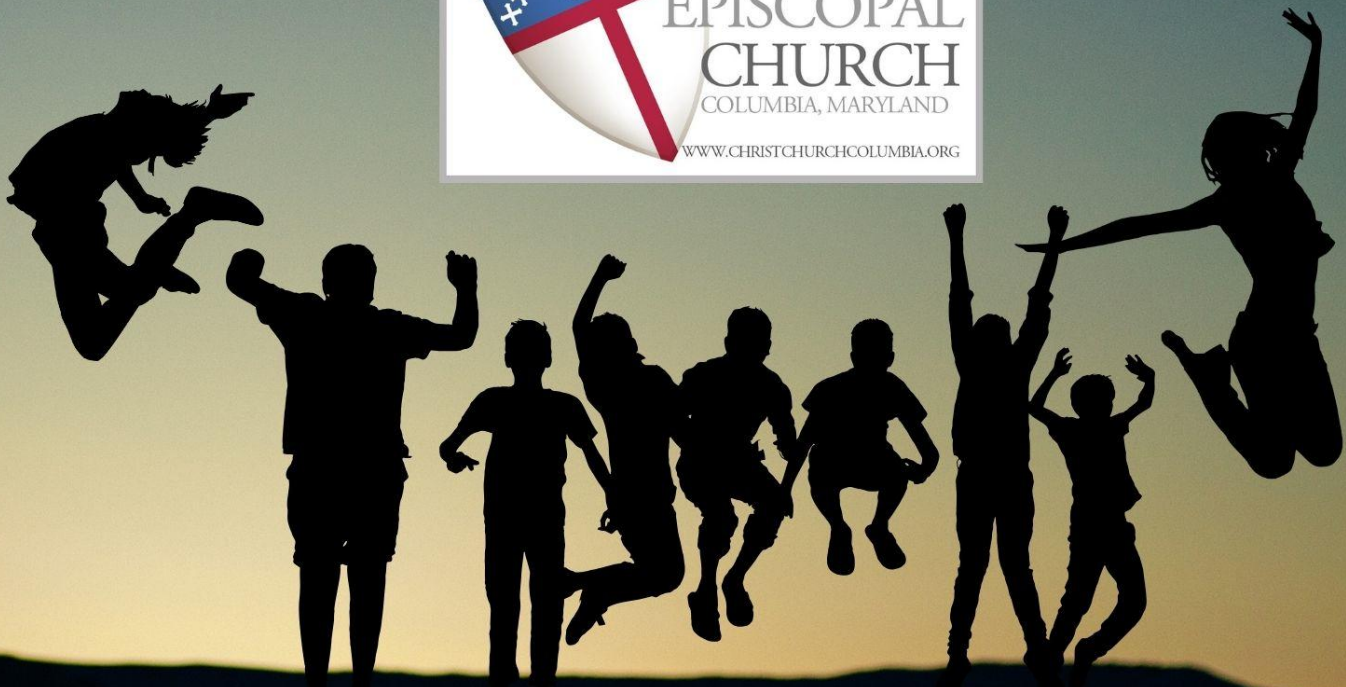
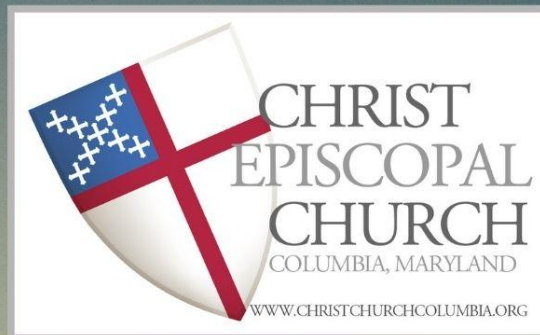


YOUTH SUNDAY



ADVENT II
DECEMBER 8, 2024



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, so visit 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.

We are delighted you're here – welcome home!

