

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MD

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 17, 2021 | 10:00 AM

You may stream this service from Christ Church's [web site](#), [Facebook page](#), or [YouTube channel](#).

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

The people stand as able.

OPENING HYMN

Ratisbon

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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

Prayed in unison

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever.

***People:* Amen.**

The people may be seated.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The following psalm is chanted by the choir.

PSALM 139:1-5, 12-17

Domine, probasti

LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.

How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

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

The people stand as able for the singing of the hymn and the reading of the Gospel.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Franconia

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the
2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to
3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and
4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give
se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;
for his dwell - ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

THE GOSPEL

John 1:43-51

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

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

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON

The Rev'd Emmanuel Mercer, *Rector*

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

Though our troubles overwhelm us, your peace calms us to follow your will. Remind us to put on the armor of light and love, walking in the gospel of peace and shielded by faith in your word. Strengthen our resolve to speak only the truth in loving understanding and kindness to resolve our differences. We are the people called to unite, through deeds, true love and compassion. Keep us on a straight and narrow path. We pray, “**Good Lord, guide us!**”

Our nation is facing trying divisions. Help us to find avenues of peace and reconciliation acceptable to both sides. Help us to stop those actively trying to divide the nation and further their personal power. Help us to discern their actions and motives so justice is served. May all our elected officials act for the common good. We pray, “**Good Lord, unite us!**”

Your hand has made this great nation and given its people hope for a better life. May we trust in you to serve as our compass. Encourage our churches to serve each community, offering guidance, solace, and strength. Quiet the forces of anger and hatred infecting peoples' hearts. May all leaders within your church speak boldly, unafraid within Your truth. We particularly ask for your hand to guide Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene and Robert, our Diocesan Bishops; Manny and Denise, our Rector and Deacon. We ask for your spirit to energize the churches in our Diocese: St Martin's in-the-Field, Severna Park; St. Philip's, Annapolis; St. Stephen's, Severn Parish. In the Anglican Communion we pray for The Anglican Church of Australia. We pray, "**Good Lord, kindle your zeal within us!**"

Our lives continue to be assaulted by COVID-19. We pray for all battling this disease on countless fronts. Help us to properly weigh the risks of life without fear, for as your children standing in perfect love we are safe in your care. We pray for those afflicted in mind, body and spirit, especially Angela, Nell, Alta, Pamela, Chad, Joan, Richard, Rebecca, Jean, Alfred, Stan, Nick, Ashley, Anthony, Jim, Patrick, Bill, Theresa, Barbara, Anne, Victoria, and those you now name. We pray for those who have passed to greater life: Paul, Fred, and Lee Hanna, and for the lives lost during the Capitol assault, in the Indonesian airline crash, and for those you now name. Comfort those who grieve the loss of loved ones, filling them with the knowledge that all who love are joined in eternity. We pray, "**Good Lord, you are the source of all health and life!**"

We are reminded of the countless blessings You have showered upon us. In celebration of Your goodness, we acknowledge those moments in our lives that bring us great joy, remembering the birthdays of Farris, Hao, Greg, Harolyn, Samuel, Brett, George, Brian, Chiemeka, Camilla, Cindy, Johanna, Olabisi, Cindy, and those you now name. We pray, "**Good Lord, You are the font of all goodness!**"

Let us remember that we are the eyes, hands, and feet of our Lord Christ, and that he has commissioned us to put on the armor of God to guard the weak and helpless and to oppose forces of evil. **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 Rev'd Emmanuel Mercer, *Rector*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it
 2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it
 3. Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon - na let it

Oh

1. shine, This lit - tle light of mine,
 2. shine, Ev - 'ry - where I go,
 3. shine, Je - sus gave it to me,

Oh

1. I'm gon - na let it shine; This lit - tle light of
 2. I'm gon - na let it shine; Ev - 'ry - where I
 3. I'm gon - na let it shine; Je - sus gave it to

Oh

1. mine, I'm gon - na let it shine, Let it
 2. go, I'm gon - na let it shine, Let it
 3. me, I'm gon - na let it shine, Let it

Oh

1. shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 2. shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 3. shine, let it shine, let it shine.

