

# OPAL CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ The Holy Eucharist, Rite II 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

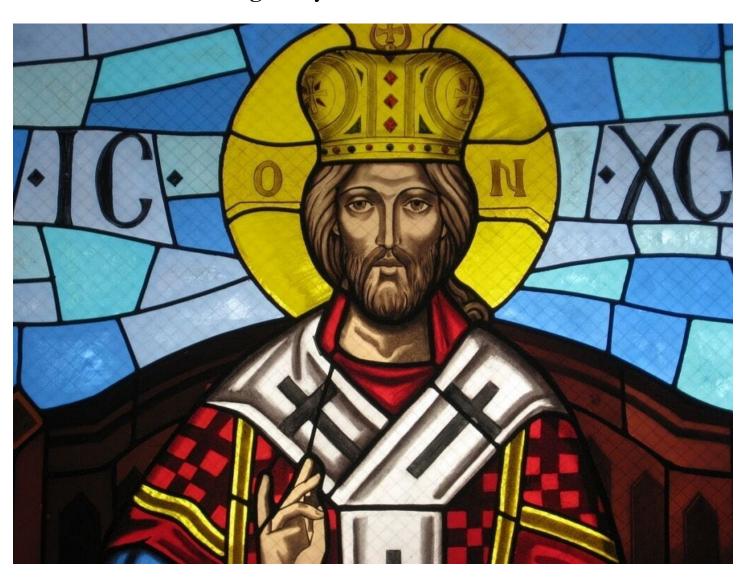
Sunday, November 24, 2024

Last Sunday after Pentecost – Christ the King

#### **WELCOME HOME!**

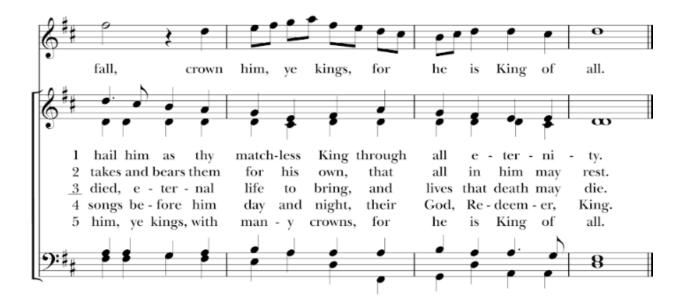
Welcome to worship at Christ Episcopal Church. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete a visitor's form. Our website provides up to date information about our vibrant church community: christchurchcolumbia.org. This bulletin contains all you need to join us in worship, everyone is welcome to receive communion at God's table, and the clergy are happy to speak with you at any time.

# We are delighted you're here – welcome home!



We celebrate that Christ is the King of ALL nations by reading in some languages represented by our Christ Church family.





#### **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

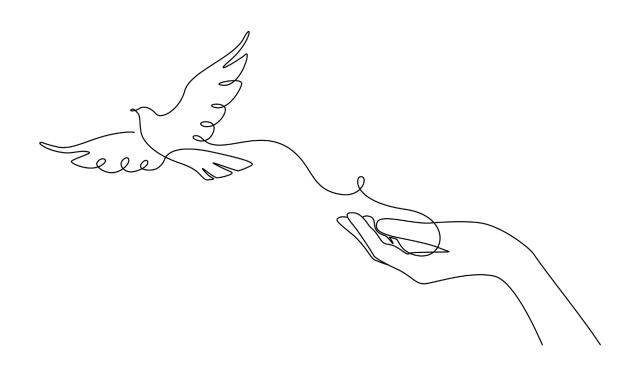
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

# THE COLLECT FOR PURITY |

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 





#### THE COLLECT |

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 | Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Read by Dione Mahoney in Portuguese & Cheryl Lucente in Italian

As I watched,

thrones were set in place,

and an Ancient One took his throne,

his clothing was white as snow,

and the hair of his head like pure wool;

his throne was fiery flames,

and its wheels were burning fire.

