



CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

WELCOME!

We are glad you are with us today as we worship God and receive Christ's presence given to us in the sacrament of bread and wine. This service is offered by livestream to those who cannot assemble with us. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2024

10:30 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Service Music from *New Plainsong Mass*, David Hurd (b. 1950)

Voluntary *Conditor alme siderum* (Creator of the Stars of Night)

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Welcome

The Choir sings

The Introit

Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle: to you be praise and glory for ever!
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light.
May we your servants rejoice in his light, and so be led to witness to him who is the Lord
of our coming Kingdom, Jesus our Savior and King of the ages. Blessed be God for ever.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand, as able, and sing

Entrance Hymn 74 *Blest Be the King Whose Coming*

(blue) Hymnal 1982

The Opening Acclamation

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

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

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.***

All sing

Trisagion

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for

The First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

At the conclusion the People respond, "Thanks be to God."

The Choir sings

The Canticle *The First Song of Isaiah*

Setting: after L. Schroeter, arr. Fred Goff (b. 1984)

Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in God and not be afraid,
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and God will be my Savior;
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.
And on that day, you shall say: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name.
Make God's deeds known among the peoples, see that they remember that God's name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, who has done great things, and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy!
For the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

All stand.

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.

Please be seated for

The Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

At the conclusion the People respond, "Thanks be to God."

Please stand and sing

Gradual Hymn 76 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Hymnal 1982

The Gospel is carried to the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 3:7-18

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

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Once the Book of Gospels has returned to its place of honor, the People may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

The Homily

Michael Kurth

Please stand for

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us declare our faith in God:

People ***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.***

A member of the parish leads

The Prayers of the People

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid, we pray to Jesus. *[silence]*

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for believers throughout the world, for our bishop, Kevin, and for all who lead us in worship and service. Help us to live in the light of your coming and to offer you thanks and praise every day.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for our president, Joe, president-elect, Donald, and for leaders in every nation, city, and town, that they may work for the welfare of all the people they serve. Before you every knee shall bow.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter. We pray for those who are sad or lonely, hungry or cold; for people who live in fear and uncertainty, in places of unrest and in the aftermath of disaster; for all who need you, Lord, especially *N.*, and those we remember now. Break into our lives where we struggle with sickness and distress and set us free to serve you for ever.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember those we love who have gone from our lives but not from you, especially *N.*, and those we remember now. Give to us, with all the faithful departed, the light of your heaven and the comfort of your love.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, and hear our prayers and our praise. *Amen.*

Please kneel, as able, for

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People *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 Celebrant declares the absolution.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Please be seated as those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month stand to be recognized; then all say

People *O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Please stand for

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

The Celebrant continues the prayer, concluding

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 for ever.



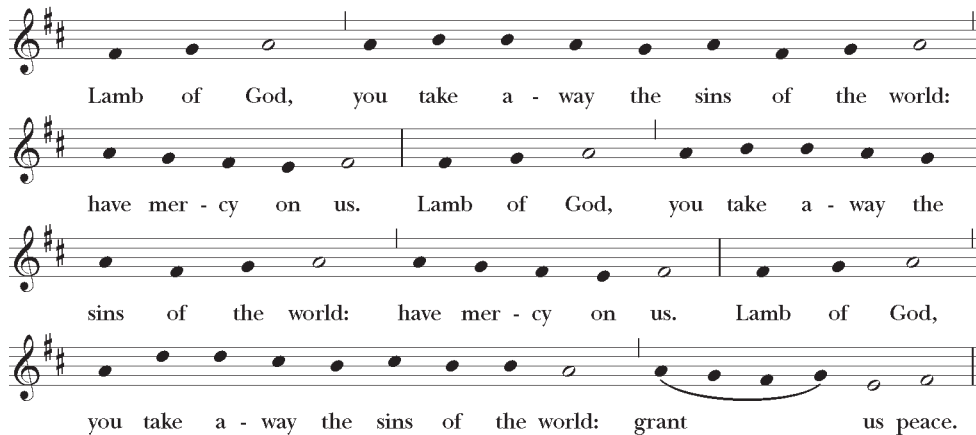
The Celebrant invites the People to say the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples.

The Lord's Prayer

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

We sing the anthem at the breaking of the bread, which is Christ's Body, broken for us. Please be seated after the sacrament is presented.



All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Christ or a blessing. Come up the center aisle and take your place along the altar rail, kneeling or standing. If you desire a blessing, cross your arms over your chest to indicate your intent. Receive the host in open hands. Gluten-free host is available; let the clergy know your need when they approach you. When you are presented with the cup, drink from it or dip the bread carefully into the cup and consume in both kinds together. If you do not wish to receive the cup, please cross your arms to indicate your intent, but wait for the minister to pass you before you leave the rail. Please use the side aisle to return to your pew. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher to let the clergy know, and communion will be brought to you.

Communion Anthem

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

King Jesus hath a garden, full of divers flowers,
Where I go culling posies gay, all times and hours.
There naught is heard but Paradise bird, harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.
The Lily, white in blossom there, is Chastity:
The Violet, with sweet perfume, Humility.
There naught is heard but Paradise bird, harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.
The bonny Damask-rose is known as Patience:
The blithe and thrifty Marygold, Obedience.

There naught is heard but Paradise bird, harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.

The Crown Imperial bloometh too in yonder place,
'Tis Charity, of stock divine, the flower of grace.

There naught is heard but Paradise bird, harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.

Yet, 'mid the brave, the bravest prize of all may claim
The Star of Bethlem—Jesus—bless'd be his Name!

There naught is heard but Paradise bird, harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.

Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal, my bliss complete,
Make thou my heart thy garden-plot, fair, trim and neat.
That I may hear this music clear: Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.

Communion Hymn 60 *Creator of the Stars of Night*

Hymnal 1982

Please stand for

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant In thanksgiving, let us pray.

People ***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.***

Please be seated for

Announcements

Please stand for

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People.

People ***Amen.***

All sing

Hymn in Procession 72 *Hark! The Glad Sound! The Savior Comes*

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

Voluntary *Fantasia on Veni Emmanuel*

Alec Rowley (1892-1858)

Please take your bulletin with you or return it to the table in the narthex as you leave.

We are sent forth to be Christ's blessing in the world. Our prayer is that today's worship has encouraged you in love, strengthened you for service, and filled you with peace. We look forward to your presence again in worship, in service to others, in learning and fellowship.

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED



DECEMBER 15, 2024

IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

THIS WEEK WE LIFT UP..

THE WORK OF STEWARDSHIP. Stewardship is the responsibility that we, as Christians, have in maintaining and wisely using our generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure, ensuring that Christ Church has the resources to strengthen and grow our discipleship and extend our caring reach. Each year our Stewardship Committee asks every member household to promise a financial offering to allow ministry to continue in the coming year, and about 65% of our financial resources come from your contributions. Thank you to the 341 households that have pledged for 2025 and to all who contribute to support our common life. Christ Church is a place for inspiration, celebration, sharing, service, and worship where all are welcome, and your gift to God makes this place possible. Please join us in making your pledge for 2025, and know that wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you here! You may pledge online [here](#) or call Michael Sayer in the parish office at (302) 655-3379 to record your pledge.

Year-end Gifts to Christ Church: Please help us meet our 2024 ministry budget by completing your financial pledge for the year. If you haven't made a 2024 pledge to contribute, we welcome your offering. All donations received on or before December 31 will be credited to your 2024 contribution statement. Donations received or postmarked after December 31 will be gratefully accepted as 2025 gifts. All donations are fully tax-deductible. To give online and for instructions on giving a gift of stock, click [here](#).

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE – TODAY

Join us today as we celebrate Christmas with a cookie exchange at 9:30 AM in the Parish Halls as our Parish Fellowship Ministry hosts Coffee & Community. Please bring three dozen baked or store-bought cookies, labeled to exchange in bags of six each. No faith formation classes will meet during this time, so all ages can share in this fun intergenerational event.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MEETING – TODAY

Christ Church's Grief Support Group meets today at 12 PM. Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one and are moving through the grief process are encouraged to attend either in person in the Commons Room or online. Click [here](#) for the Zoom link.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS – TODAY & DECEMBER 21

This year's Christmas pageant takes place on Christmas Eve during the 2 PM service. Cast members with speaking roles rehearse today from 4:30 to 5:30 PM in the Church, and the full cast will rehearse on Saturday, December 21, from 9:30 to 11 AM.

THE LONGEST NIGHT PRAYER SERVICE – DECEMBER 21

As we care for those who have lost loved ones, Christ Church offers a service on the longest night of the year. Join us in the Church on Saturday, December 21, at 7 PM for a candlelight prayer service for those who carry heavier burdens of sorrow into this season. Music is provided by Janet Witman on the harp.

HELP ADORN THE CHURCH & CHAPEL THIS CHRISTMAS – DECEMBER 22 & 23

Help adorn the Church and Chapel on Sunday, December 22, from 12 to 2:30 PM or from 2:30 to 5:30 PM or on Monday, December 23, from 10 AM to 1 PM, 1:30 to 4:30 PM, or 4:30 to 6:30 PM. All experience levels are welcome, and any holiday greens donations are appreciated. Contact [Sam Greenberg](#) to volunteer for a shift.

DINE WITH THE LADIES – DECEMBER 23

Each month, a group of women meets for an informal dinner in Greenville. All women are invited to Dine with the Ladies at Pizza by Elizabeths on Monday, December 23, at 7 PM. Click [here](#) to RSVP.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP THIS CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve – December 24

2:00 PM Christmas Pageant with Carols (no communion) in the Church

4:00 PM Holy Eucharist in the Church

4:00 PM Candlelight, Communion, and Carols in the Chapel

6:00 PM Christmas Lessons & Carols (no communion) in the Church and livestreamed to our website

10:00 PM Choral Eucharist in the Church

Christmas Day – December 25

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DELIVERY HELP NEEDED – DECEMBER 27

Following our Christmas worship, we deliver flowers from our sanctuary to approximately 100 of our members who are in our thoughts and prayers at this time. On Friday, December 27, between 9:30 and 10 AM, we need drivers willing to help with the distribution (anyone with a vehicle, driver's license, and a little time to spare). This simple act of pastoral ministry brings Christmas cheer to those who need it most. To volunteer, contact [Jane Rubini](#) or call (302) 655-3379.

COMBINED 9 AM SERVICE – DECEMBER 29

The ARK and SANCTUARY services combine for worship in the Church on Sunday, December 29. Please join us for one service of worship on this day and in our separate sacred spaces for worship on other Sundays when The ARK gathers for young children and their families in the Chapel, and SANCTUARY gathers for older children, youth, and their families in the Church.

NEW YEAR'S/HOLY NAME DAY SERVICE – JANUARY 1

Join us for our New Year's/Holy Name Day celebration on Wednesday, January 1, at 12 PM in the Chapel. This communion service commemorates the naming of the child Jesus eight days after his birth.

NEW THEOLOGY SMALL GROUP MEETS – JANUARY 2

The newly-formed Theology Small Group meets every other Thursday in the Commons Room from 5:30 to 6:30 PM and explores theological writings from the earliest days of the Church up to the present. Topics include the doctrine of the Trinity, grace, salvation, and age-old questions such as: Why does suffering exist? Is evil merely the absence of good? and How much free will do we have? The conversation and company are lively, and no prior understanding of theology is needed—there is space for all people. Please join in on Thursday, January 2!

CELTIC EUCHARIST ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – JANUARY 6

In our hurried and noisy world, Celtic Eucharist offers gracious space and time to enjoy the holiness of God, gently touched by candlelight, music, and prayer. This spirituality, part of our Anglican/Episcopal tradition, took root in Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Northumbria, and their coastal islands. Through moments of reflection and calm, quiet words, and the sacrament of Holy Communion, we bring this tradition to Christ Church on Monday, January 6, at 7 PM as we seek to draw more deeply into God's presence. Join us as we welcome harpist Janet Witman and guitarist Trevor Koenig Sr. to play during this service in the Church.

GIVE THE GIFT OF CHURCH MERCH THIS CHRISTMAS!

Christ Church merchandise is available for purchase and makes a great Christmas gift. Choose from baseball caps, water bottles, tote bags, umbrellas, Christmas ornaments, and more. Place your order [here](#) today.

HOSTS NEEDED FOR COFFEE & COMMUNITY

Volunteers are needed to host Coffee & Community each Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. This is a fun way to contribute to the life of our parish while extending generous hospitality, and it's a great activity to do as a family or with a group of friends. Click [here](#) to sign up for a date in 2025.

WEAR YOUR CHRIST CHURCH NAME TAG

Help us build community as we get to know fellow parishioners and newcomers by wearing your Christ Church name tag when you come to church. Tags are hard plastic with a magnetic clip, and donations are welcome to offset the \$8 cost to the church. Order yours [here](#).

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of
Nora Lee and J. Floyd Layton

The flowers in the Chapel are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of
Susan Elizabeth Harney

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Christ Church welcomes you into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.



NEW HERE? Scan the QR code to let us know or complete the card in the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PARISH CLERGY

The Rev. Ruth Beresford, *Rector*
The Rev. Michael Kurth, *Associate Rector/Preschool Chaplain*
The Rev. David Beresford, *Interim Associate Rector*
The Very Rev. William Lane, *Pastoral Associate*

LAY MINISTRY STAFF

Sheila Abio, *Head of School*
Bruce Barber, *Director of Music*
Mason Cruz, *Minister for Children & Youth*
Jo Harney, *Director of Choristers*
Cameron Kuzepski, *Organ Scholar*

ADMINISTRATIVE & FACILITIES STAFF

Sherry Lawton-Fasic, *Parish Administrator*
Terri Carpe, *Finance Manager*
Jennifer Fordham, *School Administrator*
Denise Gilliam, *CCEP Administrative Specialist*
Deb Piper, *Philanthropy/Stewardship Associate*
Jane Rubini, *Administrative Associate*
Nigel Sanderson, *Livestream Technician*
Michael Sayer, *Facilities Manager*
Deborah Webb, *Communications Associate/Graphic Designer*
Leroy Folks, Andy Marine, Charles Parfitt-Simpson, *Sextons*

VESTRY & OFFICERS

Ran Barton, *Senior Warden*; Alexia Wolf, '26, *Junior Warden*
Mark Parsells, *Treasurer*; Bob Reardon, *Assistant Treasurer*
Jennifer O'Connor, *Clerk*; Alexander Maynard, *Youth Representative*
Chuck Arensberg, '26; Audrey Bruce, '25; Cindi Cozza, '27; Barbara King, '27
Ted Ledden, '25; Thorpe Moeckel, '27; Scott Nickle, '26; Eliza Phillips, '25
Jamie Poston, '27; Bart Reese, '25; Jaqueline Whalen, '26

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

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Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM