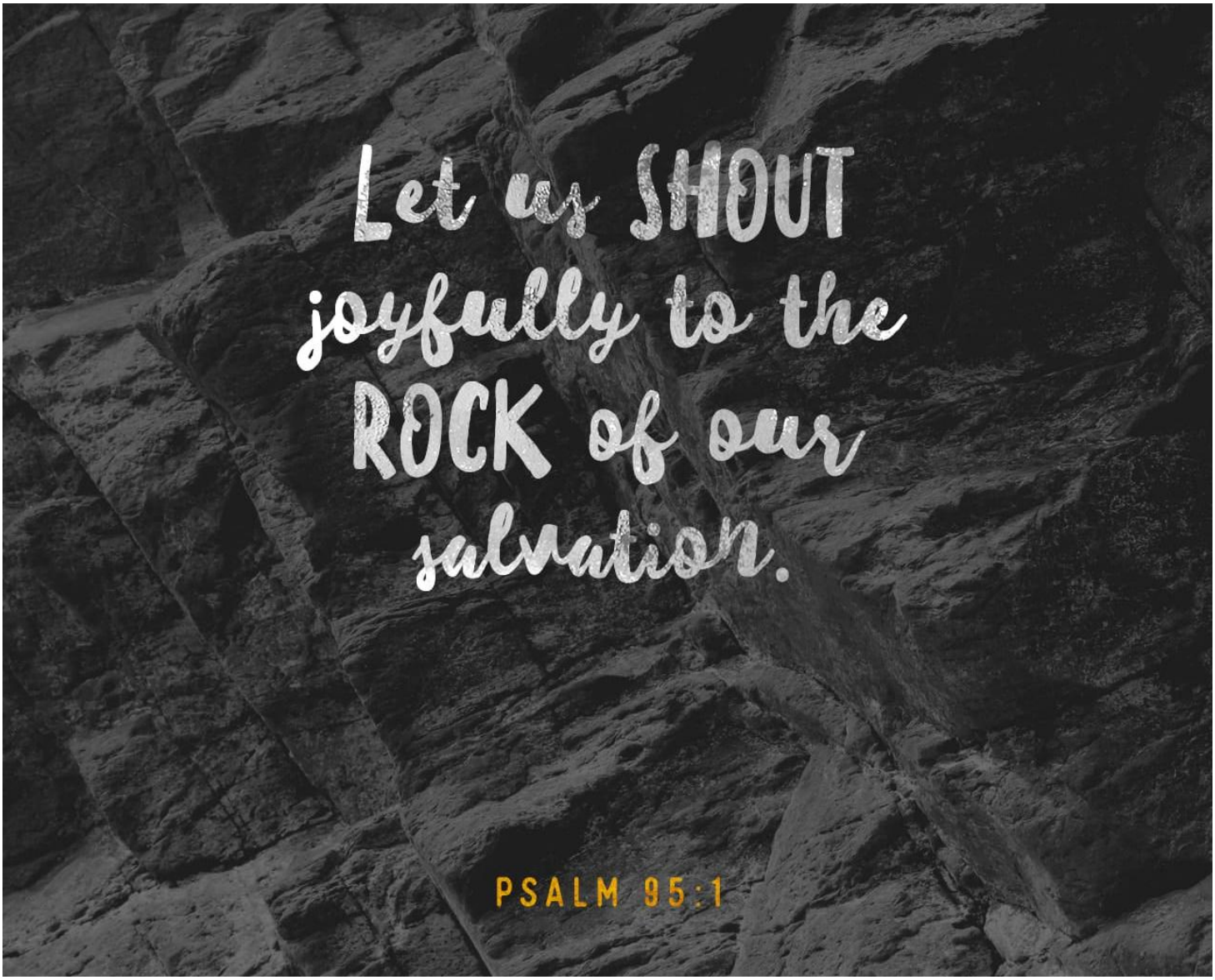
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, November 22, 2026 | Christ the King & Multicultural Sunday
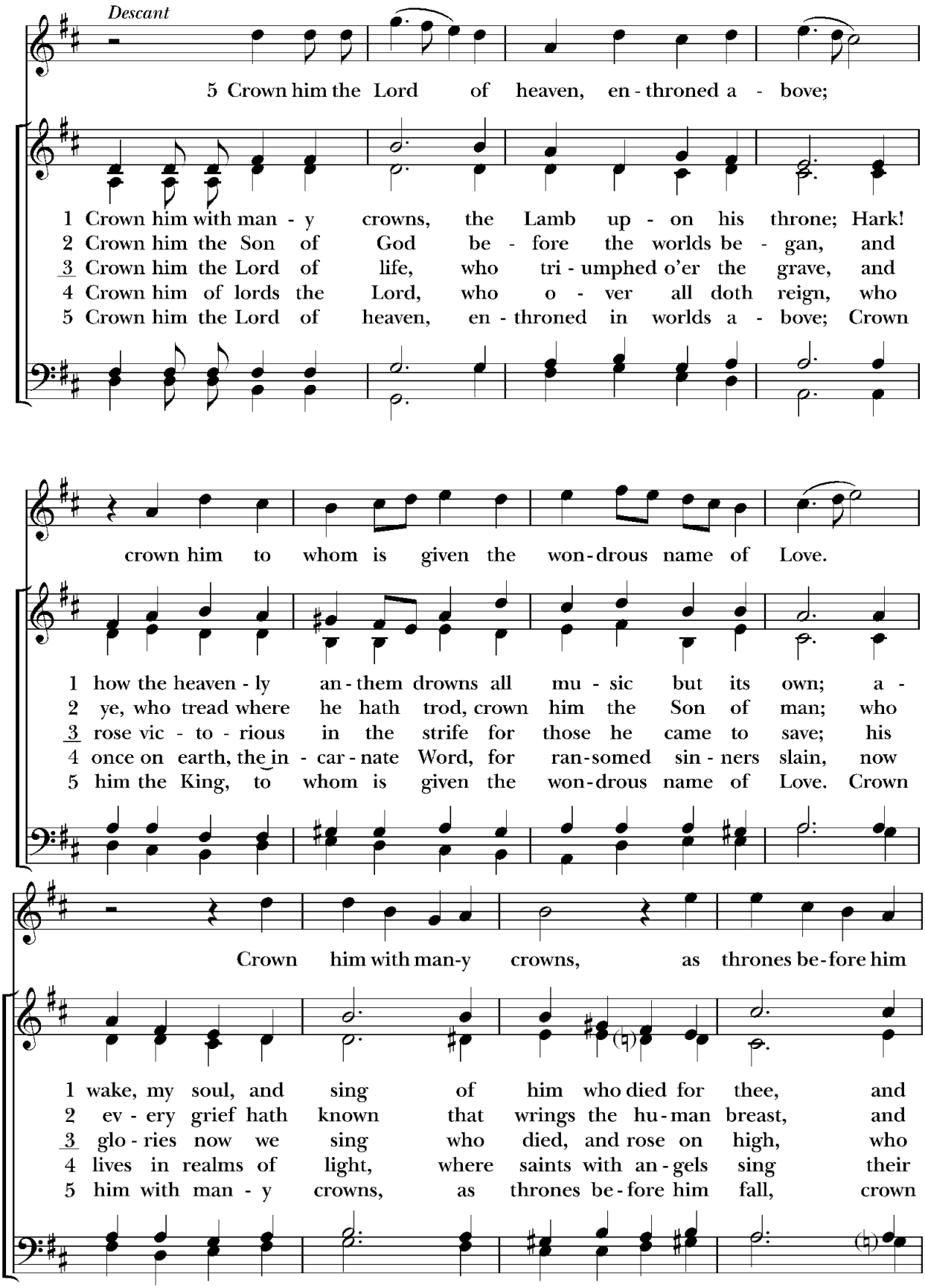


Welcome Home!