A stream of fire issued

and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,

and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment,

and the books were opened.

As I watched in the night visions,

I saw one like a human being

coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One

and was presented before him.

To him was given dominion

and glory and kingship,

that all peoples, nations, and languages

should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion

that shall not pass away,

and his kingship is one

that shall never be destroyed.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Lord is King;

he has put on splendid apparel; \*

the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.

He has made the whole world so sure \*

that it cannot be moved;

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; \*

you are from everlasting.

Antiphon

The waters have lifted up, O Lord,

the waters have lifted up their voice; \*

the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

Mightier than the sound of many waters,

mightier than the breakers of the sea, \*

mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

Your testimonies are very sure, \*

and holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever and for evermore.

Antiphon

#### **THE EPISTLE** | Revelation 1:4b-8

Read by Sonni Aribiah in Efik & Robin Bradley in German

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



#### **THE GOSPEL** | John 18:33-37

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

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

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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



THE SERMON | The Rev. Canon Joanna White

Canon for Pastoral Services, Chaplain to Clergy, Diocese of Maryland

#### 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 worshiped 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

Today, we celebrate Christ the King Sunday, marking the end of the church year with a celebration of the Kingdom of God. It is a kingdom for everyone who belongs to the truth, and listen to His voice. It is a kingdom we all aspire to enter. We pray, *Lord, open our ears that we may hear your voice and live your truth.* 

We give a warm welcome to those who are new to Christ Church and those who are visiting this morning. We thank you for sharing in our worship and we look forward to meeting you. We pray for our Church Leadership: for Sean our Presiding Bishop; for Carrie, our Diocesan Bishop; for Emmanuel our Rector, for

our Associate Rector Emeritus, Marcia, for our Rector Emeritus, Richard and for our Postulants - Kiona, Mike, and Rebecca. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we remember The Anglican Church of South America. Among our sister parishes in the Diocese, we pray for: All Saints, Frederick, Harriet Chapel, Catoctin Parish and Grace, Brunswick. *We pray for Your holy church and all who worship in it.* 

As we prepare for Thanksgiving this Thursday, we thank God for the abundance he has given us and remember those who do not have as much as we do. Bless our work with the homeless in Howard County and bless our efforts to provide families with their own Thanksgiving dinners through the Christ Church Food Drive. We pray for all those who are traveling this week that they may arrive and return safely. We pray especially for those who are separated from their loved ones at Thanksgiving. We pray, *Thank You Lord for the gifts of family, friends, food, and faith.* 

We pray for all those who are ill in mind, body or spirit, and those who care for them. We pray this week especially for Wayne, Theo, Ronald, Dolores, Edvon, Kitzel, Claudia, Sarah, Rachan, Ian, Jerry, Kristin, Kim, Sabrina, Jim, Erica, Marilyn, Carolyn, Mary Ann, Barbara, Cindy, Tim, Sherry, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Mildred, & Nell and those you now name. We pray, *Lord, may your healing touch ease their pain and restore them.* 

We ask God Our Father to accept in his loving arms all those who have departed this life, especially Michael John Clark, Marie Chrzanowski and 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 thank you Lord, for the many occasions we have to celebrate. We rejoice with all those members of our church family who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and other milestones, especially Erin, Hope, Emily, Braeden, Shawn, Matthew, Jon, Audra, Terry, Dione, & Nell, Linda & Ralph Stewart, and Jonathan, and Kristin. We pray, *Thank you Lord for the gifts of your creation*.

We pray for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East often finding it impossible to find a safe place. We pray for those serving in the military, especially Quinn Barber and Connor Warlow. Guide the leaders of all nations and factions that justice and peace may prevail throughout the world. We pray for a world that will counter hatred and violence with love and peace. We pray, *Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer for peace. 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 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.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,

strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

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.

