

# Christ Episcopal Church

*Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ*

Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, May 21, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. • 10:30 a.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](http://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.

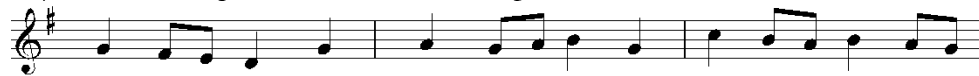
We are delighted you're here - welcome home!

Prelude | Prelude au Kyrie

Jean Langlais

Opening Hymn 215 | See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

*In Babilone*



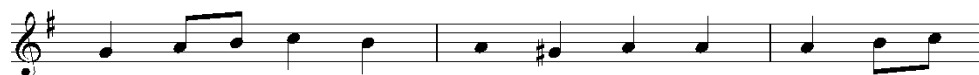
1 See the Con - queror mounts in tri - umph; see the King in  
2 He who on the cross did suf - fer, he who from the  
3 Thou hast raised our hu - man na - ture on the clouds to



roy - al state, rid - ing on the clouds, his  
grave a - rose, he has van - quished sin and  
God's right hand: there we sit in heaven - ly



char - iot, to his heaven - ly pal - ace gate!  
Sa - tan; he by death has spoiled his focs.  
plac - es, there with thee in glo - ry stand.



Hark! the choirs of an - gel voic - es joy - ful  
While he lifts his hands in bless - ing, he is  
Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels; Man with



al - le - lu - ias sing, and the por - tals  
part - ed from his friends; while their ea - ger  
God is on the throne; might - y Lord, in



high arc lift - cd to rc - ccive their heaven - ly King.  
eyes be - hold him, he up - on the clouds a - scends.  
thine as - cen - sion, we by faith be - hold our own.

Opening Acclamation |

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People:* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Collect for Purity |

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

*People:* **Amen.**

Glory to God | S280 Canticle 20 | *Gloria in excelsis*

setting: Robert Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day |

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

***People:*** **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*

A Reading from Acts 1:6-14 |

*Reader:* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

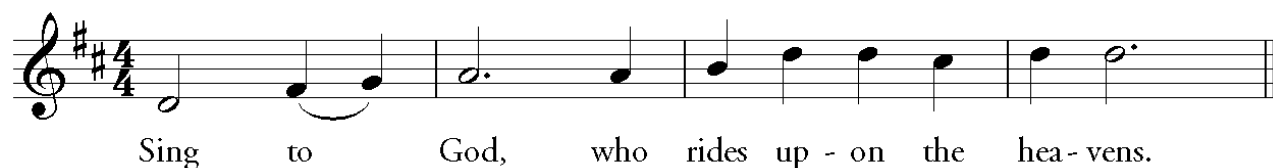
Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

*The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.*

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 | *Exsurgat Deus*



Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; \*

**let those who hate him flee before him.**

Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; \*

**as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; \*

**let them also be merry and joyful.**

Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;

exalt him who rides upon the heavens; \*

**YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!**

### *Antiphon*

Father of orphans, defender of widows, \*

**God in his holy habitation!**

God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; \*

**but the rebels shall live in dry places.**

O God, when you went forth before your people, \*

**when you marched through the wilderness,**

The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,

at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, \*

**at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; \*

**you refreshed the land when it was weary.**

Your people found their home in it; \*

**in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

### *Antiphon*

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; \*

**sing praises to the Lord.**

He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; \*

**he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.**

Ascribe power to God; \*

**his majesty is over Israel;**

**his strength is in the skies.**

How wonderful is God in his holy places! \*

**the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!**

**Blessed be God!**

### *Antiphon*

*Reader:* A reading from 1 Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

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

*The people stand as able for the singing of the hymn and the reading of the Gospel.*

1 Re - joice, the Lord of life a - scends  
 2 No more his mor - tal form we see;  
 3 He reigns, but with a love that shares  
 4 He reigns in heaven un - til the hour

in tri - umph from earth's bat - tle - field:  
 he reigns in - vis - i - ble but near:  
 the trou - bles of our earth - ly life;  
 when he, who once was cru - ci - fied,

his strife with hu - man ha - tred ends,  
 for in the midst of two or three  
 he takes up - on his heart the cares,  
 shall come in all love's glo - rious power

as sin and death their con - quests yield.  
 he makes his glo - rious pres - ence clear.  
 the pain, and shame of hu - man strife.  
 to rule the world for which he died.

