



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 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2024

10:30 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

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

Voluntary *Fantasy on Veni, Emmanuel*

Robert C. Lau (b. 1943)

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 light has shown in our darkened world through the childbearing of blessed Mary;
Grant that we who have seen your glory may daily be renewed in your image and prepared
like her for the coming of your Son, who is the Lord and Savior of all. Blessed be God for ever.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand, as able, and sing

Entrance Hymn 56, vs. 1-4 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

(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. Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated for

The First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

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

Please stand and join in singing the Antiphon, sung first by the Cantor, then repeated by all, and then sung as appointed.

The Canticle *The Song of Mary*, vs. 1-8

S-247, Hymnal 1982

Setting: Betty Carr Pulkingham (1928-2019)

Please be seated for

The Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

Please stand and sing

Gradual Hymn 268 *Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus*

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 1:39-45

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

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the

mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

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

David Beresford

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.

Please stand for

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory and Preparation of the Table

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering. Giving money is a sign that our life serves God's purposes and expresses our gratitude for God's many blessings. The ushers will receive the offering and present it on our behalf. Also, you may give online or text a contribution to (302) 244-5368. For those who give electronically, a card is available in the pews to participate in the act of offering. Newcomers and guests may place the welcome card in the offering plate.

Anthem

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk, and Mary bore Jesus, all wrapped up in silk,
And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Savior for to be, and the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
Holly! Holly! And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass, and Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross,
And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Savior for to be, and the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
Holly! Holly! And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal, and Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all,
 And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Savior for to be, and the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
 Holly! Holly! And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

Now the holly bears a berry as blood is it red, and Mary bore Jesus who rose from the dead,
 And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Savior for to be, and the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
 Holly! Holly! And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

Please stand and sing

Presentation Hymn 53 *Once He Came in Blessing*

Hymnal 1982

The Great Thanksgiving

(red) Book of Common Prayer 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so 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 God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues the prayer, inviting our praise in the ancient song of the Sanctus.

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

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

The Celebrant continues the prayer, inviting our acclamation of Christ's sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection, saying

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

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.

Celebrant *People*
 A - men.

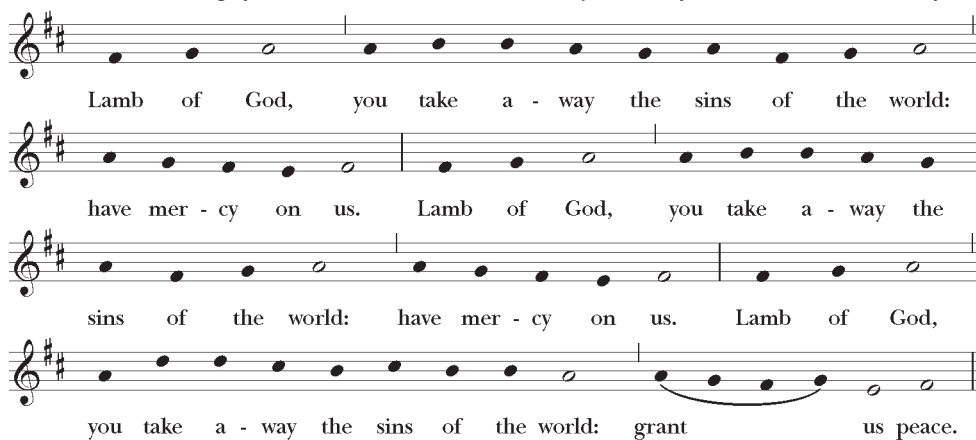
The Celebrant invites the People to say the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples.

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.



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.

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

Setting: Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it, this Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.
O Flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispel in glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere;
True man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
And share our ev'ry load.

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.***

Sending Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts; that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People ***We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.***

Please be seated for

Announcements

Please stand for

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People.

People ***Amen.***

All sing

Hymn in Procession 56, vs. 5-8 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

Voluntary *Sortie sur Venez, divin Messie* (Postlude on O Come, Divine Messiah) César Franck (1822-1890)

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 22, 2024

IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

THIS WEEK WE LIFT UP..

OUR CELEBRATION OF LIFE MINISTRY. The Celebration of Life ministry provides hospitality to those who wish to have a reception here at Christ Church following a funeral or memorial service. Volunteers help the family coordinate the details of the reception, serving as contacts for the caterer and florist and are present throughout the reception to ensure that all goes well. This important pastoral ministry provides Christian care to those who are bereaved, as we proclaim our trust in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. For more information or to volunteer, please contact [Elaine Olsen](#) or call the parish office at (302) 655-3379.

HELP ADORN THE CHURCH & CHAPEL – TODAY & TOMORROW

Help adorn the Church and Chapel for Christmas today, December 22, from 12 to 2:30 PM or from 2:30 to 5:30 PM or tomorrow, 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.

DINE WITH THE LADIES – TOMORROW

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

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. 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 next 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.

2024 YEAR-END GIFTS & 2025 PLEDGES 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.

Thank you to those households that have made a financial pledge to Christ Church for 2025! 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. We rely on contributions and pledges like yours as our primary source of income to support our ministries as we care for our parish family and serve the community around us. Please join us in making your pledge, and know that wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you here.

Click [here](#) to give online, make a pledge, and for instructions on giving a gift of stock. In addition, you may mail checks to Christ Church, P. O. Box 3510, Wilmington, DE 19807.

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 in the Chapel and welcome harpist Janet Witman and guitarist Trevor Koenig Sr. to play during the service.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION – JANUARY 8

Those of all ages are invited for Coffee and Conversation on Wednesday, January 8, from 10:45 to 11:45 AM in the Commons Room. Gather with friends for meaningful conversation and make new friends over coffee, tea, and snacks. Join us for this time of fun and fellowship and then stay for the 12 PM Eucharist in the Chapel.

CHAPEL MEMORIAL FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE

Memorial flowers for the altars at Christ Church are donated in memory of loved ones each week. With weekly services in the Chapel, there are numerous dates available to donate flowers in 2025. If you wish to offer flowers for the Chapel in memory of a loved one, please contact [Jane Rubini](#) or call (302) 655-3379.

OUR MINISTRY OF CARING

Christ Church's Pastoral Care ministries provide Christian care and hospitality to people in need within and beyond our parish family. Everyone at Christ Church can participate in reaching out to those who could use help, especially during this holiday season when many find it to be a time of sadness, loneliness, and anxiety. Another option is to share concerns or issues that you hear about in the lives of parishioners and friends with a member of the church staff by emailing the [parish office](#) or calling (302) 655-3379. This small act will help ensure that when a need arises, the church can wrap its arms of love and assistance around those who could really use it.

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](#).

HEARING LOOP SYSTEM

Our nave is equipped with a hearing loop system that provides clean, clear sound without a headset and transmits sound from our microphones directly into hearing aids and cochlear implants with telecoils of those in the pews. If you have hearing loss but no telecoil device, please ask an usher for a loop receiver.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of
John M. Simpson

The flowers in the Chapel are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of
Matilda "Tilly" Maassen

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