**PASSING THE PEACE** | I Love You with the Love of the Lord

Jim Gilbert

I love you with the love of the Lord, Yes, I love you with the love of the Lord. I can see in you the glory of my King And I love you with the love of the Lord.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** | King Jesus Is a-Listening

Spiritual, arr. William Dawson

Please scan to give.



DOXOLOGY HYMN 380 (v. 1)

Old 100<sup>th</sup>

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

#### **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...

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











Celebrant:

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

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

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

Celebrant:

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and

thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at

the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity

of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

All: Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All: Our Father,

who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

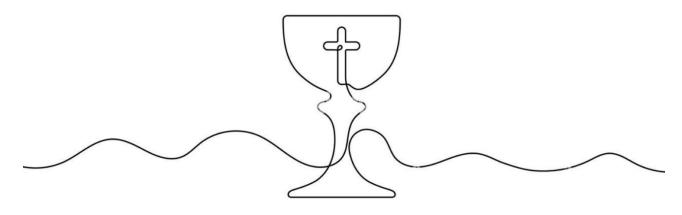
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

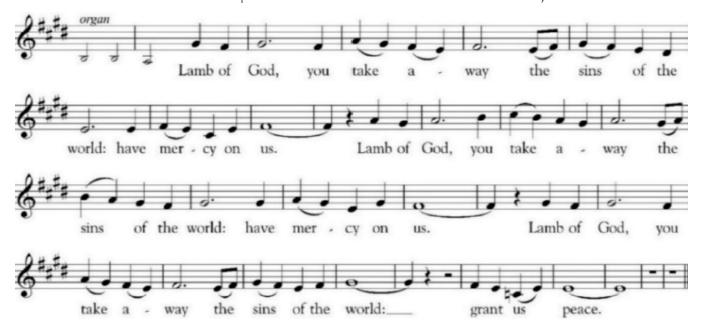
forever and ever. Amen.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD |

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

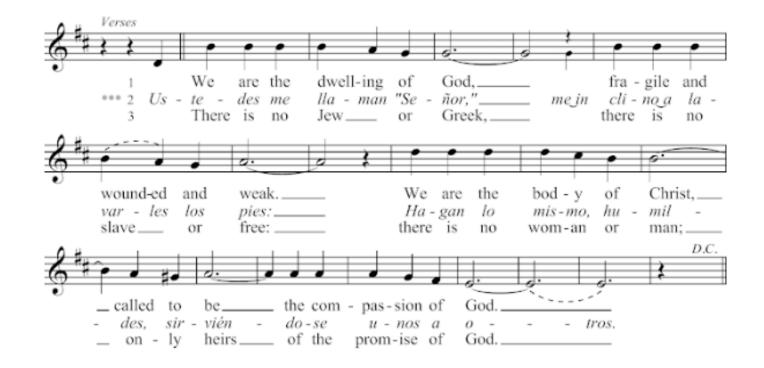




# **COMMUNION SONG** | Pan de Vida (Bread of Life)

Bob Hurd & Pia Moriarty





# 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** | 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.



Refrain

THE DISMISSAL |

The Celebrant dismisses the people, who respond:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE |

#### Today's altar flowers were donated by Barbara Scott-Johnson in honor of Brady Johnson

PERMISSIONS | New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. | Book of Common Prayer, 1928 & 1979, Church Publishing. Public Domain | Music/texts under copyright are reprinted and broadcast by permission under OneLicense.net #A-701378 | Holy, Holy, Holy, from A Mass for a Soulful People, Grayson Warren Brown

#### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

#### **Celebrants**

The Rev. Canon M. Joanna White, Canon for Pastoral Services, Diocese of Maryland The Rev. Marcia Davenport, Associate Rector Emeritus, Christ Church

#### 8:00 a.m. in New Brick

Lector: Diane Philips LaGuerre

Ushers: Kayode Fatodu, Diane Phillips LaGuerre

#### 10:30 a.m. in New Brick

**Lector:** Steve Alpern

Ushers: Isaac Olajide, Yetti Lipede, Jane Adams, Cherry Williams, Betty Dagne, Alex Amponsah, Hope & Eva

Oladipupo

Chalicist: Steve Alpern Acolytes: Deepti Jackson

Lay Eucharistic Visitor: Kathy Lyon

Altar Guild: Sonni Aribiah, Ivy Amponsah, Kathy Simms

**Tellers:** Catherine Miller

# PARISH CALENDAR

#### November 25 to December 1

#### Sunday, November 24

All Day	Fr. Manny's Sabbatical
8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
9:00 am	Family Worship Service – New Brick, upper level
9:30 am	Sunday Circle – Old Brick & Zoom
9:30 am	Sunday School – New Brick & Parish Hall
9:30 am	Parents Group - New Brick, lower level
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist w/music - New Brick, upper level
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
11:40 am – 1:30 pm	Friends-Giving Dinner – New Brick, lower level
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church - Old Brick
1:15 – 5:45 pm	Sundays at Three – New Brick, upper level
1:30 – 4:00 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room & Zoom

#### Monday, November 25

All Day	Fr. Manny's Sabbatical
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous - New Brick, lower level
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Centering Prayer – Old Brick
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Refugee Ministry Meeting – Zoom

#### Tuesday, November 26

All Day Fr. Manny's Sabbatical 7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream

9:00 am – 3:00 pm Howard County Homeschool – New Brick, lower level

11:00 am – 12:00 pm Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom 12:00 – 1:00 pm Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom

7:00 - 8:00 pm Boy Scouts

#### Wednesday, November 27

All Day Fr. Manny's Sabbatical 7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream

6:30 – 8:30 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level

### Thursday, November 28

All Day Fr. Manny's Sabbatical

All Day Thanksgiving Day – Church Office Closed

10:00 – 11:00 am Thanksgiving Day Service

#### Friday, November 29

All Day Fr. Manny's Sabbatical All Day Church Office Closed

8:00 pm – 12:00 am Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

#### Saturday, November 303

All Day Fr. Manny's Sabbatical

1:00 – 3:30 pm AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

#### Thanksgiving Day at Christ Church - November 28

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

#### Church Office Closed - November 27 & 28

Please note that the church office will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving next Thursday and Friday, and will reopen on Monday, December 2nd.



# Taizé - Rosemary for Remembrance Next Sunday, December 1st at 6 p.m. in New Brick

The weeks leading up to Christmas can be a pressured time, and frazzled nerves can cause us to get beside ourselves. In addition, the impact of losing a loved one has been felt by all of us at one time or another. To comfort us all, we encourage you to gather with us for our combination Taizé / Rosemary for Remembrance service, worship that's created to support those who have experienced loss this year, as well as those dealing with an added amount of strain or stress during the holiday season. It's a quiet, reflective worship that helps us slow down and recover ourselves, as fellow parishioners gift us with songs, reflections, and poems as we all pray together in worship and support. It's a comforting and meditative service that inspires us to lift up all of those loved ones who have left us and help each other through the hectic season ahead. Don't miss it.

# Help Support Our Youth Ministry! Advent & Christmas Wreath-Making Fundraiser – Next Sunday

The Christ Church Youth Ministry hosts a perfect holiday season starter, the Advent & Christmas Wreath-Making Fundraiser! We hope you'll come and support the youth's efforts as they raise funds to help their many programs and outreach initiatives. Join us in New Brick's Great Hall after the 10:30 service next Sunday, December 1st. A suggested donation of \$50 per wreath kit will help fund our Youth Ministry, but kits are free to those who volunteer for the



event and they include everything you need to create a gorgeous wreath or centerpiece to help bring holiday spirit to your home. Beverages, holiday treats, and Christmas music will be provided. If you can't make it to the Fundraiser, don't worry - we'll have ordering information around the campus soon. You can place an order, and we will make it for you! Visit <a href="https://cecevents.org/wreaths2024">https://cecevents.org/wreaths2024</a> or click the QR code above.