## The Gospel | John 17:1-11

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

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

Sermon | The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

*The people stand as able.*

The Prayers of the People |

In this busy world, we can be distracted from a Christ-centered life, though Jesus is always there with us. As Peter tells us, “The God of all grace will restore, support and strengthen us.” Lord, help us to see and feel you throughout the day, sharing your love in our daily activities. We pray, **Thank You Lord for your loving presence.**

We give a warm welcome to those new to Christ Church and those visiting this morning. We thank you for sharing in our worship and we look forward to meeting you. We pray for our Church Leadership: Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Diocesan Bishops; Carrie, our elected Bishop Co-adjutor; our Rector, Emmanuel; our Associate Priest, Marcia; our Deacon, Denise; our Seminarian Associate and priest postulant, Mike; our deacon postulant, Rebecca; and our Rector Emeritus, Richard. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we remember the Church of the Province of South East Asia. In the Diocese of Maryland, we hold up in prayer our sister parishes. We also pray for our leaders in government: our President, our Congress, our judicial system, our Governor, and local elected officials. May they be guided by wisdom and compassion in caring for the people of our land. We desire peace in our troubled world. **We pray for Your holy Church and all who worship in it.**

We pray for all those ill in mind, body, or spirit, and those who care for them. We keep the residents and staff of Springfield Hospital in our prayers, as well as all the other local, national, and international outreach ministries our parish supports. We pray this week especially for Jordan, Jason, Patricia, Linda, Elizabeth, Patricia, Emily, Kellene, Shirley, Louise, Danny, Cindy, Roberta, Francis, Fr. Ginnever, Samuel, Catherine, Caroline, Alfred, Ashley, Alta, Farris, Mildred, Sherry, Nell & Kathleen, and those you now name. We pray, **Lord, may your healing touch ease their pain and restore them.**

We ask God to accept in his loving arms all those who have departed this life, especially those you now name. We pray for all who mourn them, that they may heal in the warmth of your love. We pray, **Thank you Jesus, for the gift of eternal life.**

We are thankful for the many occasions we have to celebrate. We rejoice with all those members of our church family who are celebrating birthdays, and anniversaries, especially Carlo, Sarah, Karey, Jennifer, Alex, Steve, Marcia, Linda, Dennis & Jennifer Atkins, and Amy & Maurice Hairston, and King, Gardiner, Philip & Cindy. We pray, **Thank you, Lord for the blessings in our lives.**

Summer is almost here – a time for relaxation, for regrowth, for the warmth of the sun and the coolness of the breeze. We pray, **Lord, may I never stop seeing You in the bounty, goodness, and joy of Your Creation. 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 |

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem | King of Glory, King of Peace

Words by George Herbert, Music by Roland E. Martin

*Please scan to give.*



Presentation Hymn 400 (v. 7) |

*Lasst uns Erfreuen*

**Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him, Alleluia!  
Praise God the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Eucharistic Prayer B |

*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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Celebrant:*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*All:*

**We remember his death,  
 We proclaim his resurrection,  
 We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant:*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

**People:** Amen.

The Lord's Prayer | BCP 365

*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 S 171 | Be Known to Us

Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

*Cantor:* Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

**Choir:** Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

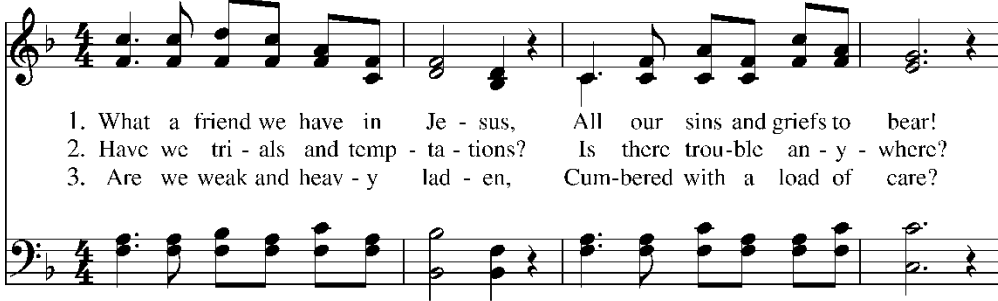
*Cantor:* The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

**Choir:** Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.


*Cantor:* One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

**Choir:** Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.



1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
 3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



1. What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 2. We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged, Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 3. Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, Take it to the Lord in prayer.



1. Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, Oh, what need - less pain we bear,  
 2. Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
 3. Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



1. All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
 2. Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 3. In his arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

*Please stand as able.*

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.