To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re - vealed in earth - ly night, to
 God the Ho - ly Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

***All:* Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

Celebrant: On the night before he died for us, 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."

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, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

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,
for ever 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.**

All: In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church,
 where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,
 I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving.
 I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection;
 I await your coming in glory.
 And since I cannot receive you today
 in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
 I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.
 Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus,
 and let me never be separated from you.
 May I live in you, and you in me,
 in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me
 2. When my way grows— drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger
 3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws—

1. stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 2. near, When my life is al - most gone;
 3. near, And the day is past and gone;

1. — Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the
 2. — Hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand, lest I
 3. — At the riv - er I stand, Guide my feet, hold my

1. light, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.

2. fall, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.

3. hand, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, Lead me on.

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 blesses the People, who respond **Amen.***

Introduction

1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing till earth and hea - ven ring, ring with the
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast

har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise
 days when hope un - born had died; yet, with a stead - y beat,
 brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might

high as the lis - tening skies; let it re - sound loud as the
 have not our wea - ry feet come to the place for which our
 led us in - to the light; keep us for ev - er in the

roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
 par - ents sighed? We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we

taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has
wa - tered; we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the
met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for -

brought us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new
slaugh - tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we
get thee; sha-dowed be - neath thy hand may we for

day be - gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
ev - er stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

PERMISSIONS | *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission. | Book of Common Prayer, 1979, Church Publishing. Public Domain. | “Christ, whose glory fills the sky.” Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Ratisbon*, melody from *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, 1524; adapt. att. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870); harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt. Words, music in the Public Domain. | “Blest are the pure in heart.” Words: Sts. 1 and 3, John Keble (1792-1866), alt.; sts. 2 and 4, William John Hall (1793-1861), alt. Music: *Franconia*, melody Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758); adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870). Words, music in the Public Domain. | “This little light of mine.” Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (1935-2009). Words, music in the Public Domain. | Doxology hymn *Puer nobis*. Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt. Music: melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Cowley Carol Book*, 1902. Words, music in the Public Domain. | “Precious Lord, take my hand.” Words: Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993). Music: Thomas A. Dorsey; arrs. Horace Clarence Boyer (1935-2009). © 1938 (Renewed) WARNER-TAMERLANE PUBLISHING CORP. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-701378. All Rights Reserved. | “Lift every voice and sing.” Words: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938). Music: *Lift Every Voice*, J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954). Words, music in the Public Domain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Eucharist and Fellowship | Join us online this Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. as we livestream worship from Old Brick. Our broadcast will be live on our [Christ Church website](#), [YouTube](#), and [Facebook](#) pages. A few minutes after the service ends, we'll have our Virtual Coffee Hour on Zoom, so everyone is invited to stop by and say "HELLO!" as we catch up with one another in this new year. The Zoom link is [here](#), Meeting ID is 830 0557 1585, and the password is SundayVCH. See you on Sunday!

Christ Church Sunday School | We have weekly, online Sunday School classes for preschoolers and elementary school children from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. [Please fill out a registration form](#) so that we are able to provide you with the Zoom codes. Our curriculum is "*Weaving God's Promises*" and we are in *Year 3: Weaving God's Community*. To learn more about our Sunday School offerings, [please visit our website](#), and if you have any questions or are able to help facilitate classes, please contact Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkins@verizon.net.

We also host weekly Sunday School classes for middle & high schoolers on Zoom from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. [Please fill out the registration form](#) so that we can provide you with the Zoom codes. If you have any questions, please contact Yetti Lipede by emailing theodociayl@gmail.com.

Confirmation and Adult Inquirers Class - Sunday Afternoon | We invite all parishioners who are interested in being Confirmed, Reaffirmed, or Received into the Episcopal Church, or have the desire to deepen their faith, to join us on Sunday afternoons for Confirmation and Adult Inquirers class. Our next meeting is this Sunday at 2:00 p.m. on Zoom. The Confirmation and Inquirers classes is an opportunity that we have to explore the varied and rich components that shape and inform our faith. For information, contact Yetti - ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org or Fr. Manny - revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Update on New Brick Repairs Following the Sprinkler Flood | On December 6th, we had a sprinkler pipe burst causing substantial water damage in much of New Brick. The Buildings and Grounds Committee has been working with Father Manny to arrange for the necessary repairs. This week a beautiful and new wood floor was finished. It is presently 'curing' and will be ready for use in about four weeks. Work on the damaged drywall has begun and will hopefully be completed early next week. Following that will be painting and trim work. It is our hope that after the 'curing' of the new wooden floor, we will have an extensive cleaning of both the Sanctuary and Lower Level before we install a new carpet. Keep praying for Father Manny, Rev. Denise, Adam, Chris, Yetti, and all those who make worship possible in Old Brick. For further information or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Wardens at wardens@christchurchcolumbia.org or Fr. Manny at revmanny@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Morning and Evening Prayer – Weekdays | Due to increasing demands on our staff's time and energy, we've decided on a modified schedule for morning and evening prayer. We continue to offer morning prayer Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m., and evening prayer is now offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 7:00 p.m. We invite you to worship via [Facebook](#) or the [main page of our website](#), and join in the centering and healing Anglican practice of observing daily offices.

Lectionary Bible Study – Wednesdays | Bible Study takes place on Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and is a discussion on the readings for that coming Sunday. You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and let's all study together. If you're interested, simply gather with us online next Wednesday. The Zoom link is [here](#), Meeting ID is 854 7191 2087, and the password is BibleStudy. This information will also be in each Monday's "*This Week on Zoom at Christ Church*" email, so look for it next week.

Christ Church Book Discussion Group Restarts Next Friday | On Friday, January 22nd the Christ Church Book Discussion Group will begin a new book - "*Love is the Way*" by the Reverend Michael Curry. This New York Times Bestseller based on his life experiences and how love has guided his decisions and was recently highlighted in an NPR radio interview. It is available on several bookseller websites in hardcover, audio, and digital formats.

These Christ Church discussions are conducted via Zoom each week from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. and we usually cover 40-45 pages per week. We assign sections to different members of the group as primary presenters and then the rest of the group contributes to the discussion. This is a 270-page book, so we will end in late February. We have hosted 10-15 individuals for past book discussions, but we are very open to expanding our group and hope you'll consider joining us.

If there are any questions, please contact Ellen Boudreau Hoke by cell phone at 301-452-7115, text message, or by email at efboudreau@gmail.com. We are a friendly group and enjoy sharing our thoughts, so let's discuss this book together.

Health and Wellness - Save the Date! | Join us for a special virtual Health and Wellness offering on Thursday, January 28th, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Experienced yoga instructor and wellness coach [Danielle Beyers](#) will lead us in a gentle yoga flow and meditation class. We hope this will be an opportunity to make some time for self-care and mindful connection within our Christ Church community. No yoga experience or equipment is necessary - just comfortable clothing and a quiet space in your home. Zoom details will be forthcoming.

WOCC News for February | The WOCC's next monthly meeting will take place on Monday, February 1st at 1:00. Once again, we will be meeting via the Zoom meeting app, which is free and available for sign up on www.Zoom.us. Please go to their site and sign up prior to the meeting. Feel free to join us!

In observance of American Heart Health Month, the WOCC is inviting you to wear something red. We would like to create a social media post of everyone wearing red, so between now and Wednesday, February 10th, please send in a photo of you in your finest! Email photos to announcements@christchurchcolumbia.org. Thank you!

All the women of Christ Church over the age of 18 are members of the WOCC. If you have any questions, please contact the WOCC officers by emailing wocc@christchurchcolumbia.org: Gail Braatelen, president; Rhonda Tomlinson, vice president; Cathy Gold, financial secretary; Joan Harvey, secretary; and Pamela Brown, chaplain.

Call for 2021 Lenten Meditations - Submissions by February 7th | Each year since 2005, Christ Church assembles a Lenten Meditation Book of written or shared thoughts, reflections, poems, drawings, songs, stories, essays, spiritual passages from books, or scriptures that capture our thoughts and feelings at Lent. We try to focus on the year's Spiritual Life Theme in our contributions to the meditations. This year's theme is: *Be God's Light That Shines in the Darkness*. In 2021, our Parish has a shortened time to submit contributions to this booklet, as Ash Wednesday is early this year and falls on February 17th. We hope to have our online version and a number of printed copies available on February 14th. A staff member posts daily individual meditation book submissions on the Christ Church website and on our social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) throughout the 40 days of Lent. The Spiritual Life Commission will be happy to share last year's booklet with anyone wishing to see what type of material was submitted. Ellen Hoke (301-452-7115) and Donna Campagna (410-707-5197) are both available and willing to answer any questions by phone or text. Meditation submissions can be sent to Ellen Hoke's email at efboudreau1@gmail.com. Please help us to compile a meaningful collection of meditations to be shared with our congregation, and with thousands of viewers online. We are so grateful for our community of faith, which always continues to inspire us.

Join Us on Jan. 18th to Help Feed the Hungry at Grassroots | If you want to reach out to others on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, here's one way to help someone. Plan to prepare a side dish or dessert for the monthly meal that Christ Church provides to the residents of the [Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center](#) at its live-in facility on Freetown Rd. During the pandemic, we began these curbside drop-offs in lieu of the monthly meals that we once provided in-person at another Grassroots facility, the Dorsey/Rt. 1 Day Resource Center. It remains closed due to the coronavirus, except for curbside distribution of non-perishables.

In this new tradition during the pandemic, co-coordinator Nancy Winchester acquires fried chicken at Weis and meets the other volunteers as they drive up to Christ Church. (See accompanying photo from Dec. 21.) On Monday, Jan.

18th, please plan to arrive by 3:30 p.m. outside Old Brick. We suggest that you wear both masks and gloves and plan to practice social distancing to keep everyone safe.

Nancy then transports the food to Freetown Road for handoff to the staff of Grassroots. Additional volunteers -- and the resulting side dishes, desserts, fruit, and granola bars to complement our main course -- are always welcome. For questions, ask Nancy or co-coordinator Shahra Toth or email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

Now's the time to mark your calendars for the third Monday of February, which is the date for the next meal that Christ Church will provide. Please plan to drop off your items at 3:30 p.m. on Feb. 15th.

On their own, parishioners at Christ Church have signed up to provide the evening meal on several evenings in February for the 50 adults and children. Consider pitching in, by picking a date to provide an entree and side dishes, or just the entree. Grassroots encourages an order of 12 pizzas -- four with cheese and the rest with meat (any kind), or rotisserie chickens (12 to make a meal), but discourages lasagna or other pasta entrees. Another welcome option is takeout from restaurants to help the workforce. Here is [a link to the sign-up list](#) that's maintained by Grassroots.

Another Opportunity to Learn QPR Skills to Help Prevent Suicides | Once again, a separate part of Grassroots is offering members of the community a chance to learn skills that could help save a life from suicide. QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer -- the three simple steps anyone can learn to help save lives, just as individuals trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver learn what to do. The free online seminar, in which members of Christ Church first participated last June, is being offered remotely in January for Howard County residents, employees, or students.

Grassroots and the [Horizon Foundation](#) are offering QPR training on two days this month. The session on Jan. 19th, from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m., is intended for youth age 13 or older or, if the child is younger, when accompanied by a parent during training. The session on Jan. 25th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., is for adults. To learn more, go here: <https://www.grassrootscrisis.org/events/> Or you can email amanda@grassrootscrisis.org to speak directly to Amanda Ganoë, the sessions' organizer. Those of us who completed the training under her guidance during the summer came away with important insights and, as a bonus, several resources that can be shared with others.

Whether or not you decide to take the training, please be aware that Grassroots maintains a 24-hour crisis intervention and supportive counseling hotline (410-531-6677). Individuals may call for various reasons such as suicidal thoughts, family and relationship issues, and addiction, among other problems.

Drives Continue to Collect Specific Items for CCC and FISH | Parishioners are asked to support [Columbia Community Care](#) (CCC), an all-volunteer effort that came together in Howard County in response to the pandemic, by collecting diapers and personal care items. The organizers have told Christ Church Vestry member Diane Phillips-Laguerre that these basics are scarce.

Besides diapers in all sizes and baby wipes, CCC needs women's sanitary care products, soaps, shampoo, deodorant, and other toiletries. Please put them in the yellow bin that's marked "CCC" and located just inside the Parish Hall door. You can drop off items on weekdays until 2 p.m., but we ask that you call the church office (410) 381-9365 to let them know when you are coming and wear your mask when on the campus. Thank you.

Meanwhile, the basket of groceries for [FISH of Howard County](#) that once stood at the altar has been replaced by a yellow bin, marked "FISH" on the breezeway between the Parish Hall and Old Brick. During winter, please contribute items such as cereal and granola bars that will not freeze. Please do NOT bring canned goods, liquids in plastic such as juices and salad dressing, or glass containers.

January LEMS Committee Update | The LEMS committee is continuing to contribute to the LEMS Weekend Food Program in 2021! We plan to provide food for ten families one weekend a month in the new year. If anyone is interested in volunteering with the monthly bulk purchasing, bagging, and delivering to the school when New Brick

reopens, please contact the committee. With local COVID cases at their peak, we are following strict safety precautions and will expect the same of all volunteers.

The committee has also reached out to the school to find out if they need assistance at the start of the new semester and will let you know what we find out. If you have any questions, please contact lemspc@christchurchcolumbia.org. Donations can be made towards future LEMS support online using [Realm](#) and listing LEMS in the memo line.

In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org. Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.

Please Consider a Contribution to Christ Church.

Recent world events have been challenging for us all. It has also affected how we are able to continue to help others. Please consider contributing to Christ Church so that we may continue to support our parish staff, as well as those in need in our community and around the world. Christ Church has achieved much in the past because of everyone's generosity, and for that we are very grateful. We are still carrying out an amazing ministry for a moderate-sized church - even through this very challenging time - but it does require everyone's assistance. Each contribution helps greatly.

Text Giving

You can now give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply text CECGIVING to 73256, and you'll receive a secure link to our page where you can set up a one-time or recurring gift.

Online Giving

You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing towards your annual pledge or other offering. Whether it's a one-time donation or a recurring gift, you can go to our [overview page](#) for instructions and links. Signing up is fast and easy; if you need assistance doing so, or if you have any Stewardship-related questions, please contact us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org

Our 2021 Pledge Form is Online

The 2021 Pledge Form is on our website, for your convenience. You can complete the form by clicking here, and if you have any questions, please email stewardship@christchurchcolumbia.org

Christ Episcopal Church
6800 Oakland Mills Road
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 381-9365
www.christchurchcolumbia.org
office@christchurchcolumbia.org

The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*
Adam Detzner, *Director of Music*
Yetti Lipede, *Interim Parish Administrator*
Kareem Mack, *Cantor*
Rebecca Warlow, *Licensed Lay Preacher*

Vestry

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Jan DeBoissiere (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)
Tim Beaty • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • W. Ben Jackson III • Greta Pike-Barnes •
Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman