



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EXTENDING THE LOVE AND EMBRACE OF CHRIST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Sunday, March 23, 2025 | Third Sunday in Lent



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: 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!

Today's hymns were chosen by Sara Kirkpatrick, winner of the Hymn Selection Auction Item.

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN | Turn Back, O Man

Old Hundred Twenty-Fourth

Slow

1 Turn back, O man, for - swear thy fool - ish ways. Old now is
2 Earth might be fair, and all men glad and wise. Age aft - er
3 Earth shall be fair, and all her peo - ple one: Nor till that

earth, and none may count her days, Yet thou, her child, whose
age their trag - ic em - pires rise, Built while they dream, and
hour shall God's whole will be done. Now, e - ven now, once

head is crowned with flame, Still wilt not hear thine in - ner
in that dream - ing weep: Would man but wake from out his
more from earth to sky Peals forth in joy man's old, un -

God pro - claim, "Turn back, O man, for - swear thy fool - ish ways."
haunt - ed sleep, Earth might be fair, and all men glad and wise.
daunt - ed cry, "Earth shall be fair, and all her folk be one!"

OPENING ACCLAMATION |

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;

People: **His mercy endureth forever.**

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 OF THE DAY |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON | Exodus 3:1-15

Reader: *A reading from Exodus*

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The following psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

THE PSALM |

63:1-8 | *(Desire for God)*



- 1 O God, you are my | God; |
early will I | seek you. ||
- -2 My soul thirsts for you, my flesh also longs after | you, |
in a barren and dry land where there is no | water. ||
- 3 Thus I have looked upon you in your holy | place, |
that I might behold your power and | glory. ||
- 4 For your loving-kindness is better than life | itself; |
my lips shall | praise you. ||
- 5 As long as I live I will | magnify you, |
and lift up my hands in your | Name. ||
- 6 My soul shall be satisfied, as with marrow and | fatness, |
when my mouth praises you with joyful | lips. ||
- 7 When I remember you on my | bed, |
I meditate on you in the watches of the | night. ||
- 8 Because you have been my | helper, |
therefore under the shadow of your wings I will re | joice. ||

THE EPISTLE | 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Reader: A reading from 1st Corinthians

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN | O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Consecration

With quiet flow

1 O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my wea - ry
2 O Light that fol - lowest all my way, I yield my flick - 'ring
3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not close my
4 O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not ask to
soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, That
torch to thee; My heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, That
heart to thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain, And
fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, And
in thine o - cean depths its flow May rich - er, full - er be.
in thy sun - shine's blaze its day May bright - er, fair - er be.
feel the prom - ise is not vain That morn shall tear - less be.
from the ground there blossoms red Life that shall end - less be. A - men.

THE GOSPEL | Luke 13:1-9

All standing, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
People: **Glory be to thee, Lord Christ.**

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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

HYMN | Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eousness,

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 people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED |

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

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

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

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE |

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

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Carrie, our Diocesan Bishop, Emmanuel, our Rector; Kiona, our Deacon; Marcia, our Associate Rector Emeritus; Rebecca, our Candidate for Ordination to the Diaconate; and Mike our Postulant; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

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

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

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Kerry, Lucy, Jan, Ed, Chuck, Wha-Ja, Sharon, and those who care for them.

The People may add additional petitions and thanksgivings.

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

People: Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN |

You may step forward to the altar for a blessing from the Celebrant.

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

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

THE PEACE |

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

People: And also with you.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM | As the Winter Days Grow Longer

Old Welsh tune

Please scan to give.



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 I |

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

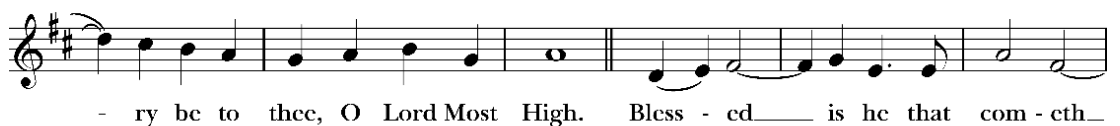
Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

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



Celebrant:

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Celebrant:

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People:

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: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

FRACTION ANTHEM S 158 | O Lamb of God,

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS |

All: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN 694 | God Be in My Head

Lytlington

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'God Be in My Head'. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'God be in my head, and in my un - der - stand - ing; God be in mine eyes, and in my look - ing; God be in my mouth, and in my speak - ing; God be in my heart, and in my think - ing; God be at mine end, and at my de - part - ing.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

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.

