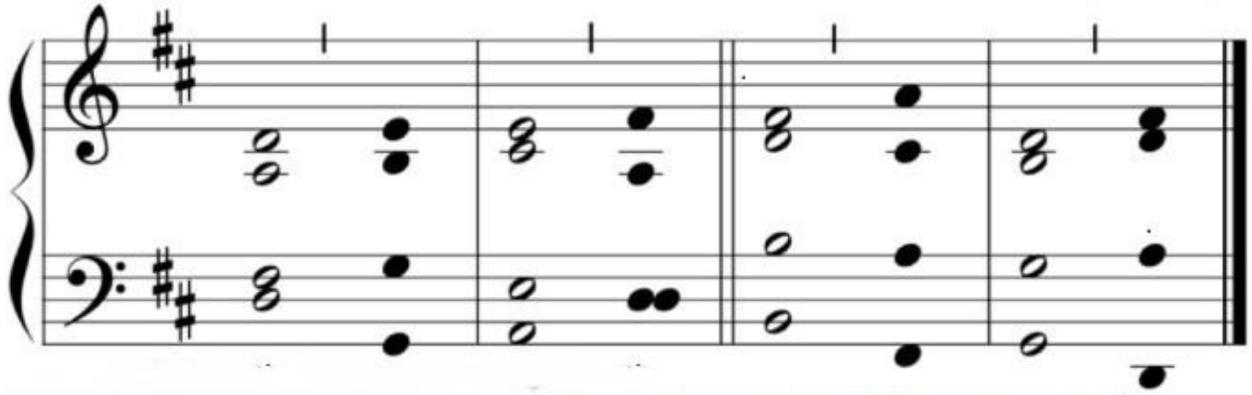
So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 121 | *Levavi oculos (Candid admission of sin)*



I lift up my eyes to the | hills; |
from where is my help to | come? ||

My help comes from the | Lord, |
the maker of heaven and | earth. ||

He will not let your foot be | moved, |
and he who watches over you will not fall a- | sleep. ||

Behold, he who keeps watch over | Israel |
shall neither slumber nor | sleep; ||

The Lord himself watches I over you; |
the Lord is your shade at your right I hand, ||

So that the sun shall not strike you by I day, |
nor the moon by I night. ||

The Lord shall preserve you from all I evil; |
it is he who shall keep you I safe. ||

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming I in, |
from this time forth for ever- I more. ||

THE EPISTLE | Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Reader: *A reading from Romans.*

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

1. I want Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); I want
 2. In my tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my
 3. In my sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my

1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); All a -
 2. tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); When the
 3. sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); When my

1. long my _____ pil - grim jour - ney, _____ Lord, I want
 2. shades of _____ life _____ are fall - ing, _____ Lord, I want
 3. heart with - in _____ is ach - ing, _____ Lord, I want

1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 2. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
 3. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).

THE GOSPEL | John 3:1-17

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

People: **Glory to thee, O Christ.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

HYMN | Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Sebastian Wesley



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

THE SERMON | Frank Brightwell, *Somos Amigos*

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED |

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is 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 |

Intercessor: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard & Marcia, and Seminarian, Yehinuel. that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. We give thanks for the birth of Amos Moses to Alexandria Lawrence.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially our leaders; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Mollie, Carol, Greg, Kimberley, MaryAnn, Alta, Mark, Clarence, Diane, Natasha, Mildred, Nancy, Patrick,

Winifred, Priscilla, Kayode, Rachan & Sherry, and those who care for them.
(continued)

The People may add additional petitions and thanksgivings.

Intervenor: And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear especially those you now name, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **AMEN**

CONFESSION OF SIN |

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

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

THE PEACE |

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

People: **And with thy spirit.**

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |

OFFERTORY ANTHEM | God So Loved the World

John Stainer

Please scan to give.



DOXOLOGY 380 vs 3 |

**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.**

Old 100th



THE HOLY COMMUNION



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

***People:* We lift them up onto the Lord.**

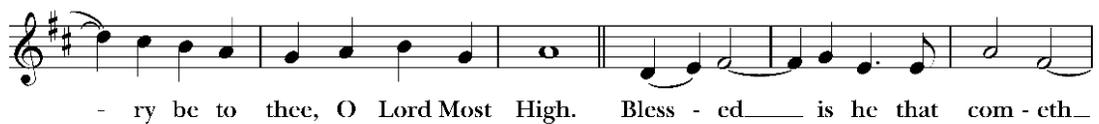
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***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. ...

Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

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



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, ourselves, 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. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER |

Celebrant:

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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;
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

FRACTION ANTHEM S158 | Lamb of God

from Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan

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 Lord Je - sus, Sun of Right - eous - ness, shine
 2 Give guid - ance to our wan - dering ways, for -
 3 Lord, grant that we in pen - i - tence may
 4 Now near - er draws the day of days when
 5 The u - ni - verse your glo - ry shows, blest

1 in our hearts, we pray; dis - pel the gloom that
 2 give us, Lord, our sin; re - store us by your
 3 of - fer you our praise, and through your sav - ing
 4 par - a - dise shall bloom, when we shall be at
 5 Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son; we shall ac - claim your

1 shades our minds and be to us as day.
 2 lov - ing care to peace and joy with - in.
 3 sac - ri - fice re - ceive your gift of grace.
 4 one with you, Lord, ris - en from the tomb.
 5 ma - jes - ty, c - ter - nal Three in One.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER |

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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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 150 | Forty Days and Forty Nights

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

THE DISMISSAL |

The Celebrant dismisses the people who respond:

Thanks be to God!

(The Alleluias are omitted in Lent)

POSTLUDE |

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Assisting in Worship Today

8:00 a.m. Service

Chalicerist: Sonni Aribiah

Lector/Reader: Sonni Aribiah

Ushers: Nancy Winchester

10:30 a.m. Service

Acolytes: Anya Sherif, Daniel Jackson, Lesley Lokko, Abigail Boyer

Chalicerist: Kathy Lyon, Ivy Amponsah
Lector/Reader: Kathy Lyon, Shenique Erickson
Ushers: Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams,
Betty Dagne, Alex Amponsah

Altar Guild: Ivy Amponsah, Jai Jones, Kathy Simms, Sonni Aribiah

Tellers: Brian Farnandis, Cherry Williams

PARISH CALENDAR

MARCH 1–7, 2026

Sunday, March 1

8:00 am Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am – 9:30 am Coffee Hour
9:00 am– 9:30 am Family Worship – New Brick, UL
9:30 am – 10:30 am Sunday School, Sunday Circle
10:30 am Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, UL
12:30 – 5:30 pm Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
1:00 – 5:00 pm Education for Ministry (EfM) – Zoom & Parish Hall, CR
4:30 – 7:30 pm Total Restoration Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL
6:00 – 7:30 pm Lenten Vespers – New Brick, UL

Monday, March 2

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:30 pm Food Addicts Anonymous – New Brick, LL
7:00 – 8:00 pm Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
7:30 – 10:00 pm WOCC Meeting – Zoom
8:00 – 8:20 pm Lenten Compline with Mother Marcia – website, YouTube, Facebook

Tuesday, March 3

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

Wednesday, March 4

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am – 12:00 pm Ying Shu Recital Dress Rehearsal – New Brick, UL
6:00 – 9:00 pm Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series – New Brick, LL

Thursday, March 5

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
12:00 – 1:00 pm Lenten Healing Eucharist – Old Brick
6:30 – 9:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
6:30 – 9:00 pm Education for Ministry (EfM): Fast Track – Zoom
7:00 – 8:45 pm LIFT US UP: A Vigil for Non-Violence – New Brick, UL
7:30 – 9:00 pm Boy Scouts – New Brick, LL

Friday, March 6

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Livestream
8:00 – 8:20 pm Lenten Compline with Mother Marcia – website, YouTube, Facebook

Saturday, March 7

10:00 am – 12:30 pm Exercise Group – New Brick, LL
2:00 – 5:00 pm Ying Shu Recital – New Brick, UL
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

Sunday Circle: SOMOS AMIGOS

How well do you know yourself? What stories do you tell yourself *about* yourself? This Lenten discussion series will help us uncover the mask that so often hides our true selves from even ourselves. The gift of being yourself is a spiritual movement towards self-discovery. The gift of our self-discovery blesses us with the grace to be our true, authentic selves. Gather with us in Old Brick or on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. for this important series. **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **894 6507 7361**, and the Passcode is **SC**

Lenten Taizé Vespers - This Sunday Evening

Vespers is a liturgy of Evening Prayer that combines scripture readings, prayer, silent meditation, and rich music. Each Sunday evening, Christ Church offers a service of contemplative prayer and music in the tradition of the Taizé community of France. It offers this special service on Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. in New Brick, offering different opportunities for prayer, music, and reflection. This worship of reflection offers a chance to meditate on God's love and presence in one's life, to offer prayer for oneself and others, and to share in a supportive community of fellow pilgrims on the way.