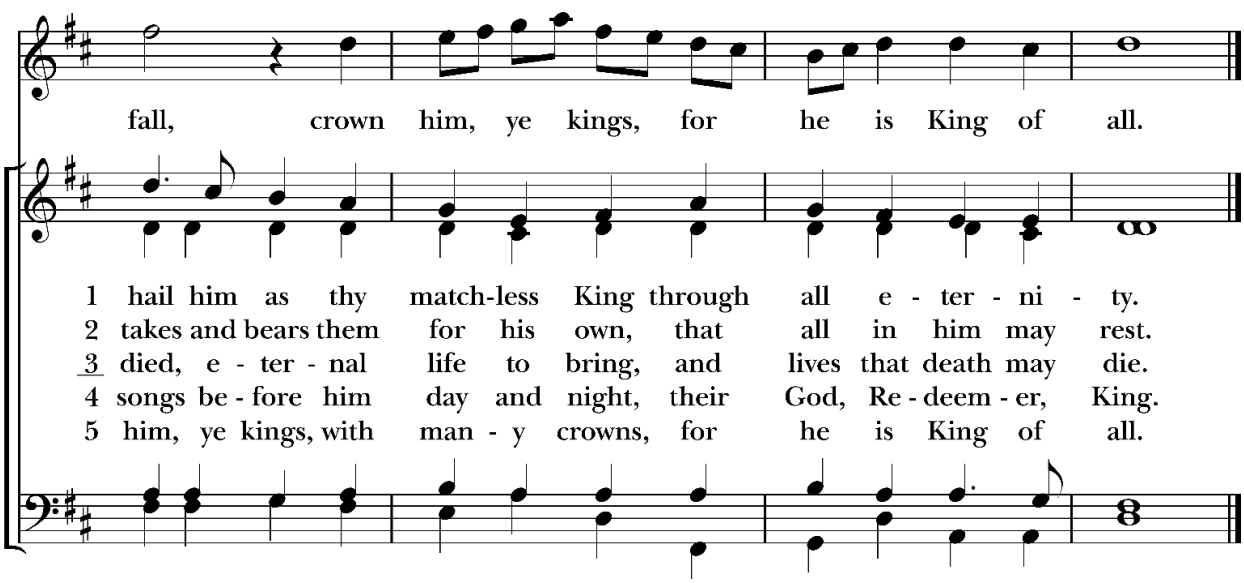
Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church: www.christchurchcolumbia.org.

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 494 | Crown him with many crowns *Diadematа*





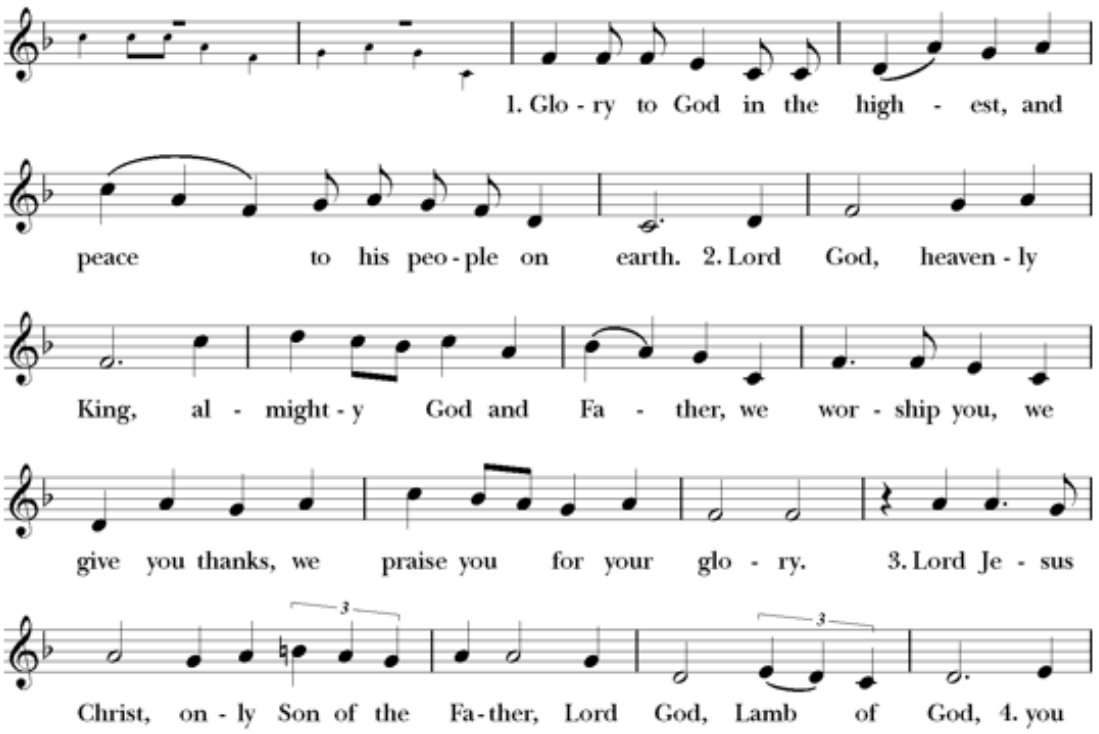
OPENING ACCLAMATION|
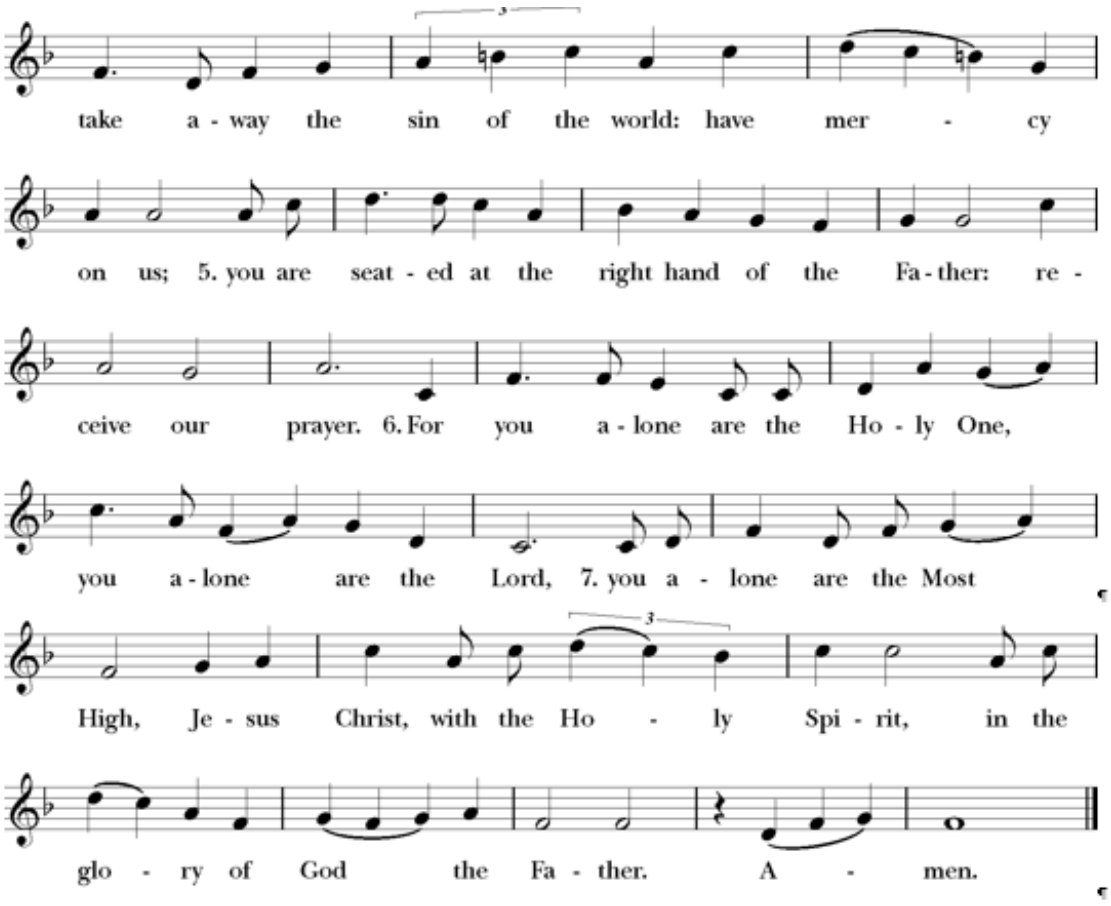
Celebrant: Blessed by God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY|

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

GLORIA S280 | Glory to God *Robert Powell*





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY|

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 *Read by Cheryl Lucente in Italian*
Reader: *A reading from Ezekiel.* *Harriett Wasula in Luganda*

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM
Psalm 95:1-7a | *A Call to Worship and Obedience* *Read by Betty Dagne in Amharic*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

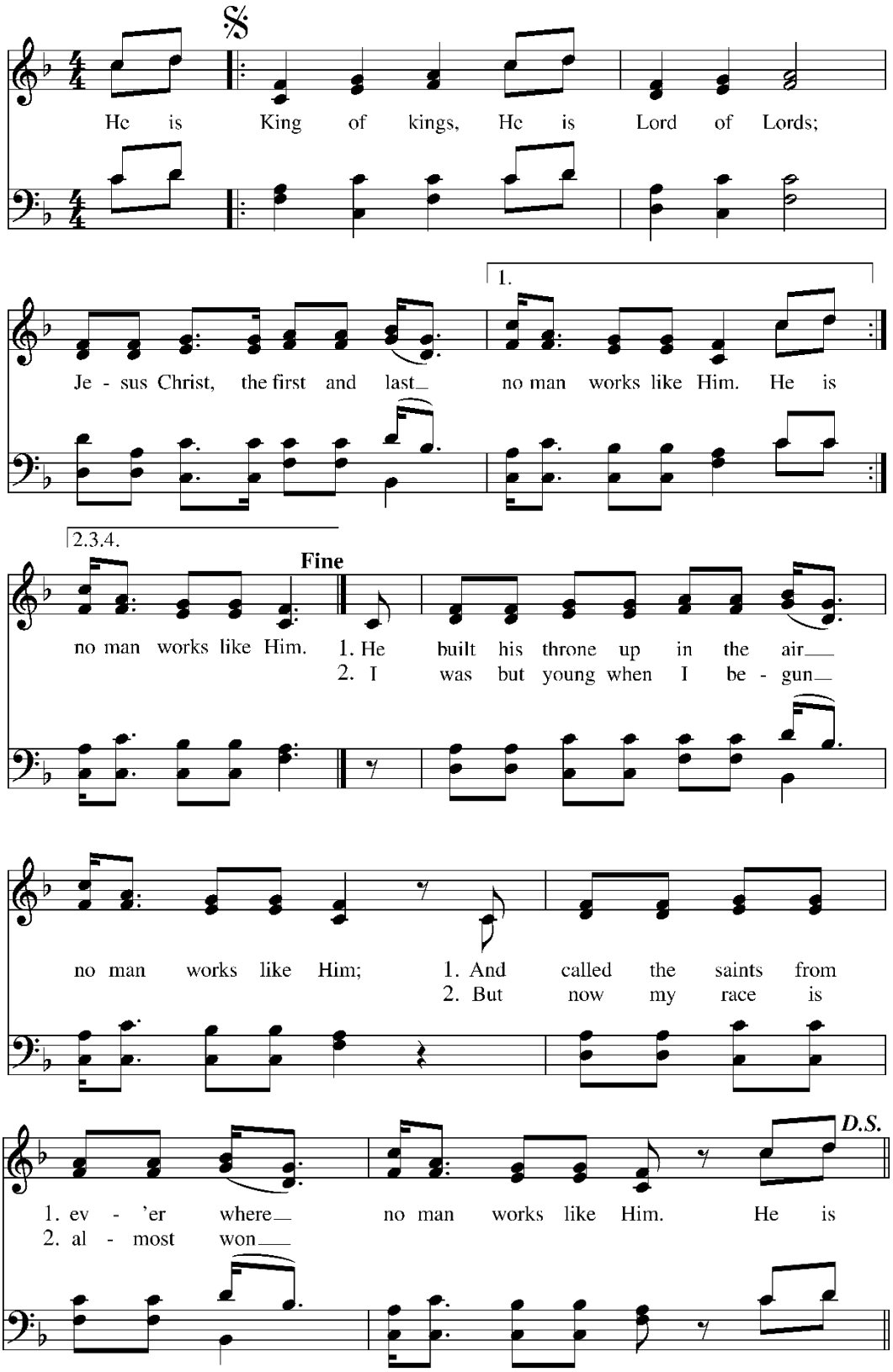
THE EPISTLE | Ephesians 1:15-23 *Read by Bill Kirkpatrick in Turkish*
Reader: *A reading from Ephesians* *Jesus Hernandez in Spanish*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN LEVAS 96 | He Is King of Kings *Spiritual*