1 Let thy Blood in mer - cy poured, let thy gra - cious
2 Thou didst die that I might live; bless - ed Lord, thou
3 By the thorns that crowned thy brow, by the spear-wound
4 Wilt thou own the gift I bring? All my pen - i -

Bo - dy bro - ken, be to me, O gra - cious Lord,
cam'st to save me; all that love of God could give
and the nail - ing, by the pain and death, I now
tence I give thee; thou art my ex - alt - ed King,

Refrain
of thy bound-less love the to - ken.
Jes - us by his sor - rows gave me. Thou didst give thy -
claim, O Christ, thy love un - fail - ing.
of thy match-less love for - give me.

self for me, now I give my - self to thee.

THE DISMISSAL |

The Celebrant dismisses the people, who respond:

Thanks be to God!

(The Alleluias are omitted in Lent)

POSTLUDE |

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Assisting in Worship Today

8:00 a.m. in Old Brick

Lector: Joan Harvey

Usher: Kayode Fatodu

Chalicer: Joan Harvey

10:30 a.m. in New Brick

Lector: Steve Alpern

Chalicer: Steve Alpern

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

Crucifer: Deepti Jackson

Altar Guild: Jan DeBoissiere, Virginia Jarrett, Cara Ocampo

Tellers: Catherine Miller

PARISH CALENDAR

March 23 - 29, 2025

Sunday, March 23

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist – Old Brick
8:45 am	Coffee Hour – Old Brick
8:45 am	Blood Pressure & Medication Check – Elevator Room
9:00 am	Family Worship – New Brick
9:30 am	Youth Formation, Adult Forum: Sunday Circle, Sunday School
10:30 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 – Old Brick
1:15 – 5:45 pm	Sundays at Three – Parish Hall, Conference Room & Zoom
1:30 – 4:00 pm	EfM – Parish Hall, Conference Room & Zoom
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Lenten Taizé – New Brick

Monday, March 24

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

Tuesday, March 25

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
6:30 – 8:30 pm Vestry Meeting – New Brick, lower level

Wednesday, March 26

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
6:30 – 8:30 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics – Parish Hall, lower level
6:30 – 9:00 pm Wednesday Evenings in Lent Series – New Brick, lower level

Thursday, March 27

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
6:45 – 7:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal – New Brick, lower level
7:30 – 9:00 pm Choir Rehearsal – New Brick sanctuary
7:30 – 9:00 pm Boy Scouts – New Brick, lower level

Friday, March 28

7:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
3:00 – 7:00 pm Movie Screening “Courageous” – Parish Hall, lower level
7:00 pm Evening Prayer Livestream
7:30 – 9:00 pm CEC Book Club – Zoom
8:00 – 11:59 pm Tabernacle of David – Old Brick

Saturday, March 29

9:00 am – 3:00 pm Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo Dia Fidelidad – Old Brick
9:00 am – 2:00 pm Beauty Railroad Model Group – New Brick, lower level
2:00 – 4:00 pm AA Meeting – Parish Hall, lower level
3:30 – 4:30 pm Altar Guild Prep – Old Brick
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm Iglesia Adventista Del Septimo Dia Fidelidad – Old Brick



TELLERS NEEDED NOW!

There are many roles in the church that most people don't think of regularly – or at all. But the truth is it requires a LOT of work by many people to keep Christ Church the well-run parish that it is. One way is as a Teller.

A Teller counts the gifts given during church each Sunday, to help make sure every cent is accounted for. Without Tellers, we would have great difficulty in satisfying this important need.

And now, we are in desperate need for more Tellers... right away. It's only a role needed for an hour or so every occasional Sunday after church.

Please speak with Father Manny, the Wardens or Vestry members, or Yetti to learn more about how you can help.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement to share with the church,
Please send to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org by Tuesday evening.
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR ALL OF THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sunday Circle: *Evil in Jim Crow*

Lent is a period where we prepare ourselves with prayer, fasting, repentance, spiritual discipline, and self-denial. During the 2025 season, Sunday Circle will explore a few examples of evil that we have experienced in the world. In doing so, we at Christ Church will reflect and try to learn how we can take inventory and better manage ourselves as we encounter such individuals. The second session in this series, *Evil in Jim Crow*, is this Sunday morning and we invite everyone to join us for this powerful series. If you would like to view any of our previous Sunday Circle sessions, email communications@christchurchcolumbia.org for a link to the sessions you're interested in.

LENT at Christ Church

Our website's *Lent at Christ Church* page is live and contains details for our worship, formation, and fellowship gatherings throughout the upcoming season. This is also where you can read our [Daily Lenten Meditations](#) beginning March 6th, view the links for the Lenten Daily Office, listen to an inspirational song posted each weekend, and much more. Bookmark www.christchurchcolumbia.org/lent on your internet browser, or look for the page on the website's main menu bar. We hope that you find it to be a useful daily part of your Lenten journey.

Lenten Evening Prayer - Weeknights at 8 p.m. on YouTube, Facebook, and our website

During Lent this year, Mother Marcia Davenport presents us with a nightly evening prayer livestream, and if you haven't tuned in to any of these yet, you're truly missing out. She leads us in a brief worship using different prayer books from around the world, followed by a unique, personal reflection. They go live at 8:00 p.m. each weeknight, but you can view them all on our website at <https://www.christchurchcolumbia.org/lenten-evening-prayer>, our YouTube page, or our Facebook page at any time. Don't miss this beautiful way to worship in your own time at home during Lent, as it's a perfect way to close out another day.

Centering Prayer - Mondays

Centering Prayer is a special evening prayer gathering that can help lead to a more intimate union with God, a gathering that takes place every Monday. This active presence heals, transforms, and offers freedom and peace. We are a hybrid gathering, so be with us in Old Brick or online via Zoom at 7 p.m. on Monday evenings. Email centering@christchurchcolumbia.org for the Zoom details.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Supper Series

Christ Church's Wednesday Evening Lenten Series, one of the most cherished traditions of the season, takes place Wednesday evening at 6:30 with a communal meal provided by the Christ Church Music Ministry and is followed by a presentation by the Reverend Kirk Kubicek, a longtime friend of Christ Church, who'll be offering his insightful perspective on our theme for this year, *Reaching Out in Faith*. We then conclude with a brief Communion. This is a "do-not-miss" event, so gather with us each of the next three Wednesday evenings.

Healing Eucharist - Thursdays

At 12 noon on Thursdays during Lent, Christ Church offers midday worship in Old Brick. This service includes readings, prayers, a litany for healing, and the Holy Eucharist. Parishioners and non-parishioners are all welcome to join in a prayerful time in the presence of God, and to share in the wonderful mystery of God's love whilst we seek healing for ourselves and our loved ones. Please come in to reflect, pray, and participate in a service held in our beautiful, historic chapel.

Christ Church Choirs - Thursdays

The Christ Church Choirs rehearse in New Brick on Thursday evenings, and anyone can 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 long-term or not, there's a place for you in our choirs. Why not give it a try? If you're interested, speak with our Director of Music, Larissa, on Sundays, email her at music@christchurchcolumbia.org, or simply stop by a rehearsal and see if it's something you might enjoy being a part of.

Christ Church Book Club - Fridays

Book Club has completed the Lent book they have been reading, and is taking a break until after Easter. If you'd like more information on the book they'll be reading, speak with Ellen Hoke at church or email bookclub@christchurchcolumbia.org

Lenten Taizé - Sunday Evenings

Each Sunday evening during Lent at 6:00 p.m., Christ Church offers a service of contemplative prayer and music in the tradition of the Taizé community of France, promoting peace and justice through prayer and meditation. Our Lenten Taizé Vespers service gives attention to silence, holy words, prayer, and singing, and offers a chance to meditate and reflect on God's love and presence in one's life, to offer prayer for oneself and others, and to share in a supportive community of fellow pilgrims on the way. Gather with us in the New Brick Sanctuary for this very special and restorative service.

Our Altar Guild Needs Your Help

The Christ Church Altar Guild can truly use a few more people to help us in our ministry of providing clean linens and items for every worship service. It is a vital ministry, so if you are interested in signing up or learning more, please visit our website's Altar Guild page - www.christchurchcolumbia.org/altar-guild, or you can speak with Altar Guild Coordinator, Pam Foreman, or any Altar Guild member at church.

Help Us Provide Eucharist to Those Unable to Travel to Church. Become a Lay Eucharistic Visitor.

This year, we have had more people request Communion to You, a service Christ Church provides to bring Eucharist to homebound parishioners. To fulfill this need, we require a few more Lay Eucharistic Visitors, so if you're interested in helping with this vital ministry, please speak with Kathy Lyon at church, or contact the Church Office. And if you, yourself, require this service, please call the Church Office. We will ensure that Communion gets to your home.

Vacation Bible School Assistance

VBS is one of Christ Church's feature events every summer, and it requires a lot of assistance to make the week safe, fun, and engaging for everyone. The number of adult volunteers we get impacts the number of children we can accept for the week and the number of lives we can affect. If you can help out the week of June 23rd, please speak with Yetti at church, or call the Church Office. Thank you!

A Streamlined Plan Will Be in Effect During Our Spring Food Drive on Saturday, April 5, 12-4 PM, at River Hill Giant Supermarket in Clarksville

In response to a request by the management of Giant Foods, we must streamline the way in which Christ Church conducts its Spring Food Drive on Saturday, April 5, from noon to 4 p.m., at River Hill Giant, 6050 Daybreak Circle, Clarksville, Md., 21075.

A new corporate policy will limit the number of volunteers on the supermarket premises to four at any one time, and only two people can be positioned at the table and available to engage with arriving shoppers. Two of the four volunteers will be packing any collected groceries or seated off to one side and won't interact with Giant customers.

Groceries collected from shoppers will go to two food pantries. One is the Howard County Food Bank, which is operated by the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC). The other is SAFE, its partner pantry that provides free gluten-free and allergy-safe foods to low-income families and individuals. Each pantry provides its list of preferred items that we have printed on a handout and will also be displayed on a poster to inform shoppers.

A revised signup sheet reflecting the streamlined plan will be available this Sunday, March 23, in the Narthex or in Old Brick. We plan to ask for an exception to the headcount for those volunteers who wish to bring a child, so it is important when you sign up to indicate if you want to bring your kids. Outreach welcomes new and returning volunteers, but unlike in the past, we'll have to take turns on limited shifts and won't be part of a large group. Walk-in volunteers will be encouraged to do their part by taking a shopping list and purchasing some of the needed items. To learn more, email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

The need is great. The number of struggling households has grown in Howard County due to inflation and the mass firing of federal workers. In response, the CAC posted: "Terminated federal employees living in Howard County may visit the Howard County Food Bank to receive a bag of shelf staples twice a month for up to three months."

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 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 bin on the breezeway. The neighbors you help are grateful for all you do in their support.

Columbia Community Care Turns 5, Continues to Request Our Support

When the pandemic hit and Maryland entered a lockdown in March 2020, many students were going hungry without the school meals that they had grown to depend upon. That's when a local teacher founded Columbia Community Care (CCC) to collect and distribute essentials to families in need. After individual parishioners began helping, Christ Church became a regular supporter in June 2020. CCC marked "5 Years of Community" this month with a post on its Facebook page. It distributes groceries, diapers, and personal care items at three sites on Saturday mornings and delivers to those without transportation. To volunteer, go to "Volunteer Opportunities." 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.

We Need Acolytes!

Every Sunday, we need acolytes to help serve! An acolyte is a helper, an assistant – which, in the Kingdom of God is the position of highest honor, the place our Lord himself took among his friends. In worship, acolytes have the greatest variety of tasks to do – which makes for more things to remember, but also the most interesting jobs! The basic duty of an acolyte is to do his or her assigned tasks, and also be alert for whatever else might need to be done to make the service 'flow' better. We can always use more acolytes, so please speak with Deacon Kiona or any acolyte at church. Thank you!

Nightwatch NYC! April 4-5, 2025

is a Friday evening and overnight spiritual retreat for middle and high school-age students, youth groups, and their adult chaperones. Your group will have the opportunity to unplug from the distractions and stresses of daily life to connect with God and one another in the sacred space of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Nightwatch has created a safe, spirit-centered program of joyful fellowship, contemplative contemporary spiritual direction, devotional singing, and lots of fun activities. And the next day we explore some of the sights of the Big Apple! Register here: <https://episcopalmarylandyouth.weebly.com/events.html>



LENTEN TAIZÉ

EVERY SUNDAY DURING LENT

6 P.M. IN NEW BRICK

CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG/LENT

Lenten Taizé – TONIGHT

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VIEW OUR LENTEN SEASON
WORSHIP, FORMATION, AND FELLOWSHIP GATHERINGS AT
WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCOLUMBIA.ORG/LENT

LENT

REFLECTION

RENEWAL

PREPARATION



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MARYLAND

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Rev. Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
Rev. Kiona Lookingbill, *Deacon & Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Michael Looney, *Seminarian Associate*

Larissa Sanders, *Director of Music Ministry*

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

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