OPENING SONG | Prepare the Way of the Lord

The image shows a musical score for a canon in 8/8 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'Canon' and '1'. The lyrics under the first staff are 'Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and'. The second staff is labeled '3' and '4'. The lyrics under the second staff are 'all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. ____'. The music is written in a simple, rhythmic style with a key signature of one flat.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Second Candle | The Candle of Peace

Celebrant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: Today is the second Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of Peace. Last Sunday we lit the First Candle in our Advent Wreath, and celebrated the patriarchs, and this First Candle reminded us of our hope in Christ. We light it again as we remember our Savior, born a king in the line of King David. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, and we believe that he will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us, to rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

(a person lights the candles here)

Today we light the Second Candle of Advent, the Candle of Peace. We remember the prophets who spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Savior would be born, a king in the line of King David. The prophet Isaiah called Christ "the Prince of Peace". They told us how he would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations.

When Jesus came he taught people the importance of being peace-makers. He said that those who make peace shall be called the children of God. When Christ comes to us he brings us peace and he will bring everlasting peace when he comes again. We light the Candle of Peace to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace and that through him peace is found.

Peace is like a shining light in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

People: **Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people from trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide. We ask that as we wait for you to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.**

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.**

GLORIA S 280 | Glory to God

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 |

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

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; 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 | Baruch 5:1-9

Reader: A reading from Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.
Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;
for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.
For God will give you evermore the name,
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."
Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;
look toward the east,
and see your children gathered from west and east
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that God has remembered them.
For they went out from you on foot,
led away by their enemies;
but God will bring them back to you,
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.
For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.
The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God's command.
For God will lead Israel with joy,
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

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

THE SONG OF ZECHARIAH |

Luke 1: 68-79 | *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE | Philippians 1:3-11

Reader: A reading from Philippians

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The people stand as able.

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from

3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to

3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe. Re - joice! Re - joice!
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - ell

THE GOSPEL | Luke 3:1-6

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

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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



Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eous-ness,

5 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

9 Optional Ending
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord on - ly, that

13 mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

THE SERMON | High School Youth

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 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 |

“In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace”.

We still dwell in darkness hoping for the dawn, we still need our feet guided into the way of peace. Be with us as we turn our hearts and minds toward preparing for Your coming. We pray together, ***be with us, Lord.***

Help us Lord in this busiest of seasons to make the time to be sure that what we do and what we think and who we are is part of preparing that straight path toward You. We pray together, ***be with us, Lord.***

Across the world, and in our own lives, we see so many desperate people, some doing desperate things. Help us in this season of giving to freely share what we have, to give consideration, patience and understanding, to give kindness and mercy, to give to others the love You so fully give to us. Because none of this is easy, we pray together, ***be with us, Lord.***

We pray for those we love, and those who are strangers to us, who are ill or dying, who are lost or lonely, or afraid, who are seeking a new life. We pray today especially for Constance, Jim, Wayne, Theo, Ronald, Dolores, Edvon, Kitzel, Claudia, Sarah, Rachan, Ian, Jerry, Kristin, Kim, Sabrina, Jim, Erica, Marilyn, Carolyn, Mary Ann, Cindy, Tim, Sherry, Roberta, Samuel, Ashley, Alta, Mildred & Nell. May they feel Your healing. We remember also those who have died, especially those you now name. May they be with You. We pray together, ***be with us, Lord.***

We also give thanks for all of the happy and wonderful times in our lives. Today we remember the birthdays and baptismal anniversaries of Setutsi, Cheryl, Trey, Kiona, Eva, Daniel, Maggie, Vincent & Stuart, and Paula & Luther. May they look with joy toward the coming year. We pray together, **be with us, Lord.**

Paul wrote, “All of you share in God’s grace with me.” In the Anglican Church, we pray for the people and the work of the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan. In the Diocese of Maryland, we pray for the churches of St. Paul’s, Point of Rocks, Ascension, Scarboro, and Christ Church, Rock Spring. We pray for Your presence here with us in Christ Church, Columbia, for our parishioners, for our youth, for our newcomers and visitors in person and online, for our priests Emmanuel and Marcia, for Kiona as she prepares to be ordained as a Deacon next Saturday, for Mike our seminarian, for Rebecca our candidate for ordination to the Diaconate, and for our Vestry. We pray together, **be with us, Lord.**

God be with us in this Advent season. Help us prepare that straight path for You. Shine Your glorious light into and through our lives, forever. **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 |

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM | More Love to Thee

Fernando Ortega

More love to Thee
O Christ, more love to Thee
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea.