#### It's an Ugly Christmas First Wednesday Fellowship! - December 4

Get your ugly Christmas sweaters out of storage and prepare for a fun FWF to cap off the year. We'll provide the main dish, but please bring side dishes and desserts to share and enjoy. Of course, this event wouldn't be complete without an Ugly Sweater Contest and a little Christmas Bingo will liven up the gang, so be sure to gather with us at 6 pm. in the Great Hall.

#### Christ Church Choir - Returns December 5

The Christ Church Choirs takes next week off for the Thanksgiving holiday, but returns on December 5th. rehearse in New Brick on Thursday evenings, and anyone is welcome to join us. Handbell Choir meets from 6:45-7:30 p.m. and Adult Choir meets from 7:30-9:00 p.m. You don't need to know how to read music, so whether you have previous experience or are ready to commit or not, there's a place for you in our choirs. If you're interested, please speak with Larissa on Sundays, email her at <a href="music@christchurchcolumbia.org">music@christchurchcolumbia.org</a>, or simply come join us in New Brick on a Thursday evening.

#### Christ Church Book Club - Returns during Advent

The CEC Book Club just wrapped up its latest book and is planning on starting an Advent-themed one after Thanksgiving. If you're interested in reading and discussing great books with a friendly, engaging, and welcoming group of fellow parishioners, the CEC Book Club might be for you! We choose a book as a group, read a chapter or two each week, and then gather virtually for an hour or so on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. to share thoughts and have lively conversations. If you have any questions or are interested in joining us, email <a href="mailto:bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org">bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org</a>.

#### Advent Quiet Day – Saturday, December 7 in Old Brick

Everyone is encouraged to join us for Advent Quiet Day, as this Christ Church tradition marks the start of the Advent season and helps us to focus and retain our perspective in these hectic weeks leading up to Christmas. We'll gather in Old Brick for an informal breakfast and conversation at 8:30 a.m. and then take part in a morning of readings, spirited discussions, shared community, and periods for quiet meditation led by the Rev. Kirk Kubicek. Our retreat then concludes around 12 noon with an informal Eucharist. It's a very special gathering each year, and we hope you join us as we let Light enter our feelings and actions to help make this a remarkable and joyous Christmas season.



#### **WOCC Christmas Feast - December 8**

At 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 8th, we will gather for our annual Christmas Feast at The King's Contrivance Restaurant, and we hope you'll all come! You can sign up using the sheet in the Narthex. The deadline for signing up is December 1st. Lots of other events are coming up, too - the WOCC calendar is posted in the Narthex in New Brick and on our website and contains all the fun events planned. Please feel free to speak to any WOCC member or email WOCC@christchurchcolumbia.org if you need more info.



#### Movies in December - December 13 & 14

George Toth will host two films over the second weekend in December. On Friday, December 13th, the film *The Christmas Candle* will be shown, and you can learn about the film and see a trailer <u>here</u>. The next morning at The Center for Spiritual Nourishment, *The Privileged Planet* (view the trailer here) will be shown. There is also a holiday showing of *A Christmas Carol* (view trailer) on Friday, December 27th. Want to host a film in the CEC Theatre? <u>Let us know!</u>

#### Kiona's Ordination - December 14

Bishop Carrie Schofield-Broadbent will ordain Kiona Lookingbill, our Director of Youth and Family Ministries, to the Sacred Order of Deacons. This service takes place on Saturday, December 14th, and parishioners can gather at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore at 11:00 a.m.

#### MOCC Christmas Party - December 14

Our annual Christmas Party will be on Saturday the 14th from 2:30 - 6:00 p.m. at The Kings Contrivance Restaurant. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The all-inclusive price will be \$65 per person and includes a meal with regular beverages (water, soda, tea, coffee). A cash bar will be available. Payment can be made via Realm (choose the "MOCC" fund), or by checks made payable to Christ Church ("MOCC" in the memo line). Please sign up and submit payment by Sunday, December 8th, so we know how many spaces to reserve.