LENT at Christ Church

Our **Lent at Christ Church** page contains details for our worship, formation, and fellowship gatherings throughout the season. This is also where you can read our Daily Lenten Meditations, which will be published every weekday morning, both there and on our Instagram and Facebook pages. In addition to those, we'll have an inspirational *Saturday Song* posted every weekend, as well - something to enjoy, to lift your spirits, and to comfort your heart. We hope you'll find it a useful part of your Lenten journey.

Other Ways to Enrich Your Lenten Journey

This year, Christ Church also provides additional online resources to further enrich your Lenten experience. In addition to our **Daily Lenten Meditations**, you can also visit our website for a link to The Episcopal Church's Lectionary calendar, where you can find Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel readings.

The second resource on our page is provided by Sister Monica Clare, an Episcopal nun and author - **and unlikely TikTok star**. She invites us to rediscover—or deepen—habits of prayer, worship, and engagement with Scripture. These "holy habits" provide a path to a life shaped, given meaning, and directed by a deeper relationship with God. Visit the Christ Church

website at www.christchurchcolumbia.org/other-lenten-resources for these links and details.

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God, a gathering that takes place every Monday. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. Be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings. **The Zoom link is here**, the Meeting ID is **817 6254 3177**, and the Passcode is **CP**. You can also ask for more information by emailing centering@christchurchcolumbia.org.

A NEW BOOK at Christ Church Book Club - Tuesdays

The Christ Church Book Club is an informal online conversation that decides on a book and discusses it as a group, offering different perspectives and experiences. We're about to begin a new book for Lent, so why not come and join us on this new journey? We read and discuss a chapter or two each week on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom, and we can help get you started. Email bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org and let us know that you're interested.

The Rev. Richard A. Ginnever is at Christ Church's WELS - Next Wednesday, March 5

Each year, the Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series is one of the most enriching experiences of the season. We are always thankful to the members of Christ Church's **Spiritual Life Commission**, who work so hard to put this, and other, events together. The WELS series offers five weeks of insightful, life-transforming seminars.

Next Wednesday, we are proud to welcome back Rev. Richard Ginnever, our beloved Rector Emeritus, who will present his perspective on our 2026 Spiritual Life Theme, ***Building Relationships through LOVE***. The meal will be provided by the Christ Church Outreach Committee (thank you!). We begin each evening at 6:30 p.m. with a communal supper in the Great Hall, followed by our guest presenter. The evening then concludes with a brief, informal Eucharist. There's no other series like this at Christ Church throughout the year, and we highly encourage you to gather with us for this unique discussion and fellowship.

Lenten Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

Each Thursday during Lent, Christ Church offers a midday Healing Eucharist in Old Brick. The Rev. Marcia Davenport will lead this week's 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.

Lenten Evening Compline with Mother Marcia - Mondays and Fridays during Lent

Beginning this Friday, the Rev. Marcia Davenport leads this series of online worship, a Christ Church tradition that you can participate in from wherever you are. Each service is unique, featuring liturgy from a different prayer book, and contains Mother Marcia's personal reflections and messages written expressly for this series and relevant to the Lenten season. You can find these streams on our website, YouTube, and Facebook pages at 8:00 p.m. Monday and Fridays throughout Lent, or you can tune in any time afterwards. Begin and end each busy week with a peaceful evening of Lenten worship.

Christ Church Choir - Thursdays

C'mon, all you singers and music lovers! Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings in New Brick, and everyone is welcome to take part. 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 Vocal or Handbell Choirs! If you're interested, please email music@christchurchcolumbia.org

LIFT US UP: A Prayer Vigil for Non-Violence at a Time of Crisis - Next Thursday, March 5

Christ Episcopal Church invites all parishioners and community neighbors to attend a prayer Vigil on Thursday, March 5th, at 7:00 pm in the New Brick sanctuary. Gather with us as we welcome participants from the many congregations supporting our Refugee Ministry, Columbia, and Howard County. And please share this with your family, friends, and neighbors, as everyone is welcome to attend and take part.

Lift Us Up will feature meditations, songs, reflections, and prayers from many in our Interfaith community, in response to recent and ongoing violence across American cities. We will mourn those of all ages killed, injured, or cruelly deported to unknown fates. At this time of major political division, we will unite in prayer for God's will for mercy and peace - two qualities we need much more of in our communities and our world.

Christ Church Sunday School Helps LEMS - March 8

On Sunday, March 8, the younger Sunday school students and their parents will gather to assemble snack bags for LEMS instead of holding classes. Please come ready to help with this project for Lent!

Film Doubleheader Weekend – March 13 & 14

Another double feature is coming to Christ Church on March 13 & 14, with *Amazing Grace* ([trailer](#)) being screened on Friday, March 13th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Building's lower level. Then at the Center for Spiritual Nourishment on Saturday, March 14, the film *Amistad* ([trailer](#)) is shown in the Church Office Conference Room (upper level) at 9:00 a.m. Bring movie munchies (or pastries on Saturday) to share with others. See you at either showing!

MOCC Monthly Breakfast - Saturday, March 21

Join us for French toast and fellowship - the MOCC breakfast is a monthly tradition. This month, it will take place on Saturday, March 21 at Silver Diner. We'll meet at 9:30 a.m., and all ages are welcome. See you there!

WOCC at Toby's Dinner Theatre - April 17

Next up: a night at Toby's! Join us for *The Wizard of Oz* on Friday, April 17. Family and friends are welcome to a night of food and fun as we gather at 6:00 p.m. for the buffet dinner, followed by the feature production. The cost is \$85. for adults and \$81. for children, and you can pay via Realm (write *TOBY'S* in the memo line). You can sign up in the Narthex, and must do so by March 15th.

Find a Ministry that's Right for You

We can always use some more people to keep Christ Church the vibrant, active, dedicated parish that it is. You can be a Teller, Acolyte, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, or choose to assist the Christ Church Altar Guild, Inreach, or Buildings and Grounds ministries - and many others. None of these requires weekly assistance - they 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 interested in the Altar Guild, please email altarguild@christchurchcolumbia.org. For Inreach, please email inreach@christchurchcolumbia.org (or [visit their website page](#)). You can also call the Church Office at office@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Stay in Touch with the Larger Church Family

Maryland Episcopalian is a service that spotlights and tells the stories around our Diocese. This month, there's a little interview with our own beloved Archdeacon Denise Schiavone, and so much more! Visit marylandepiscopalian.org

Bookmark the *Diocese of Maryland's* website, which covers on the [diocesan](#), [young adult](#), and [youth](#) activities and gatherings. Visit episcopalmaryland.org

The *Episcopal News Service* (ENS) offers in-depth reporting of local, regional, national, and international news for Episcopalians and others interested in the church's mission and ministry. ENS is the official news source of the Episcopal Church. Visit episcopalnewsservice.org

And always stay in touch with your beloved *Christ Church!* We have our Lenten schedule online, which details every service,

fellowship, and gathering taking place throughout the season. You can also look back at **every Sunday worship** this decade (and beyond), learn about our initial **300th Anniversary** plans, explore **our history**, and so much more. **Visit www.christchurchcolumbia.org**

Nursery Care Assistant Still Needed

Christ Church is seeking a Nursery Care Assistant to help with our youngest members of our parish family during Sunday services and other special events. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this position, please have them contact Amanda Kirkpatrick, Christ Church's Nursery Care Coordinator, at **nursery@christchurchcolumbia.org**. Be sure to place "Nursery Care Assistant" in the subject line of your email. You can also call the church office and let them know. Thank you.

Do You Love Sharing Stories and Reading?

Did you know that we have volunteers who read a Bible story to our youngest children in the nursery? We can always use more, and we welcome anyone to participate in this ministry. We have books and children's Bibles, or you can bring your favorite story. There is no preparation needed; you can do it as often or as little as you wish, and it only takes ten minutes on a Sunday. If interested, get in touch with Jenn Atkins at **dandjatkins@verizon.net** or speak with any volunteer.

Register for Sunday School!

Christ Church's Sunday School ministry believes in growing a deep and wide faith in kids through education in the Gospel, serving our community, and fellowship with one another. From the earliest age, we want kids to know the fundamental truths of God's Word and how to apply them in their daily lives.

If you've been coming to Sunday School this fall, you don't need to register again. But if you are new to Christ Church or haven't registered before, please visit **www.cecevents.org/SundaySchool-2526** to learn more and complete our registration form (one form per child) so we can reserve space for your children. And if you have any questions or need assistance, please email us at **sundayschool@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Learn What It's Like to Volunteer at a Somos Amigos Clinic When Founder Frank Brightwell Visits Christ Church this Sunday, March 1

We'll have several opportunities this Sunday to learn about life in the Dominican Republic and how Christ Church supports **Somos Amigos Medical Missions** in its work. Founder and Executive Director Frank Brightwell will deliver the sermon during the 8 a.m. and 10:30 worship services and conduct Sunday Circle this Sunday, March 1.

His visit to Christ Church has become an annual tradition, in part because of the depth of our support. It includes dedicated volunteers, monetary and spiritual support, and life-changing efforts for patients Euclides, Emilio, and Franci (see photos).

You can read about Euclides' diagnosis of colon cancer in the **[Outreach Blog of May 29, 2025](#)** and about his recovery in the **[Outreach Blog of Jan. 29, 2026](#)**. You'll recall that Emilio required high-tech hearing aids and Franci needed heart surgery, as described in the **[Outreach Blog of Nov. 14, 2024](#)** and the **[Outreach Blog of Oct. 27, 2022](#)**. Thanks to all whose prayers lifted up these patients over the years.

Regular volunteers are Dione and Jim Mahoney, and Dione's sister and brother-in-law, Desiree and Jorge Arce. All are expected to attend the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday; catch them afterward to ask about their experiences. Other parishioners who have volunteered include Outreach member Shahra Toth and physicians Ellen Boudreau and Preethi Jackson. Somos Amigos holds quarterly clinics. Future dates are April 11-18, July 11-18, and Oct. 10-17, 2026. Go **[here](#)** for volunteer information.

In an interview for a Somos Amigos newsletter during the January 2026 clinic, the Mahoneys described their motivation: "For us, Somos Amigos represents the belief that even if we cannot do everything, we can always do something—and that something truly does make a difference. Through many years of returning to the clinic, serving especially in the pharmacy and working closely with the wonderful doctors and staff, we have witnessed the dedication behind the much-needed medical

and dental care provided to the rural community of El Naranjito.

“What makes this experience so meaningful is that it is truly a two-way street. The warmth and openness of the people who live here leave a lasting impression, and together—patients and volunteers—we experience healing, learning, joy, resilience, faith, and gratitude. Each visit is deeply fulfilling and enriching, reminding us that serving others also transforms and strengthens us in ways we never expect.”

Please Bring Diapers, Non-Perishables for CCC/FISH, And Consider Volunteering from Home to Take Phone Calls From Neighbors in Need

FISH and Columbia Community Care (CCC) partnered last year and merged their pantries. CCC continues to hand out food at three sites on Saturday mornings and by home delivery to Howard County residents. For information, go online to Get Help. Find CCC updates on its Facebook page. FISH continues to pick up donated goods from Christ Church and others. Please put non-perishable food and personal care products in the altar basket or in a bin just inside the Parish Hall. Look for a combo label “FISH/CCC”. Please bring baby wipes and diapers, especially large sizes.

FISH will continue to provide telephone support to Howard County residents, offering guidance and financial assistance, because the personal touch is very important when people are in crisis. For information, ask parishioner and FISH treasurer Andy DeLong (see photo) or email him at andydelong.fish@gmail.com.

You could be the one to lend a helping hand by lending an ear! As a phone volunteer, you can help from your home by giving just one day a month to assist those who could benefit from financial assistance from FISH. Training is provided. Thank you always for your support.

Kenya Connect 5k Run - March 28

Kenya Connect, an outreach partner of St. John's in Ellicott City, is holding its 12th annual 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, March 28th, at St. John's. The 5K builds community while supporting the work of **Kenya Connect** to provide children with options and new pathways in rural Kenya.

We welcome individual participants or a team from Christ Church. We will have post-race goodies, including a Kenyan crafts market with items made by women and men in our village. We also provide hand-carved medallions from Wamunyu to the top three women and men in all age categories.





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*
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-LaGuerra • Ronald Baran • George Toth • Sara Kirkpatrick
- Ed Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms • Jay Abbott • David James • Katie Adams • Jim Berkson