Refrain
More love, O Christ, to Thee
More love to Thee, more love to Thee.

Once earthly joy I craved,
sought peace and rest,
Now Thee alone I seek,
give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be.

Refrain
More love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee.

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise,
This be the parting cry my heart shall raise,
Still all my prayer shall be,

Refrain
More love, O Christ to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee,
More love to Thee, more love to Thee.

Please scan to give.



DOXOLOGY HYMN 380 (v. 1) |

Old 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

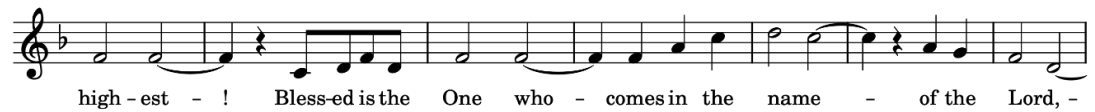
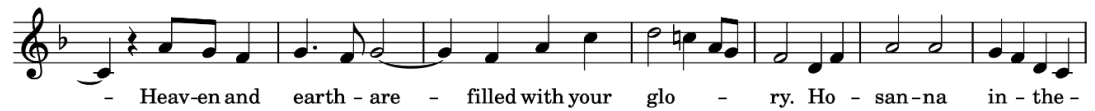
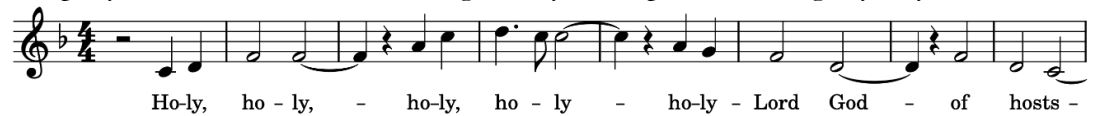
***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

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."

All: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
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: 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 |

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.**

organ
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world:___ grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG | O Come All You Unfaithful

Lisa Clow and Bob Kauflin

O come all you unfaithful
Come weak and unstable
Come know you are not alone

O come barren and waiting ones
Weary of praying, come
See what your God has done

CHORUS:
Christ is born, Christ is born
Christ is born for you

O come bitter and broken
Come with fears unspoken
Come taste of His perfect love

O come guilty and hiding ones
There is no need to run
See what your God has done

CHORUS

He's the Lamb who was given
Slain for our pardon
His promise is peace
For those who believe (x2)

So come, though you have nothing
Come He is the offering
Come see what your God has done

CHORUS x2

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.**

THE BLESSING |

The Celebrant offers a blessing and the People respond Amen.

CLOSING SONG | Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
His name is called Emmanuel
God is with us, revealed in us
His name is called Emmanuel

THE DISMISSAL |

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

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

Celebrant

The Rev. Canon Christine McCloud, Canon to the Ordinary for Administration

8:00 a.m. in Old Brick

Lector: Deepti Jackson, Hope Oladipupo,

Ushers: Mikailu Sheriff, Shreya Chrzanowski, Danny Jackson

10:30 a.m. in New Brick

Lector: Caleb McKenna, Eva Oladipupo, Samuela, Deepti Jackson

Ushers: Mikailu Sheriff, Shreya Chrzanowski, James Mercer

Music: Sam Jackson, Kiona Lookingbill

Chalicians: Cheryl Lucente

Crucifer & Acolytes: Caleb McKenna, Lucinda Banks, Danny Jackson

Altar Guild: Jan DeBoissiere, Virginia Jarrett, Cara O'Campo

PARISH CALENDAR

December 8 to December 14

Sunday, December 8

All Week	Father Manny's Sabbatical Continues
8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
8:45 am – 9:30 am	Blood Pressure & Medication Check – Elevator Room
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
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Auction Item Pickup – New Brick, lower level
12:30 – 5:30 pm	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick
1:00 – 3:00 pm	WOCC Christmas Luncheon – The Kings Contrivance Restaurant
1:00 – 4:00 pm	EFM – Parish Hall, conference room & Zoom
4:00 – 7:00 pm	Beaudoin Recital – New Brick, upper level

Monday, December 9

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
12:45 – 1:00 pm	Dorsey Center Meal Drop-off
3:15 – 3:30 pm	Grassroots Drop-off
5:00 – 6:30 pm	Lumen Christi Practice – New Brick, upper level
6:00 – 8:30 pm	Food Addicts Anonymous – New Brick, lower level
7:30 pm	Advent Compline w/ Mother Marcia – YouTube and Facebook
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Outreach Meeting
7:30 – 10:00 pm	Columbia Conjurers – Parish Hall, lower level

Tuesday, December 10

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Weekly Staff Meeting – Zoom
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
5:00 – 6:30 pm	Lumen Christi Practice – New Brick, upper level
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level
7:30 pm	Advent Compline w/ Mother Marcia – YouTube and Facebook
7:30 – 9:30 pm	Building and Grounds Meeting – Zoom

Wednesday, December 11

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
5:00 – 9:00 pm	Peabody Recital – New Brick, upper level
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Refugee Leadership Meeting – Zoom
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level
7:30 pm	Advent Compline w/ Mother Marcia – YouTube and Facebook

(continued)

Thursday, December 12

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
10:00 – 11:00 am	FW: Spiritual Care Monthly Department Meeting – Teams
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Hour – Zoom
6:45 – 7:30 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 pm	Advent Compline w/ Mother Marcia – YouTube and Facebook
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, upper level
7:30 – 9:00 pm	CEC Book Club – Zoom
7:30 – 9:00 pm	Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, December 13

7:00 am	Morning Prayer Livestream
2:00 – 3:30 pm	Lumen Christi Practice – New Brick, upper level
7:00 – 10:00 pm	Columbia Pro Cantare – New Brick, upper level
7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Livestream
7:00 pm	<i>The Christmas Candle</i> film screening – Parish Building, lower level
7:30 pm	Advent Compline w/ Mother Marcia – YouTube and Facebook
8:00 pm – 12:00 am	Tabernacle of David Church – Old Brick

Saturday, December 14

8:30 – 12:00 pm	Center for Spiritual Nourishment
9:30am – 12:00 pm	Peabody's Children's Chorus – New Brick, upper level
11:00 am	Ordination of Kiona – Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore
1:00 – 3:30 pm	AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Lumen Christi Practice – New Brick, upper level
2:00 – 3:30 pm	MOCC Christmas Party – The Kings Contrivance Restaurant
3:30 – 7:00 pm	Columbia Pro Cantare – New Brick, upper level



Join Us
Saturday, December 14
8:30 a.m. - 12 noon

www.cecevents.org/CSN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit an announcement,
Please email to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.



The banner features a dark blue background. On the left, there is a stylized illustration of a nativity scene with figures in a stable under a star. The text 'ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH' is written in white, serif font. Below this, 'Everyone is Welcome' is written in a yellow, cursive font. A QR code is on the right. At the bottom, the website URL 'CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG/ADVENT-AND-CHRISTMAS' is written in white, sans-serif font.

Our 2024 Advent and Christmas Schedule is Online

The season is upon us! Christ Church's Advent and Christmas page contains the schedule of the main services and gatherings occurring throughout the season, so be sure to check back regularly and join us. Visit christchurchcolumbia.org/advent-and-christmas.

Advent and Christmas Flowers and Music

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. Please be sure to submit yours no later than Friday, December 20th.

Advent Compline - Every Weeknight

Advent Compline is a new feature of Christ Church's Advent season celebration, one in which you can participate from wherever you are. Mother Marcia Davenport presents a unique compline livestream every weeknight leading up to Christmas, and each ten-minute service draws from a different liturgy and focuses on a different theme. Gathering inspiration from many Christian texts and traditions, she shares stories that are both familiar and new, personal reflections, and beautiful prayers that will assist us all in maintaining a sense of calm and peace during this busy season. Advent Compline broadcasts each weeknight on our [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) pages at 7:30 p.m., but you can also view them anytime after they premiere on our website at christchurchcolumbia.org/advent-compline. We hope that you'll join us and make this a new routine in your Advent journey.

Centering Prayer – Monday, December 9

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God and a more powerful experience of God's presence in our lives. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. We are a hybrid gathering, so be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings. The Zoom link will be in Monday's *This Week on Zoom* email. You can also ask for more information by speaking with Kathy Lyon at church, or by emailing centering@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Christ Church Choirs - December 12

The Christ Church Choirs 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 music@christchurchcolumbia.org, or meet us in New Brick any Thursday evening.

Thank You for Your Gracious Gifts this Giving Tuesday!

We are humbled and thankful for every donation given to the Christ Church Music Ministry this past Tuesday, Giving Tuesday. Many resources are needed to present and maintain a music ministry of our size and scope, and every amount you generously give helps greatly. THANK YOU!

Christ Church Book Club – Thursday, December 12

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. The Zoom link will be in Monday's *This Week on Zoom* email. If you have any questions or are interested in joining us, email bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Movies in December – Friday & Saturday, 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. The next morning at The Center for Spiritual Nourishment, *The Privileged Planet* will be shown. There is also a holiday showing of *A Christmas Carol* on Friday, December 27th.

Center for Spiritual Nourishment - December 14

As we move through the craziness of the holiday season, consider taking a break from the chaos and treating yourself to a peaceful morning in a soul-nurturing community. The 2nd Saturday Center for Spiritual Nourishment (CSN) provides opportunities for us to be closer to God by offering an array of experiences that engage the mind, body, and spirit. Programs for December include: *Self and Spirit* (how our sense of self impacts our ability to be present with God, led by Seminarian Mike Looney), *Conversations on Spiritual Practices* (led by Fr. Manny), *Spiritual Direction* (explore how God may be calling you), *Yoga* (beginner and intermediate, led by Jane Adams), *Meditation* (led by Leah Chrest), and a short, *Healing Worship* Service will be on offer, as well as a film screening of the powerful *Metamorphosis* (led by George Toth). Learn more about the program and each session's details at cecevents.org/CSN-December2024

Kiona's Ordination – Next Saturday, December 14

Bishop Carrie Schofield-Broadbent will ordain Kiona Lookingbill, our Director of Youth and Family Ministries, to the Sacred Order of Deacons! This takes place next Saturday, December 14th, and parishioners can gather at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore at 11:00 a.m. (or at Christ Church an hour or so earlier; carpooling is encouraged, as parking can be limited at the Cathedral). Let's support our Chaplain Kiona on her very important day!



MOCC Christmas Party – Saturday, December 14

The MOCC has its annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 14th, from 2:30 - 6:00 p.m. at The Kings Contrivance Restaurant. There is sign-up sheet in the Narthex, and 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), by checks made payable to Christ Church ("MOCC" in the memo line), or via Zelle (speak with Duane Smith at church). Please sign up and submit payment by today.

Parents, Take an Evening Off! – Friday, 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!

The Greening of the Church - December 22

A Christ Church tradition, the Greening of the Church is a time to gather and collectively decorate the campus in its holiday best. Poinsettias, wreaths, garlands, and many other beautiful holiday items will be placed around the altars and sanctuaries to help make this holiday complete. We'll start in New Brick at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 22nd, so we encourage everyone to lend a hand. All ages are welcome!



FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22
6:00 P.M.

NEW BRICK AT CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
6800 OAKLAND MILLS ROAD, COLUMBIA
WWW.CHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols - December 22

Christ Church will hold our Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in New Brick, a truly wonderful gathering whose origins date back to late 19th century England. All are welcome to join us on Sunday, December 22nd at 6:00 p.m. for this celebration of glorious carols, anthems, and hymns led by our wonderful choir, interspersed with Bible passages. Please join us for an evening of joyful expression, in word and song, of the greatest story that has ever been told.

Father Manny's Fall Sabbatical

Father Manny is wrapping up the remainder of his sabbatical, so please keep him in your prayers while he's overseas. He'll return to Christ Church in mid-December, so for all pastoral needs while he's away, please contact Mother Marcia Davenport by emailing her at revmarcia@christchurchcolumbia.org, or call the church office.

More 300th Anniversary Planning Sessions are on the Horizon

Christ Church's 300th Anniversary is clearly a massive milestone for our church, 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 - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/300 - and if you are interested in helping, please speak with Robin Bradley at church, complete the brief contact form at christchurchcolumbia.org/300, or email 300@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Angel Tree Gifts Due by this Sunday, December 8th, to Grant Wishes for a Dozen Children

Parishioners rapidly filled up the list for our annual Angel Tree tradition, buying gifts to brighten Christmas for a dozen children aided by the Howard County (Central Maryland) division of The Salvation Army. See the Christ Church 2024 Angel Tree SignUp to view choices and find instructions. The deadline to bring unwrapped gifts is 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8. Please put these in the Parish Hall teller's office. Thank you!

Any monetary gifts go toward purchasing a pair of shoes for each child. To help, consider a contribution to Christ Episcopal Church made online through Realm, by check, or by putting cash in a marked envelope in the collection plate. Designate "Outreach/Angel Tree" on these donations, including a note online in the memo section.

Inviting You to Join Our Monthly Outreach Meeting this Monday, Dec. 9

Learn many ways to help others by joining us remotely for the Outreach Commission meeting on Monday, Dec. 9, at 7:30 p.m. Our mission has a local, national, and international scope, and there are many in need, especially during this winter holiday season. The Zoom link is HERE, the Meeting ID is 864 9837 1844, and the Passcode is Outreach! We look forward to seeing you on Zoom!

Help the Homeless this Monday, Dec. 9, by Preparing a Dish for Grassroots' Emergency Shelter or Serving a Meal at Its Day Resource Center

On the second Monday of each month, Christ Church provides a hot midday meal for the homeless at the Day Resource Center (DRC) and drops off dinner for 50 to 70 residents at its Emergency Shelter, formerly called the Live-In Facility. We last participated on Nov. 11th (*above images*). Both are operated by the Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center. A team led by Outreach member Shahra Toth makes side dishes and desserts that we serve in person after carpooling to the DRC.



To join us on Monday, Dec. 9, please check our DRC online signup form, which describes their midday meal procedure. Drop-off time is 12:45 p.m. in the parking lot near Old Brick for DRC's side dishes. Later, parishioners who cook or shop for the evening meal at Grassroots' shelter arrive in the Old Brick parking lot between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. Get details in our Grassroots online signup form. Grassroots staff serves the evening meal. It's efficient to provide for both venues on the same day. Your donations and Vestry-approved funds pay for the fried chicken entrees.

Recently, your generosity helped ease life for some of our homeless neighbors, who rely on sundries from the DRC pantry in Jessup. In response to staff requests, the Outreach Commission approved spending \$161 for six packs of men's underwear. These were purchased with funds donated to the church by parishioners who give to "General Outreach" or specifically to DRC or Grassroots. A heartfelt thanks to those donors!

FISH Asks for Volunteers As Well as Groceries and Toiletries in its Bin and Basket

FISH of Howard County is calling for new volunteers. If you are interested, ask parishioner Andy DeLong, who is FISH treasurer and a newly-elected board member of the nonprofit, which provides committed support to Howard County residents.

Please continue to put non-perishable foods and toiletries in the FISH basket at the altar or in the marked yellow bin on the breezeway between Old Brick and Parish Hall. The neighbors you help are grateful for all you do in their support.

Columbia Community Care Plans Holiday Activities, Ways to Help Kids

Columbia Community Care (CCC) plans holiday activities to help children and their families, including CCC's annual giveaway of children's presents. That distribution of toys and gifts for kids 2 to 16 will take place on Saturday, Dec. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. during a celebration at Wilde Lake Middle School (WLMS). The deadline is Friday, Dec. 20 to donate items at WLMS or at Cozy Cafe, 8006 Main St., Ellicott City, MD. Check the [CCC Facebook Group](#) for updates. To volunteer, go online to "[Support CCC](#)".

Those who need help are urged to go to "[Get Help](#)" on CCC's website. Please keep collecting diapers, baby wipes, sanitary and personal care items and adult diapers. Put them in the yellow bin, marked "CCC," inside the Parish Hall. Our point of contact is Leigh Smith, who monitors the bin and delivers its contents.



During the Advent season at Christ Church, we invite parishioners and families to observe the tradition of a Jesse Tree celebration in their homes, a tradition that honors the genealogy of Jesus Christ, tracing his Old and New Testament ancestors and telling the history of God's act of salvation.

Our own Jesse Tree, complete with beautiful hand-made ornaments by artist Jenn Lavanish, is in the Narthex, and on our website each December day leading up to Christmas, you can read and learn about a new character important to the story of the season. Materials for people who wish to read Scripture and create an ornament to display on a Jesse Tree of their own can be found on our website

- www.christchurchcolumbia.org/jesstree.

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.



Pledge to Christ Church

THANK YOU.



Give to Christ Church



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

AT CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Morning and Evening Prayer Livestreams

Monday - Friday mornings at 7:00 a.m. and Friday evenings at 7:00 p.m. via our website and Facebook

The Jesse Tree

Daily throughout Advent at www.christchurchcolumbia.org/jessetree

Poems for Advent

Through Christmas, on our website and Facebook
Begins Monday, December 2

Centering Prayer

Monday evenings, December 9 and 16 at 7:00 p.m.
in person in Old Brick, and virtually via Zoom

Advent Compline

Presented by Mother Marcia Davenport

Each weeknight at 7:30 p.m. on YouTube and Facebook

WOCC Christmas Party

Sunday, December 8 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
at The Kings Contrivance Restaurant

Center for Spiritual Nourishment

Saturday, December 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon
throughout the Christ Church campus

MOCC Christmas Party

Saturday, December 14 from 2:30 to 6:00 p.m.
at The Kings Contrivance Restaurant

(continued)

Advent III

Sunday, December 15 at 8:00 in Old Brick
9:00 a.m. Family Worship in New Brick
and 10:30 a.m. with music and choir in the New Brick Sanctuary
10:30 a.m. is livestreamed via [the CEC website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)

Community Caroling and Lunch

Sunday, December 15 in the Great Hall at 12 noon
Community Caroling begins at 1:00 p.m.

Christ Church Christmas Social: A CEC Youth Group Fundraiser

Friday, December 20 in the Great Hall from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Advent IV

Sunday, December 22 at 8:00 a.m. in Old Brick
9:00 a.m. a.m. Family Worship in New Brick
and 10:30 a.m. with music and choir in the New Brick Sanctuary
10:30 a.m. is livestreamed via [the CEC website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)

The Greening of the Church

Sunday, December 22 at 12:00 noon in the New Brick Sanctuary

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the New Brick Sanctuary
and via [the CEC website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)

Christ Church on Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Pageant at 4:00 p.m. in New Brick
Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 11:00 p.m. in the New Brick Sanctuary
and via [the CEC website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)
Music begins 30 minutes before the 8 and 11 p.m. services

Celebrate Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. in the New Brick Sanctuary
and livestreamed on [the CEC website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the New Brick Sanctuary
and also on our [website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MARYLAND

WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG

Christ Episcopal Church

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office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

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*