*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 214 | Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

*Llanfair*

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!  
\*3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!  
lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!  
See! he shows the prints of love: Al - le - lu - ia!  
raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!  
there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!  
take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!  
bless - ings on his Church bc - low. Al - le - lu - ia!  
find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

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

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## **ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

### **8:00 a.m. Service**

**Lector/Reader/Chalicer:** Joan Harvey

**Ushers:** Jo Emily Knox, Yetti Lipede

### **9:00 a.m. Service**

**Ushers:** Eva & Hope Oladipupo, Yetti Lipede

### **10:30 a.m. Service**

**Lector/Reader:** Lynn Foor

**Ushers:** Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams, JB Hanson, Bete Dagne, Alex Amponsah

**Acolytes and Crucifer:** Gavin Couch, Jonah Aribiah, Setutsi Abdallah

**Chalicer:** Mary Vail

### **Altar Guild**

Sonni Aribiah, Ivy Amponsah

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## **PARISH CALENDAR**

### **MAY 21 TO MAY 28**

#### **Sunday, May 21**

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
1:30 – 5:45 pm	Sundays at Three – New Brick, upper level

#### **Monday, May 22**

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

#### **Tuesday, May 23**

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, May 24

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

### Thursday, May 25

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

### Friday, May 26

7:00 – 7:30 am Morning Prayer Livestream  
2:00 – 4:00 pm Lumen Christi Practice – New Brick, upper level  
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, May 27

9:00 – 1:00 pm Event Rental – New Brick, lower level  
1:00 – 3:00 pm Lumen Christi Practice – New Brick, upper level  
2:00 – 3:00 pm AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level  
8:00 – 9:00 pm NA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit announcements for publication,  
email to [communications@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto: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.**

### **Youth Formation**

This is the final Sunday of the Youth Formation program year before our summer break! If you have any questions about the fall program or are an adult that can assist us some Sundays when we return (we need two adults per class), please email Jenn Atkins at [dandjatkings@verizon.net](mailto:dandjatkings@verizon.net). The Christ Church Youth Group will stay connected over the summer, so if you are interested in having your child join the CECYG, please speak with Mike Looney on Sundays or email Todd Domer for more information - [youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org)

### **Adult Formation**

This is also our final Adult Formation Sunday for the spring. CEC's Parenting Group gathers in the New Brick Vestry Room (lower level). Sunday Bible Study gets together in the Parish Hall Conference Room. And during our final Sunday Circle, we'll collectively discuss ideas and thoughts for the fall program season. You can join us at 9:30 in Old Brick, or virtually on Zoom; the link will be in our *This Sunday at Christ Church* email.

### **Altar Flowers and Gifts**

If you would like to present altar flowers and gifts in dedication or celebration of a loved one on any upcoming Sunday, you can find the details and 2023 sign-up sheet at <https://tinyurl.com/CECaltarflowers>. You can also sign up and reserve a slot by using our **Realm Online Giving Form**; just choose "Altar Flowers and Gifts" from the *FUND* drop-down menu, and place the dedication name(s) and service date in the *MEMO* line. **Email the Church Office** with any questions.

## **Communion to You**

In an effort to connect more directly with those of you who are local and worship virtually, Christ Church will begin offering *Communion to You*, an opportunity to have altar gifts delivered to your home, or made available for pickup at the Church Office. If you would like more information, **please complete this form** or **email** the Church Office.

## **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. You're welcome to gather with us on Mondays in Old Brick at 7:00 p.m. or take part virtually using your own space. The Zoom link is **here**, the Meeting ID is **859 2522 4340**, and the Password is **Centering!** For more info, email Kathy Lyon at **rklyon@cablespeed.com**.

## **Choral and Handbell Choirs - Thursday Evenings**

Music is a rich and vital part of the liturgy at Christ Church, and now we have a new way for you to take part - our handbell choir! **We posted a wonderful video of the handbell choir in action here**, but why not take part yourself? We're always seeking more new members for both handbell and vocal choir - whether you have previous experience or not, there's a place for you. All ages are welcome, and no experience is necessary. If you're interested or have questions, please speak with Larissa at church or email her at **music@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

## **Christ Church Book Club**

Christ Church's Book Club has wrapped up its latest book and is now on hiatus for the summer. Then, as the fall weather cools down, it'll be a perfect time to curl up with a good book, so join us then. Interested? Email Ellen Hoke at **efboudreau1@gmail.com**.

## **Church Office Closed - May 29**

In observance of Memorial Day, the church office will be closed on Monday, May 29, and will reopen on the morning of Tuesday, May 30.

## **WOCC Evening Meeting - June 5**

And on Monday, June 5th, join us for an evening WOCC meeting at Maggiano's Little Italy at 6:30 p.m. The WOCC calendar is posted in the New Brick Narthex **and on our website**, and it contains all the fun events planned for this year. Speak to any WOCC member or email us at **WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

## **Vacation Bible School - Register Now**

Vacation Bible School takes place from June 26 - July 2, and gathers each day from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. At VBS, children will enjoy a week of Bible stories, music, science, crafts, games, and friends! Snacks and refreshments are served daily. After the 10:30 a.m. service on July 2nd, we'll have a wonderful celebration with ice cream and snacks for all participants. VBS is open to all children aged three (must be potty-trained) through 5th grade, and you can register your child(ren) at any time by completing our VBS registration form at **tinyurl.com/CEC-VBS2023** The cost is \$30 per child or \$70 per family, and **you can process the payment on Realm**. Scholarships are available for those in need. Volunteers are also very much needed, so come and have fun with us! **Email us** if you're interested in registering your child, want to help with the program, or if you have any questions about the registration process.

## **Help Us Plan Christ Church's 300th Birthday**

We have begun gathering and planning for Christ Church's 300th year, but we're always looking for more input, so join us! This celebration is such an important milestone for our church, and we want participation and ideas from as many of us as possible. There are a variety of committees that you can serve on and so we would like to encourage everyone to consider being a part of this historic occasion. If you have ideas, are interested in assisting, or would like more information, please speak with Father Manny or email **300@christchurchcolumbia.org**.

## **Somos Amigos Expands Care during Its Spring Clinic in the Dominican Republic**

In April, **Somos Amigos Medical Missions** expanded the availability of medical and dental care at its spring clinic in the Dominican Republic. For the first time, the clinic ran from Monday through Friday, rather than staying open four days, “thus allowing us to see many more patients,” says Executive Director and CEO Frank Brightwell. Overall, a total of 423 received medical treatment and 108 received dental care.

Residents of Naranjito, a little town in a mountainous region, continue to collaborate with visiting physicians, dentists, and other volunteers to hold four clinics each year. But Somos Amigos also employs local clinicians to treat patients during the clinics, and at other times. The new, year-round model grew out of pandemic restrictions that have since been eased. “We had 25 people working in the clinic, nearly half and half U.S. volunteers and Dominican workers,” says Brightwell.

Although Christ Church had no volunteers on this trip, several have served repeatedly in the past and Dione and Jim Mahoney hope to travel again as soon as next fall. Others include Shahra Toth, former parishioners Mary and Ed Keath, and physicians Preethi Jackson and Ellen Hoke. If you or your family members are interested in becoming a volunteer, go to the nonprofit’s **application site**, speak with Dione or Shahra, or email **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org** for information.

Parishioners learned about the latest treatment model and Somos Amigos’ plans to care for a greater number of people when Brightwell most recently visited Christ Church. He delivered the sermon at worship services last fall. (His remarks begin at approximately 28 minutes into the archived **video for Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, on YouTube**.)

During the April clinic, Brightwell says, a dental team from Richmond, Va., helped reorganize the dental clinic, which is now at pre-pandemic preparedness. The lab is also back to pre-pandemic operations, in that physicians can order all necessary tests. Some lab tests were performed ahead of time. Providers also had access to new ultrasound and electrocardiogram machines.

The April clinic identified three new candidates for Somos Amigos’ insulin program, an innovative model that serves diabetes patients whose needs had been unmet. The program provides a schedule of yearly visits (or more frequently if necessary) with an endocrinologist and with an ophthalmologist to address complications. Last month, caregivers also identified nearly 20 patients with other medical conditions that require specialized treatment. They have entered the referral process, and some have already begun receiving care in the nearest large city, Santiago. New patients go through a screening/vetting process to make sure they are part of a target population that otherwise has little or no access to healthcare in the rural region. “We were able to welcome 58 first-time patients,” Brightwell said.

Furthermore, he met recently with representatives of 14 communities from which Somos Amigos receives patients. “These representatives are part of a larger council of community representatives who are helping us plan for the future and helping us identify new patients,” he says. Read more about this collaborative approach in the organization’s **2021-2022 annual report**.

Somos Amigos receives annual support from the Christ Church Outreach Commission, in keeping with our mission statement to help those in need through organizations that are local, national, and international. In 2022, we gave \$1,000 in Vestry-approved funds to Somos Amigos’ insulin program. Parishioners also are invited to donate individually online through Realm or by putting “Somos Amigos” on the memo line of their checks to Christ Church.

In an email, Brightwell expressed his gratitude for both monetary and volunteer support: “Please thank the committee and the entire congregation for their continued partnership and generosity.”



## **Columbia Community Care Recruits Volunteers for Pantry, Home Deliveries, Gardening and a “Free-for-All” Event**

Now that **Columbia Community Care** (CCC) has restarted its home delivery of groceries to people who lack transportation, CCC is calling for more volunteers. To respond, go online to **“I Can Help”** and look for links under “Delivery Volunteer Opportunities.” Tasks include driver, sorter at the pantry, or translator, which is a shift that can be done from home. The CCC pantry is located at the former Columbia Flier building, 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia.

CCC’s gardening project is at the same address. The goal is to allow CCC to grow its own healthy produce to better help families in need. In partnership with CCC, the **Community Ecology Institute** installed a series of raised garden beds. CCC recently asked for more people to use its **signup form**, which has slots open throughout the year. Tasks include “watering, weeding, checking for critter activity, planting, harvesting, and anything else that needs to be done at the garden.”

CCC announced that its three distribution sites will be closed on Saturday, May 27, which is Memorial Day weekend. But more volunteers are needed on Saturdays after that. Free groceries, produce, baby supplies, and household essentials are distributed at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd.; Long Reach Village Center, Suite 9, 8775 Cloudleap Ct., and at The Barn in Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, all in Columbia.

Recipients are welcomed on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon, or when supplies run out, and volunteers are encouraged to register for their slots at each location. Those shifts last from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Signups for volunteers are posted through the end of the year for each site: **Wilde Lake**, **Long Reach**, and **Oakland Mills**.

CCC plans a “Free-For-All” version of a flea market on Sunday, June 4th from 9 a.m. to noon at the pantry building. Given the conflict with Sunday morning worship, why not attend the 8 a.m. service or delegate a neighbor to handle your unwanted merchandise? Pass along the CCC instructions: “Please bring your free items, your own table and chair, or **sign up for a parking space** and open your trunk.” Participants also are asked to donate non-perishable food or personal hygiene items.

At Christ Church, Leigh Smith is our representative who takes parishioners’ donated items to CCC. Please continue your support by collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items, and adult diapers. Put them in the yellow bin, marked “CCC,” inside the Parish Hall on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sundays.

### **Celebrate Wellness, and Help Support DreamBuilders**

Temple Isaiah, our partner in DreamBuilders, is inviting us to join in their **MatzohBall Run** on June 4th. It’s a fundraiser, whose profits go to help support **DreamBuilders**, **Grassroots**, and **HopeWorks**. In addition to the family fun run/walk, there will be health screenings, wellness booths, and plenty of events to entertain. Please visit the MatzohBall Run link above, or read all of the details **on the Christ Church website**.

### **Donate Snacks, Crackers, and Cookies to FISH in Bin on our Breezeway**

Organizers for **FISH of Howard County** are continuing to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill their shopping lists. The yellow bin is back in its spot between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your contributions to our neighbors in need.

**In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at [outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org](mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org). Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.**



## **Pentecost Sunday**

### **Next Weekend**

Next Sunday, May 28th, Christ Church will have one special service at 10 a.m. It will be a celebratory and colorful procession - we invite parishioners to wear red (the liturgical color for the Day of Pentecost) and the children and choir will process around the church. The children are invited to come and lead us in singing "We are the Church," which Larissa has been rehearsing with them. We will also share the Gospel passage in many languages that make up this vibrant and varied congregation at Christ Church.

Following worship will be a communal potluck lunch, and we hope you'll all join us - sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/CEC-PentecostPotluck>. This day is also Mother Marcia's final Sunday as Associate Priest at Christ Church. She is not leaving our parish family, so don't worry; she is just stepping back from the day-to-day staff responsibilities. We will be thanking her for her immeasurable service to Christ Church these last few years - as well as celebrating her birthday, also this weekend! - so be sure to join us. But **PLEASE** - Mother Marcia has requested to not bring any gifts... just a ton of food and fun!

***See you there!***

# Christ Church

# STEWARDSHIP

TIME      TALENT      TREASURE



## WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF 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 our parish to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us. We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness. Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving.

### Text Giving

You can 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 toward 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**

### Pledge for 2023

At Christ Church, we are so blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who continually support our ministry of faithful service, and we pray that each of you will prayerfully consider your contribution to Christ Church for this calendar year. You can pick up and complete a pledge card in the Narthex, or **pledge online** (choose "Pledge for 2023" in the *FUND* dropdown menu).

**Thank you very much for your support of our vital common life.**



**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*

Sean Wallace, *Sexton*

**Vestry**

Jan DeBoissiere (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Denisa Abdallah • Jane Adams • Tim Beaty • John Curley • Sara Kirkpatrick

Andrea Leeman • Ray Lyon • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre • Alfred Titus-Glover