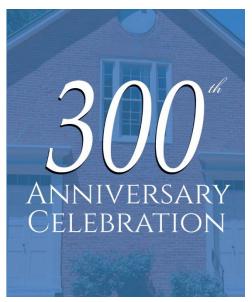


#### Parents, Take an Evening Off! - December 20

Christ Church's Youth Ministry will provide entertainment and babysitting on Friday evening, December 20th, from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. while our parents do their Christmas shopping or go on a date - or just relax!

The kids can look forward to Christmas cookie decorating, card-making, and ornament crafting. There will be cookies and cider, hot chocolate, Christmas music, and Christmas movies to get us all in the Christmas spirit!





#### More 300th Anniversary Planning Sessions are on the Horizon

Thanks to everyone who recently joined us after worship for a brainstorming discussion on Christ Church's 300th Anniversary and its future, and we'll have another one after the Christmas and New Year's seasons have passed. We are always looking for more people to provide their input and would love to have you join us to make the 300th celebrations the best they can be. It is clearly a massive milestone for our church - not to mention our entire region - and we encourage everyone to consider being a part of this historic occasion.

Learn more about the many research and planning groups taking shape on our website - <a href="www.christchurchcolumbia.org/300">www.christchurchcolumbia.org/300</a> - and if you are interested in helping, please speak with Robin Bradley at church, <a href="complete the brief">complete the brief</a> <a href="contact">contact</a> form at <a href="christchurchcolumbia.org/300">christchurchcolumbia.org</a>. or email <a href="mailto:300@christchurchcolumbia.org">300@christchurchcolumbia.org</a>.



Flowers and Music donations in memory or dedication of a loved one during the Advent and Christmas season are gratefully accepted, as these fund the wonderful greenery, flowers, and musicians that assist in bringing this season to life for everyone. There are two ways you can donate - you can do so digitally using our Online Giving Form and simply select "Christmas Flowers & Music" or "Christmas General Offering" from the *FUND* dropdown menu and write the dedication name(s) on the *MEMO* line. If doing so by check, you'll soon find both Christmas envelopes in the Narthex and in Old Brick. When using either method, please be sure to submit yours no later than Friday, December 20th.



#### Angel Tree Drive Will Brighten Christmas for Howard County Children

In a heartfelt tradition, the Outreach Commission invites parishioners to purchase new clothing and special items to complete Christmas gift "packages" for young angels. We are supporting a dozen children ages 10 to 13 to meet a need identified by the Howard County (Central Maryland) division of <u>The Salvation Army</u>. The nonprofit organization oversees the Angel Tree initiative here and elsewhere.

To participate, please provide one or more gifts for a girl or boy on our list. Each one will receive an outfit, consisting of pants and a top. Besides the clothing, there are three other categories this year for each angel: Need, Wish, and Favorite item.

Some parishioners prefer to sign up for just one slot, such as the practical (need) category for a single child. Some parishioners desire to complete the entire "package" for an angel by signing up in all four categories. Another shopper might choose the clothing (outfit) category for multiple angels.

The children's wants and needs offer clues to their personalities and circumstances. Among the six girls, for example, Juliet, age 12, wishes for flower Legos and lists a soccer ball as her favorite item. Among the six boys, Jordan, age 12, hopes for a remote-controlled race car as his favorite item and asks for winter clothing as his needed item. That's in addition to the outfit (pants and a top) that all the children will receive.

Starting this week, you can go directly to the <u>Christ Church 2024 Angel Tree SignUp</u> or visit <u>cecevents.org/AngelTree2024</u> to view the list and make your choices. It has instructions on the next steps. Also, be on the lookout for the Angel Tree poster on the campus walls, and the Angel Tree with QR code on the Narthex TV. There are many ways to sign up and take part in this annual necessity.

In keeping with tradition, you can also scan the choices by gazing at the tags on our decorated Angel Tree in the Narthex. Please leave the tags on the tree. You'll also find the "angels" names and ages on a spreadsheet displayed

nearby. For those in Old Brick, we'll bring the list to you. In either location, we'll ask that you sign up for your angel by using the online form. You'll get a slip with the child's name, ID, and wished-for gift. Someone will be on hand after worship services on Sunday, Nov. 24, and Sunday, Dec. 1, to assist anyone with logging on.

The deadline to bring in your unwrapped Angel Tree gifts will be noon on Friday, December 6. Please put them under the tree or in the Parish Hall Operations Room. With your help, we will 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.

If you wish to participate by giving some of your time, please volunteer for sign-up duty or general assistance. The first duty involves helping people to log on to a device to register after worship on Nov. 24 and Dec. 1. The second may involve shopping or other tasks, likely on delivery day, Dec. 6. To volunteer, specify Sign-up or General, or both, in an email to <a href="mailto:outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org">outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org</a>.



# Kudos to All Who Have Helped Hungry Households by Donating to Our Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Howard County Food Bank

The table in the Narthex and the yellow bin at Old Brick were brimming with goods such as stuffing mix, gravy, and canned vegetables. These will brighten the holidays for many of our neighbors, as the <u>Howard County Food Bank</u> expects to feed about 1,000 people for Thanksgiving and another 1,000 for Christmas by distributing "Holiday Meal Kits." Christ Church partners with the <u>Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC)</u>, which operates the food bank. We further supported CAC with a monetary donation for its holiday meal kits. The drive ends Thursday, Nov. 21. On Friday, members of the Outreach Commission will deliver the bounty, which includes a few staples like pasta and peanut butter for after the holidays. Thank you for your generosity!

#### Columbia Community Care Needs Diapers, Recruits Volunteers of All Ages

Columbia Community Care (CCC) keeps its pantry open each Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in hopes of attracting youth who earn community service credits at their public schools by sorting supplies. Also, teens can help at upcoming events. Find options on the CCC Facebook Group. Go online to learn how to volunteer. Those who need groceries and other necessities can find information by going online to "Get Help" on CCC's website. CCC continues to request baby-care items and diapers, especially sizes 4-6. Put these along with sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. Drop off items on weekdays when the church office is open or on Sundays. The Christ Church point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bin and delivers items.



#### Lake Elkhorn Middle School "Kindness Pantry" Sign-Up

LEMS and Cradlerock Elementary School have created a *Kindness Pantry* that provides food and household supplies for families in the community. The Pantry will be set up on the second Monday of each month from 3:30-4:30 p.m. The first pantry will be on Monday, December 9th, and we currently need the following items by next Sunday, December 1:

- 5 Small bottles of dish soap
- 5 Small boxes of tall kitchen-size trash bags
- 3 Small boxes of canola/cooking oil

The schools are asking our church to help with the Pantry in two ways - first, they would appreciate donations of the items listed on the *Kindness Pantry* sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Items will be collected in a marked box there, as well. Second, they need several people to help school staff set up, distribute items to families, and take down the pantry one afternoon each month. Some people have stepped up for December (thank you!), but we can certainly use your help in January and beyond, so please keep us in mind. And if you can help with collecting goods AND operating the Kindness Pantry, that's great! Check the Narthex for the latest needs, and if you have questions, please speak with or email Cathy Whittaker at LEMS@christchurchcolumbia.org. THANK YOU in advance!

#### Help Families in Need by Filling the Altar Basket and our FISH Bin on the Breezeway

If you are concerned about people in our midst who are going hungry, please consider regularly donating non-perishables to <u>FISH</u> of Howard County. Put groceries and/or toiletries in the altar basket in New Brick or in a marked yellow bin on the breezeway between Old Brick and Parish Hall. FISH provides committed support to select families in need. The neighbors you help give thanks for all you do in their support.

# Your Gifts are a True Blessing to Us All.

We are so blessed to have a community of dedicated parishioners who support our ministry of faithful service, and we hope that each parishioner will prayerfully consider their contribution to Christ Church. You may use the QR code on the left to give to Christ Church this week. And if you haven't yet completed your pledge for 2025, please use the QR code on the right.



THANK YOU.

Give to Christ Church



# Thanksgiving & The Great Thanksgiving

One of my favorite TV shows is *The Great British Baking Show*. The baker I'm rooting for this season is Dylan. He said that he has an emotional connection to food, sharing that, as a child, he cried when his burger fell apart.

I suppose he is right. We do have an emotional connection to food.

Some of the visceral memories I have that are tied to food:

(Not my experience but...) My father once told me that he ate a (rather watery, so not good) sweet potato under a train car for fear of getting it snatched out of his hands after the Korean War. He was only four.

Kimbab reminds me of the time when my mother packed them for me when I went on school field trips. I felt cared for by this kind gesture coming from my mother since it's somewhat labor-intensive to make.

Steamed dumplings remind me of that New Year's Day when my parents got into a terrible fight. The sight of them gave me a pang for years.

Tiered cakes - or gateaux - take me back to Germany, where I used to make such elaborate bakes on weekends to deal with the challenges of being a teen in a foreign land.

The smell of Lagman takes me straight back to the days when I was doing soul-searching in Kyrgyzstan.

Every food item has a story and a memory attached to it.

Most of us are about to celebrate Thanksgiving with our families.

It is my hope that your Thanksgiving meal brings you together and that you will savor its taste and cherish the memories being built around it. As you gather around the table, may God's Spirit be with you.

As you break bread, may God remind you of the Eucharist - the bread and wine offered by our Lord Jesus Christ - during The Great Thanksgiving of any Episcopal service. That is, after all, what the Greek word *eucharistia* means: 'thanksgiving.'

For me, that is the most important food & drink, that is by no means big in portions or the most elaborate, but which is so saturated with meaning and evokes much emotion of gratitude: Christ's Body given for us all, an entire life sacrificed for the whole world - the Bread of Heaven. His blood is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins - the Cup of Salvation.

And, should Thanksgiving turn into an unpleasant day with discord, divisive ideas, contentious politics, or unresolved issues within your families, may you return to the Eucharistic Table for nourishment and healing. Come and partake in that one perfect oblation offered some two thousand years ago, which also anticipates the Day when many nations and tongues will gather around the heavenly banquet with Christ Jesus at the center, when race, ethnicity, national boundaries, and political inclinations will be no more and a joyous harmony of blended voices will be singing praises to the One who gave Himself so that we might have life.

May grace abound in you for those who do not think, behave, or vote like you.

And may peace that passes understanding rule your heart and mind this season.

Amen.

Chaplain Kiona Lookingbill kiona@christchurchcolumbia.org





### Christ Episcopal Church

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Kiona Lookingbill, Director of Youth and Family Ministries
Michael Looney, Seminarian Associate
Larissa Sanders, Music Director
Ola Oladipupo, Assistant Organist
Yetti Lipede, Parish Administrator & Ministry Coordinator
Christopher Pouch, Communications Administrator
Amanda Kirkpatrick, Nursery Care Coordinator
Nytia Perry, Nursery Care
John Prempeh Sencherey, Sexton

#### Vestry

Denisa Abdallah (Senior Warden) • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre (Junior Warden)
Andrew Eaton (Treasurer) • Ron Couch (Registrar) • Deepti Jackson (Youth Liaison)
• Ronald Baran • John Curley • Ray Lyon • Diane Phillips-LaGuerre

Greg Schuckman • Alfred Titus-Glover • Cherry Lynn Williams • George Toth • Sara Kirkpatrick • Ed
Chrzanowski • Kathy Simms

The Rev. Richard Ginnever, Rector Emeritus
The Rev. Marcia Davenport, Associate Rector Emeritus