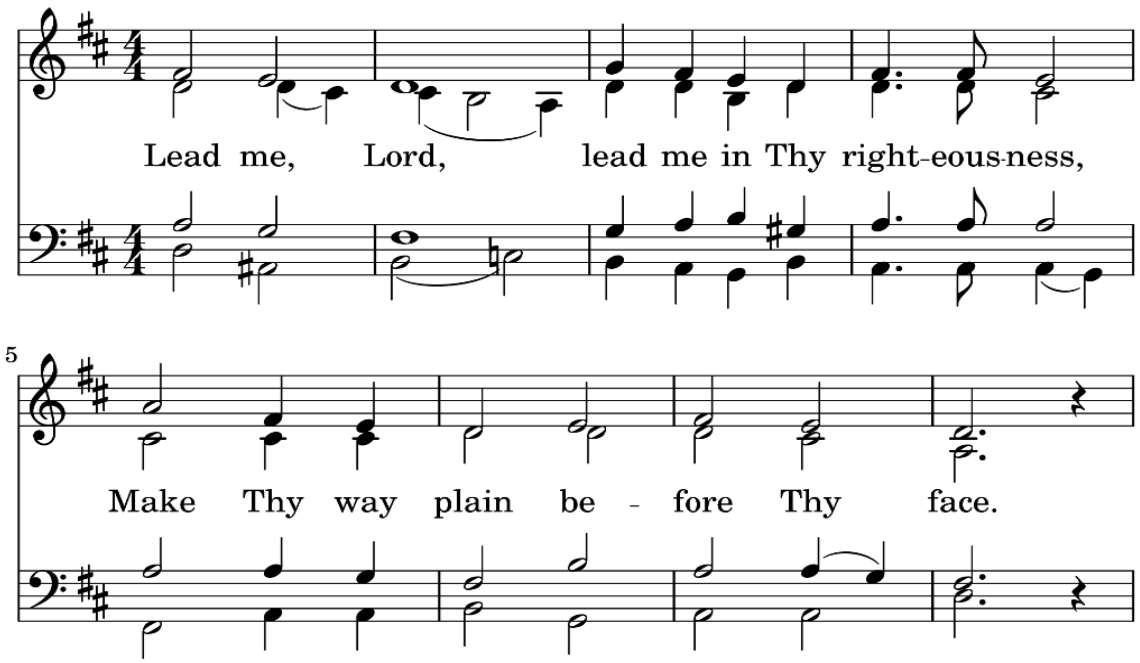
THE GOSPEL | Matthew 25:31-46 *Read by Rev. Marcia Davenport in German*
Isaac Olajide in Yoruba

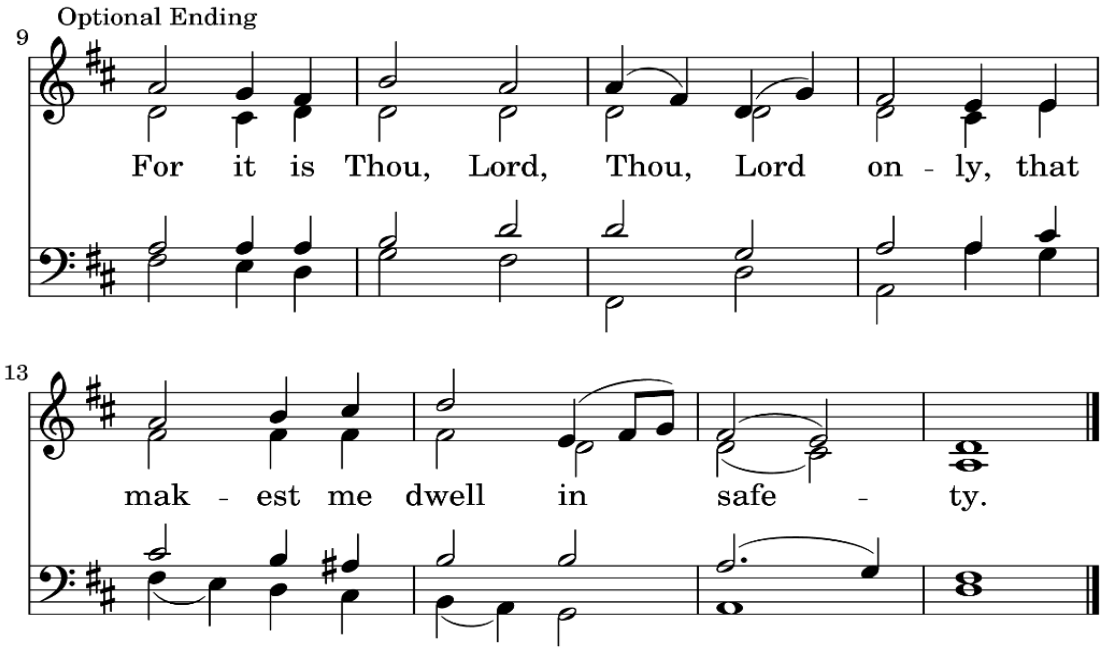
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HYMN | Lead Me, Lord *Samuel Sebastian Wesley*





THE SERMON | The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

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 |

Read by Pamela Pruitt in French
Jane Adams in Chinese & Alex Amponsah in Twi

The sovereignty and love of our Lord is the true reality in our lives. God is the eternal Creator and Redeemer: He alone sustains us. Let us realize the beauty, opportunity and promise of relationship that await us every morning and with gratitude and humility greet each new day. **Lord, You are our dwelling place**

We pray for the worldwide church, for all its cultures, languages, peoples and environments. May the light of Christ shine throughout the Earth. May our divisions be resolved. May the Body of Christ offer hope and peace, to end violence, oppression, poverty and the burden of disease. May we strive through God's gifts of knowledge and abundant natural resources to improve the lives of all humankind. We ask God's blessing on the Anglican Communion, and especially for The Church of England. We also extend our prayers to our sister parishes in the Diocese of Maryland: Ascension, Scarboro; Christ Church, Rock Spring and Emmanuel, Bel Air. We are so grateful for the Spiritual leadership of our Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Diocesan Bishop Carrie; our rector, Emmanuel; Clergy; Richard, Marcia & Natalie. **May God's grace and love fill our hearts and souls**

We warmly embrace all newcomers and visitors who have joined us today in our time of worship and praise. We hope that our music, Eucharist and fellowship have enriched your lives today. We are a welcoming community of faith and we love to share our joy. **Let us encourage each other, to the Glory of God**

We remember those who are ill and unable to be with us today, especially Phil, Jim, Paula, Nancy, Shannon, Ally, Sean, Maggie, Liam, Ashley, Kimberly, Lisa, Rita, Kaci, MaryAnn, Mark, Brandon, Clarence, Mildred, Kayode, Rachan & Sherry and those you now name. We ask the Lord's healing touch- to comfort and to bring wholeness in body, mind and spirit to all. We also ask God to grant strength to the family members and caregivers who give so much love and help to those who are in need. **Let us lift our eyes to the Lord**

Lord, you are the author of our salvation and our everlasting hope. We hold up in prayer, those who have died and entered your eternal kingdom, especially Joi James. Lord, hold in your loving arms those who grieve. May the pain of their separation be healed. **May the Light of Your presence be with us, always**

Our Parish celebrates the occasions of joy in our lives. Today we share our warmest wishes on the birthdays of Erin, Hope, Braeden, Tolu, Shawn, Audra, Diane & Dione, the wedding anniversaries of Ralph & Linda Stewart and Chester & Sydneya Dacres and the Baptismal anniversaries of Kristin, Jonathan & Dione. **Lord, you bless us with your Goodness and Love**

May Jesus, who entrusts us with the keys of the Kingdom, help us to be faithful stewards of His Truth and Grace. May we invest our time, our talents, our energy and passion into nurturing the growth of God's people in the world. **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 ANTHEM | Fill-a Me Up *Pepper Choplin*

Please scan to give.

PRESENTATION HYMN 380 vs 3 | *Old 100th*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.
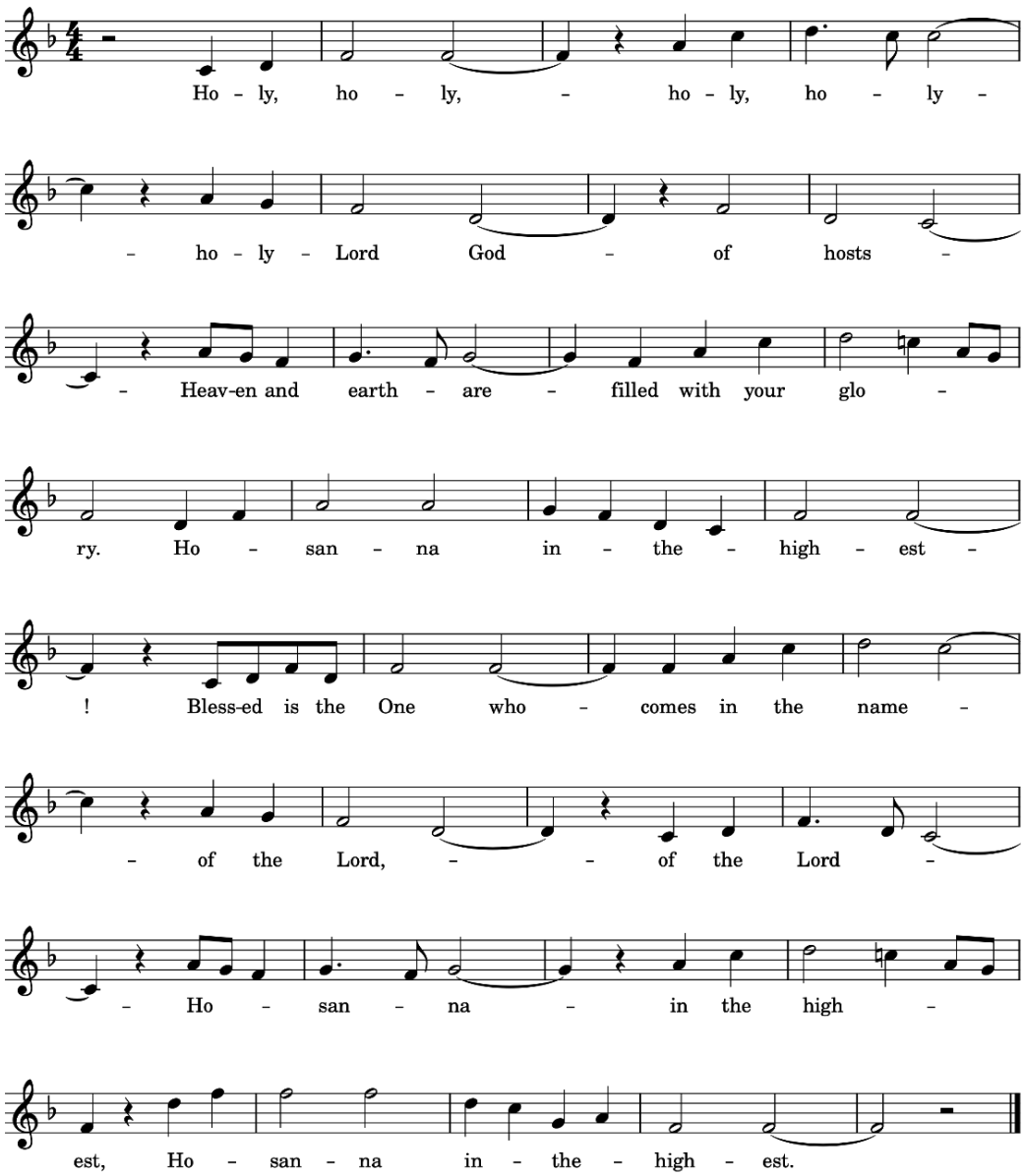


THE HOLY COMMUNION



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you**.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord**.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise**.
Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords; for you have seated him at your right hand in glory, and put all things in subjection under his feet, that he may present them to you, O Father, perfectly restored in beauty, truth and love.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER |

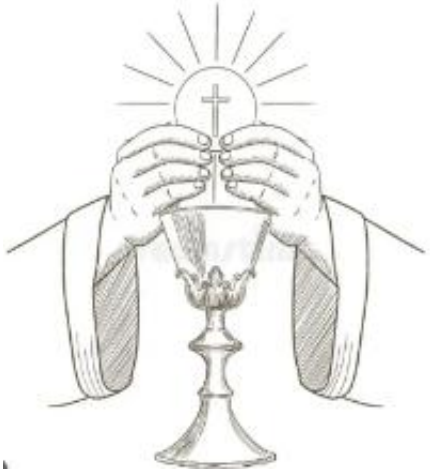
ASL (American Sign Language) by Avery Leeman
Read by Luci Banks in French

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

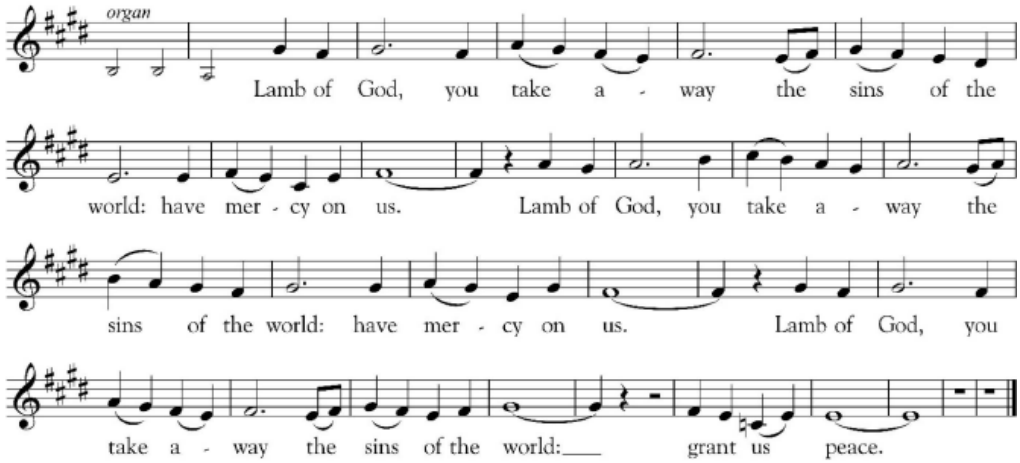
All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD |
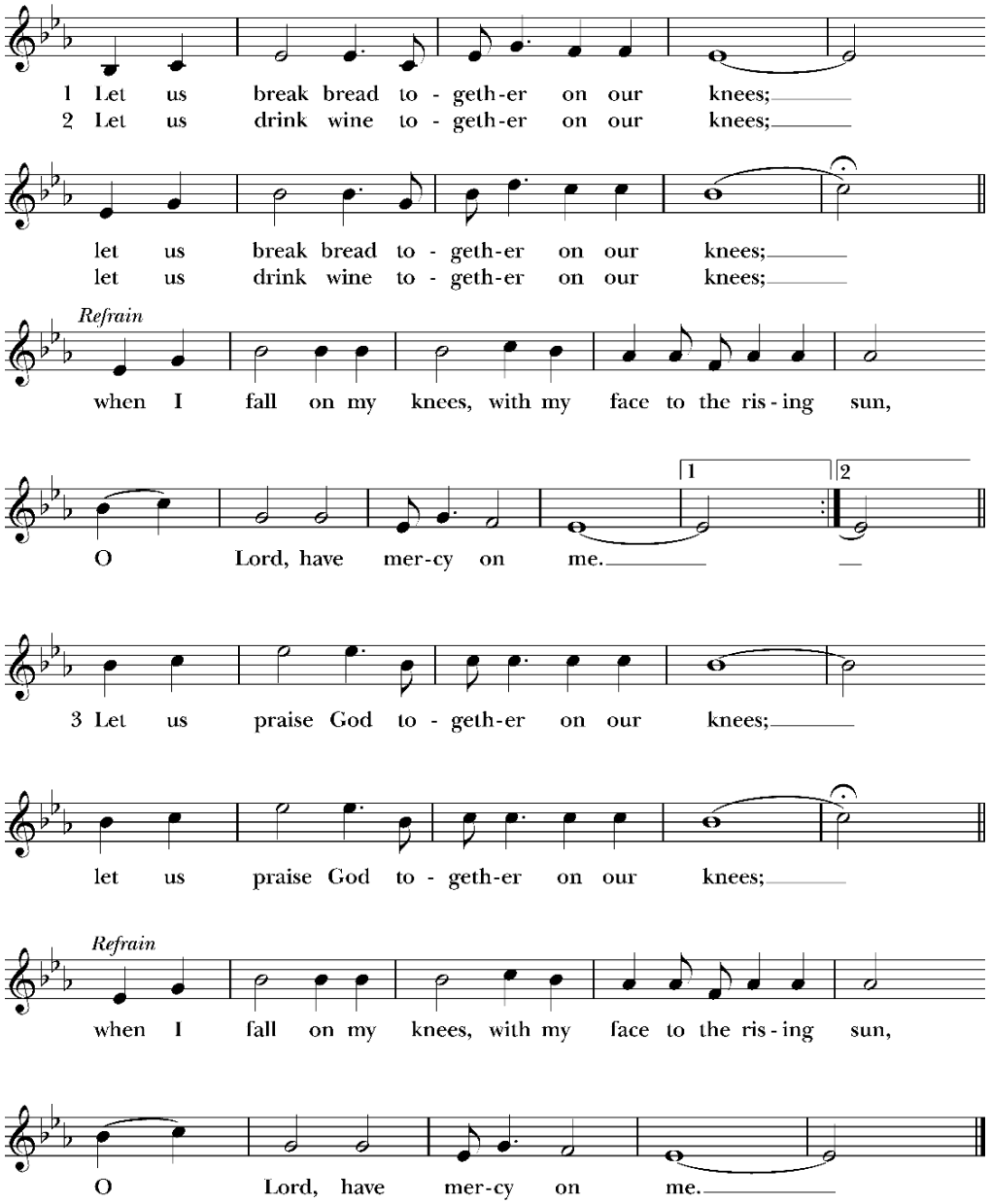
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



FRACTION ANTHEM LEVAS 270| Lamb of God *Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis*



COMMUNION HYMN 325| Let Us Break Bread Together *Spiritual*



POST COMMUNION PRAYER |

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

EUCHARISTIC VISITORS' PRAYER | *8 & 10:30 a.m. service*
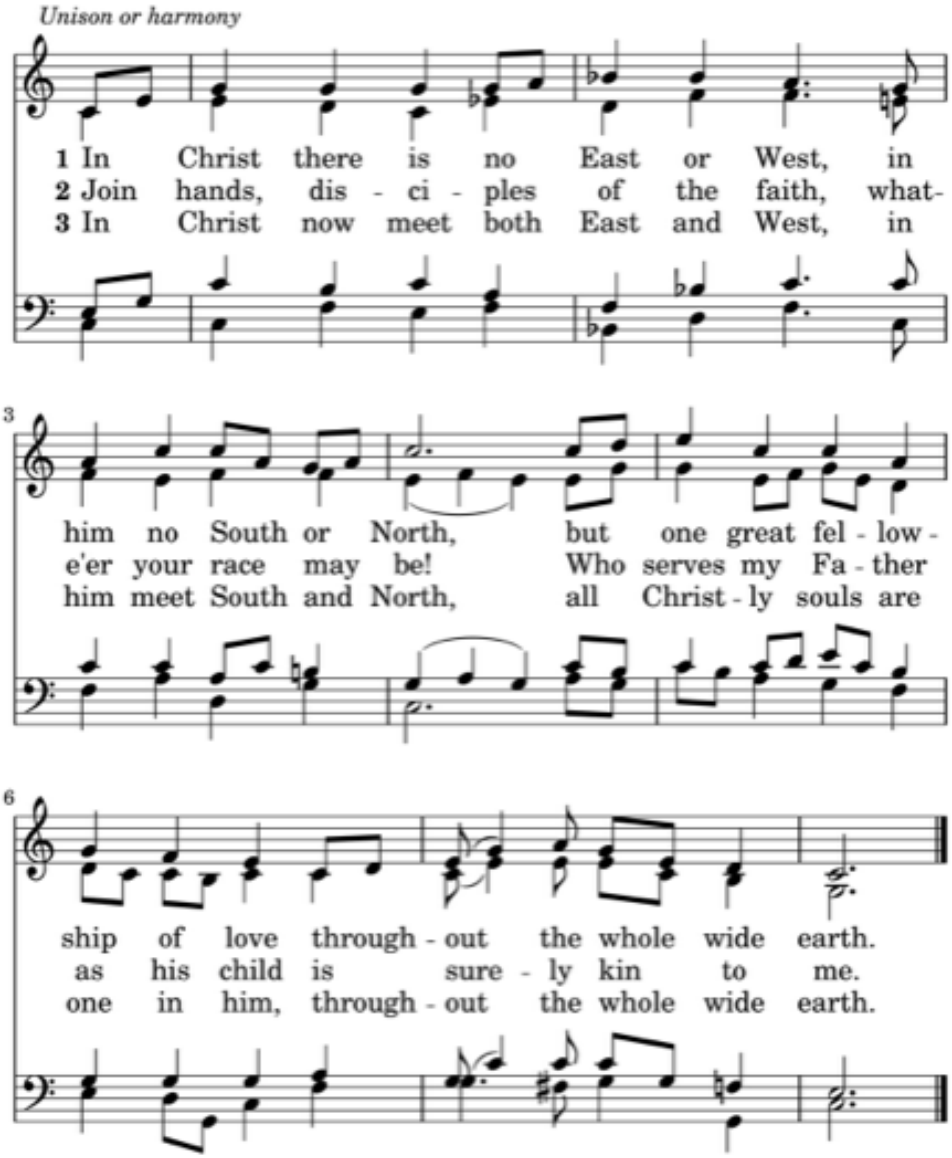
Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People: **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup**.

THE BLESSING |

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

CLOSING HYMN | In Christ There Is No East or West *McKee*



THE DISMISSAL |

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

POSTLUDE |

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Assisting in Worship Today

Altar Guild
Cara Ocampo, Jan DeBoissiere, Maria Rios, Virginia Jarrett

8:00 a.m. Service
Chalicist: Dione Mahoney
Lector/Reader: Dione Mahoney
Usher: Kayode Fatodu

10:30 a.m. Service
Acolytes: Chloe Spencer, Hope Spencer, Daniel Jackson
Chalicist: Alfred Bracey
Lector/Reader: Various Readers
Ushers: Cherry Williams, Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams, Betty Dagne, Alex Amponsah

Tellers
Kenny Okeke

THANK YOU.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation, we want to thank you for your continual support of our common life. We are more than halfway through our campaign, and we need your help to keep the momentum going. There is so much good news at Christ Church, and your support keeps our ministries alive and growing. Thank you for all your gifts.

Pledge goal: $650,000
Total pledged: $326,128
Decreased pledge: 3
Increased pledge: 35
No change: 26
New pledges: 6
Total received: 77
Total Outstanding: 116
Average pledge: $3400.00



Again, thank you for your faithfulness.
Manny+

PARISH CALENDAR
NOVEMBER 22 – 28, 2026

Sunday, November 22

All Day	Angel Tree Launch
8:00 am	Holy Eucharist
9:00 am	Family Service
9:30 – 10:20 am	Intergenerational Advent Formation Celebration (all Sunday School Groups) – NBLL
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music – New Brick, UL
11:00 – 11:30 am	Coffee Hour - Zoom
2:00 – 3:00 pm	Confirmation Class – Zoom
3:30 – 7:00 pm	J. Zhang Recital – New Brick, UL
4:30 – 7:30 pm	Total Restoration Church – Old Brick & Parish Hall, LL

Monday, November 23

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous – Parish Hall, LL
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick & Zoom
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Refugee Ministry Meeting – Zoom

Tuesday, November 24

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am– 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Coffee Hour - Zoom
1:00 – 10:00 pm	IRC Prep – Parish Hall, LL
3:00 – 3:00 pm	Lumen Christi Practice – New Brick, UL
7:00 – 10:00 pm	300 Yr Communications Comm Meeting - Zoom

Wednesday, November 25

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Exercise Group – Parish Hall, LL
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Sunday Circle Comm: 2026-2027 Program Yr Meeting – Zoom

Thursday, November 26

All Day	Thanksgiving Day
10:00 am	Thanksgiving Service – New Brick, UL
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, LL

Friday, November 27

All Day	Office Closed
7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream

Saturday, November 28

8:00 – 10:00 am	Altar Guild prep
2:00 – 4:00 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall
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

Thanksgiving Day at Christ Church - Next Thursday, November 26

Come join us for the 10:00 a.m. **Thanksgiving Day Eucharist in New Brick**. Everyone is welcome to gather with us, and we will also livestream the service on our website, YouTube, and Facebook pages so you can worship and give thanks wherever you are.

Church Office is Closed on November 26 & 27

The church office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27 and 28, in observance of Thanksgiving, and it will reopen on Monday, November 30, at its usual time.

WOCC Christmas Feast - Sign Up by Next Sunday, November 29

Join the Women of Christ Church's Christmas Feast, taking place on **Sunday, December 6 at 1:00 p.m. at the Kings Contrivance Restaurant**. The cost is $66 per person for a delicious 3-course meal and non-alcoholic drinks, all-inclusive (fancy drinks can be purchased from the cash bar). Sign up in the Narthex **or online** by Sunday, November 29. Subsidies are available, should you need them - please speak to Father Manny. We'll also be collecting unwrapped gifts for Springfield Hospital again this year, and **you can find their wish list on our website**. We really hope to see you there!

The Youth Group Christmas Wreath Sale is On Now!

Christ Church is holding a Christmas Wreath Sale, with all proceeds benefiting the Christ Church Youth Group. The cost of each wreath is $25, and you can sign up in the Narthex, **or you can sign up online here**. Remember to let us know how many wreaths you would like on the sign-up form. The order deadline is November 30th, so be sure to sign up soon! The wreaths will then be delivered at church on Sunday, December 6th, and payment is due upon pickup. You'll then have a wreath that provides beauty throughout the entire Christmas season.

Giving Tuesday - December 1

Music is such a vital element of our worship experience. It uplifts us, comforts us, and helps us to pray and praise God. We are incredibly blessed to have so many musically gifted members at Christ Church and in our community who selflessly share their time and talents with us. Throughout the year at Christ Church - and especially during the upcoming festive season of Advent and Christmas - our Music Ministry incorporates many beautiful voices and instruments into each liturgy, enriching the experience of everyone who joins us in worship and celebration.

#GivingTuesday2026, a global call to radical generosity that invites us to give to a charity of choice, is today. We at Christ Church hope that you will consider sharing your generosity through kind support for our always-growing Music Ministry. Please visit **cecevents.org/GivingTuesday**, donate what you can, and help us continue to make a joyful sound. Every gesture - no matter what size - will help us deepen and strengthen our parish and community.

It's an Ugly Christmas First Wednesday Fellowship! - December 2

Get your "ugly" Christmas sweaters out of storage and get ready for a fun First Wednesday Fellowship to cap off the year. At our FWF on December 2, we'll have a special **Pie Contest** - make or bring your favorite sweet or savory pie, and the best

one wins a prize! We'll provide hearty soups, bread, and refreshments to go with your pies, and we'll all enjoy a fun, flavorful, final FWF of 2026. Of course, this event wouldn't be complete without our traditional **Ugly Sweater Party**, but you'll definitely have to get creative - we've seen some AMAZING sweaters in past years, so bring your funniest, your silliest, your ugliest! It's a night of hearty laughs, full bellies, and huge smiles - be sure to join us!

Angel Tree Drive Will Brighten Christmas for Howard County Children

You're invited to purchase new clothing and special items to complete Christmas gift "packages" for a dozen young angels. We are supporting children ages 10 to 13, as identified by the Howard County (Central Maryland) division of **The Salvation Army**. The nonprofit organization oversees the Angel Tree initiative here and elsewhere.

To participate, please provide one or more gifts for an angel. Visit **CECevents.org/AngelTree** to view the list, make your choices, and find instructions. The deadline to bring **unwrapped** gifts is noon on Friday, Dec.11. Please put them under the tree in the Narthex or in the Parish Hall Conference Room.

Each child will receive an outfit, consisting of pants and a top. There are three other categories for each angel: Need, Wish, and Favorite item. Some people prefer to sign up for just one slot, such as the practical (need) category for a single child. Some desire to complete the entire "package' for an angel by signing up in all four categories. Another person may choose the outfit (clothing) category for several angels.

In keeping with tradition, you can also see the choices by gazing at the tags on our Angel Tree. Please leave the tags on the tree. You'll also find the angels' names, ages, and wishes on a nearby spreadsheet. For worshippers in Old Brick, we'll bring the list to you. In either location, please sign up for your angel by using the online form. An Outreach volunteer can give you a slip showing the child's name, ID, and wished-for gift.

If you prefer to give of your time, please volunteer on Dec. 11 to help with sorting, potential shopping, or other tasks. To volunteer, email **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org**. With your help, we'll lift the hearts not only of the angels but of their families. Parents obtain the unwrapped gifts from The Salvation Army to prepare for a Christmas that will be much brighter than they could otherwise afford.

Advent Quiet Day - December 5

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join us for Advent Quiet Day on Saturday, December 5. This important Christ Church tradition, presented by the Spiritual Life Commission, marks the start of the Advent season and helps us focus and maintain perspective during these hectic weeks leading up to Christmas.

We'll gather in Old Brick for an informal breakfast and conversation at 8:30 a.m., then the Rev. Randy Callender, Canon for Mission at the Diocese of Maryland, will lead us through a morning of readings, spirited discussion, shared community, and quiet meditation. Our retreat then concludes around 12 noon with an informal Eucharist. It's a memorable gathering each year, and we hope that you'll join us as we let the Light enter our feelings and actions to help make this a remarkable and joyous Christmas season. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks, but mark your calendars for this special morning of reflection now.

MOCC's Annual Christmas Dinner - December 12

Mark your calendars and join us as we close out the year in warmth and fellowship! Celebrate the joy of the season with good food and good friends at the MOCC's annual Christmas Dinner. Whether you're a regular or joining us for the first time, we'd love to share a festive evening together ahead of the holiday rush. We'll gather at The King's Contrivance Restaurant on Saturday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m. for a fantastic menu of holiday favorites. The cost is $75. per person, and you can pay via check payable to Christ Church ("MOCC Christmas Dinner" in memo) or **by using Realm** (choose *Men of Christ Church* in the fund dropdown and write "Christmas Dinner" in the memo line). Sign up in the Narthex or by emailing **MOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org,** but RSVP soon - the deadline is December 6, so reserve your spot now!

Centering Prayer - Monday Evenings

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. Be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on Monday evenings. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church or by emailing **centering@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

Noonday Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

Throughout the year, Christ Church offers a midday Healing Eucharist on Thursdays in Old Brick. A member of our clergy leads this service of readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. Parishioners and community members are all welcome to join in a prayerful time in the presence of God, and to share in the wonderful mystery of God's love whilst we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in to reflect, pray, and participate in a service held in our beautiful, historic chapel.

Join the Christ Church Choir - Thursday Evenings

Get ready, all you singers and music lovers! The choir has resumed rehearsals in New Brick on Thursday evenings - Handbell Choir at 6:45 and Adult Choir at 7:30 - and all adults are welcome to join us. Whether you read music or not, have previous experience or not, and whether you are ready to commit full-time or not, there's a place for you to give it a shot in our handbell &/or vocal choirs. If you're interested, please speak with Larissa at church on Sundays or email her at **music@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

We Need Your Photo!

As our church community continues to grow and flourish, staying connected is more important than ever. Christ Church is creating a new to make it easier for everyone to reach out, connect, and care for one another, put faces to names, welcome newcomers, and help long-time members stay in touch across our services and ministries. The "faces to names" part of that is where you come in - we need your individual or family photo so we can add it to the Directory. Please email them to **office@christchurchcolumbia.org**, and we'll add them. A directory helps our clergy, staff, and lay leaders easily recognize, reach, and support parishioners when they need pastoral care or community outreach. Knowing one another also better builds a tightly knit, supportive spiritual home where everyone is truly seen and appreciated, so thank you in advance for helping make this Directory a reality.

Learn More About Your Parish - Read the Monthly Vestry Meeting Minutes

To provide complete transparency with our parish family, we share the minutes from each monthly Christ Church Vestry meeting. These minutes provide the parish family with full transparency into church leadership, decisions, and governance. They may include official updates, financial and stewardship updates, reviews of plans from ministries, groups, and programs, and information on upcoming parish events and strategic plans. We recently had our monthly Vestry meeting, and **a PDF of the latest Vestry meeting minutes is available here**. If you have any questions or wish to discuss something specific with a Vestry member, please stop by the Vestry Table at church on any Sunday morning.

Provide Eucharist to Those Unable to Travel to Church as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor

This year, we have had more people request **Communion to You**, a service Christ Church provides to bring Eucharist to homebound parishioners, so we require a few more Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV). If you're interested in helping with this vital ministry, please speak with Kathy Lyon at church or contact the Church Office. And if you require this service for yourself or someone you know, **please fill out this brief form**, or call the Church Office. We will ensure that Communion gets there.



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The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev. Marcia Davenport, *Senior Associate Rector*
The Rev. Natalie Tinner, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Richard Ginnever, *Rector Emeritus*
Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*
Ola Oladipupo, *Assistant Organist*
Yetti Lipede, *Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator*
Diya Jackson, *Office & Youth Ministry Coordinator*
Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*
Amanda Kirkpatrick, *Nursery Care Coordinator*
Shereen Benka-Coker, *Nursery Care Assistant*
John Prempeh Sencherey, *Sexton*

Vestry

Denisa Abdallah (*Senior Warden*) • Greg Schuckman(*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) • Ron Couch (*Registrar*) • Shreya Chrzanowski (*Youth Liaison*) • Ronald Baran • George Toth • Sara Kirkpatrick • Ed Chrzanowski • Jay Abbott • David James • Katie Adams • Jim Berkson • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover