

HOLY COMMUNION

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30, 2026



Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church! *We join as a family of friends receiving Holy Communion every Sunday to empower ministry to our community. We are an inclusive fellowship – without exception. There is a place for you among us at Christ Church. Join with us. All are welcome to receive communion. Speak with the Priest to learn about being baptized.*

For Encouragement: Holy One, please help me to not lose heart. When I look around me, it is easy to get overwhelmed and discouraged. When that happens, I will take heart, because You are renewing me. Help me to remember all the ways You are present through Christ, my Lord. Amen.

About Holy Communion: *We trust Christ to be truly present in the bread and wine. All baptized persons, children and adults, are welcomed to receive. Stand or kneel at the altar rail with palms extended to receive the wafer to dip into the cup of wine. If you would prefer a blessing, cross your arms over your chest to signal the Priest. (If you would like to learn more about being baptized, speak with Father Emanuel.)*

Mission Statement – At Christ Episcopal Church we gather to worship, pray, sing, and share so together we may serve our community and the world.

Voluntary

Prelude (from Harmonium Pieces)

Franck/Nevin

(All stand.)



1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
 2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
 3 God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all



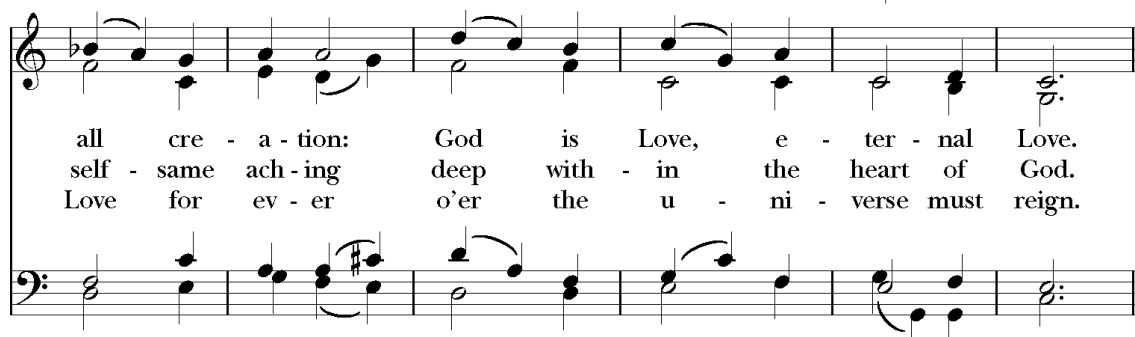
earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness



and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall



da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so



all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

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

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

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.***



D/A Em/A D A D/A

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and

G Em7 D A F#m/A Em/A D

ho - ly, tried and true; with thanks-giv - ing, I'll be a

A G Em7 A7 D

liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for You.

Words and Music: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs
© 1982 by Full Armor Music and Whole Armor Music. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Announcements

A Reading from Jeremiah 15:15–21

(Lector)

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Silence for reflection follows the reading.)

Psalm 26:1–8 (*spoken responsively by Lector and People*)

Judica me, Domine

1 Give judgment for me, O LORD,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

**2 Test me, O LORD, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.**

3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.

**4 I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.**

(Silence for reflection follows the Psalm.)

A Reading from Romans 12:9–21

(Lector)

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Silence for reflection follows the reading.)

(Standing as able)

Sequence Hymn

644

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and homophonic, using mostly whole and half notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some lines numbered 1 through 5. The first system of music corresponds to the first five lines of the first stanza. The second system of music corresponds to the first five lines of the second stanza. The score ends with a double bar line.

1 How sweet the Name of Je - sus sounds in a be - liev - er's ear!
2 It makes the wound - ed spi - rit whole, and calms the trou - bled breast;
3 Dear Name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hid - ing - place,
4 O Je - sus! Shep - herd, Guard - ian, Friend, O Pro - phet, Priest, and King,
5 Weak is the ef - fort of my heart, and cold my warm - est thought;

1 It soothes our sor - rows, heals our wounds, and drives a - way our fear.
2 'tis man - na to the hun - gry soul, and to the wea - ry, rest.
3 my nev - er - fail - ing trea - sury, filled with bound - less stores of grace!
4 my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, ac - cept the praise I bring.
5 but when I see thee as thou art, I'll praise thee as I ought.

The Gospel

Matthew 16:21–28

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

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon

(Several moments of silence for reflection follow the sermon.)

(Standing, as able.)

The Nicene Creed

Minister: We rise to join in the Nicene Creed.

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

(Silence)

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work; **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For the leaders of the nations and for Donald, our President; Henry, our Governor, and for all in authority in our community, that peace through justice prevail and our country remain hospitable, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the homeless, immigrants, for prisoners, the addicted, natural disasters, injustice, and violence; that they may be delivered from their distress. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Daniel, our Bishop; and Dorsey, Andrew, and Frank, our Bishops retired; and Phil, our Priest; and other ministers; For all who serve God in his Church. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are sick, in treatment, or recovery, especially **Maxine, Rick, Michelle, Helen, Anita Christman*, Kip Carter*, David Ford*, Jim Abercrombie, Ben Murphy, Kristen Phillips, Belinda, Erin Gardner, Julie Bowers, Melissa McPherson, Debbie, Cathy, Amanda Ford*, John, Kay Lamberton*, Mildred Wilmot, Diane Hood, Tric Deaton*, John Port, Fionna, Allen, Rebecca Bryson, Wayne, Amelia Davis, Mike Lamberton*, Pam Giardiello*, Earle Holmes*, Aubrey Crawford*, Father Bill Walters.**

Silence

Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. Remembering those celebrating birthdays especially, Joe Giardiello and those celebrating anniversaries especially, Terry and Sue Campbell. We pray for the work of the Community of Hope and Education for Ministry. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

We pray for all who have died who rest in your loving embrace. *(Names)*

Just and Eternal God, Creator of All: Convince us to work earnestly so the earth remains habitable for present and future generations. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Silence

We will exalt and give thanks to you, O God our King; **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; **Who put their trust in you.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(Silence)

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

Celebrant:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

(All stand.)

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence:

Celebrant: I ask you brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your true and proper worship. *Romans 12:1*

Hymn at the Offertory:

707

Take my life, and let it be

1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;

take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

Take my hands, and let them move at the im-pulse of thy love;
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.

take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

(We stand as the offering is presented.)

The Presentation of the Offering

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(The people remain standing.)

Sursum Corda S-120

The musical notation is arranged in four systems, each with a staff and lyrics below. The first system is for the Celebrant and the People. The second and third systems are for the Celebrant. The fourth system is for the People. The notation uses a single line with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: 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 him thanks and praise.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

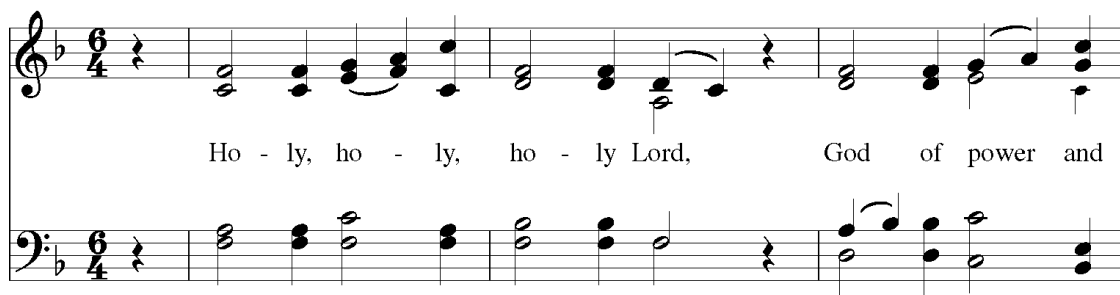
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you. O Lord, Holy Father through Christ our Lord. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

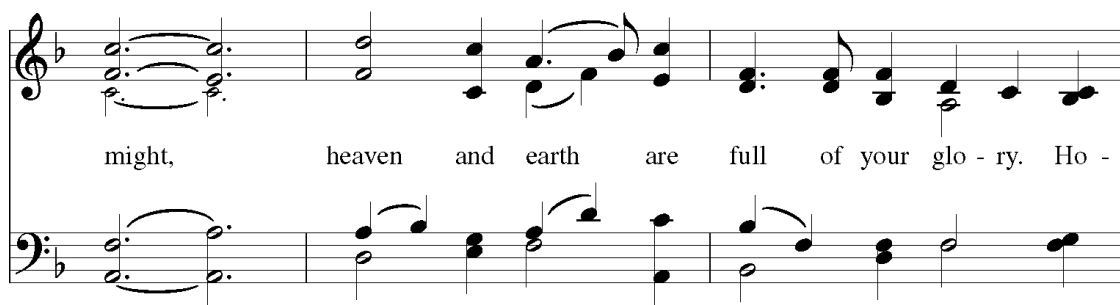
Sanctus

WLP 858

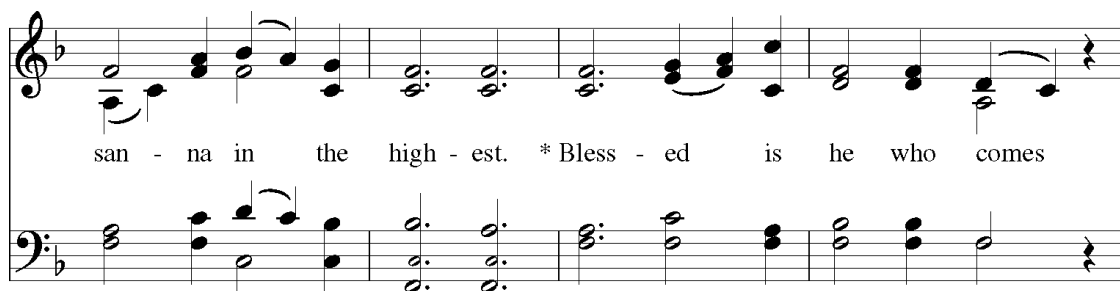
Holy, holy, holy



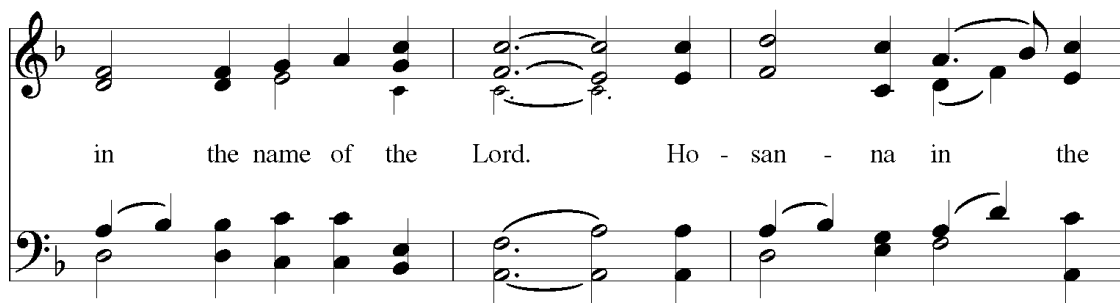
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



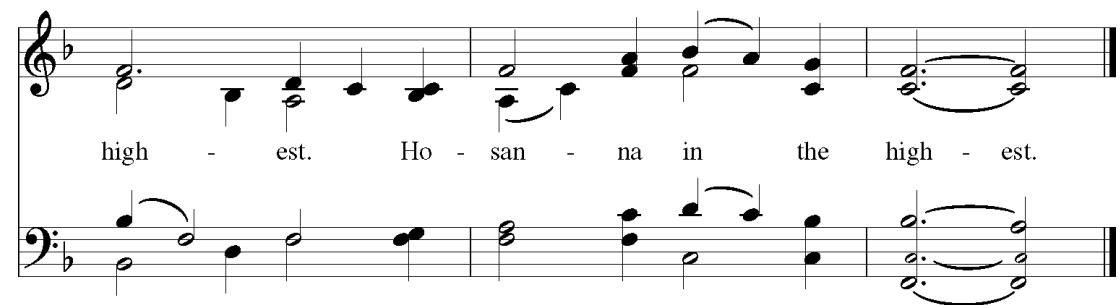
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes

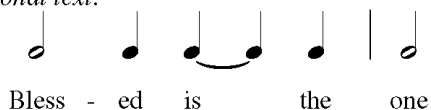


in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Optional text:*



Bless - ed is the one

The people stand or kneel, as able.

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.

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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father, we proclaim the mystery of faith:"

Celebrant and ***People:***

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalene, Peter, Paul, Phoebe, Andrew, Ini Kopuria, James and John and 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. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant and ***People:***

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.



Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty

hands up - lift - ed Now the kneel - ing Now the plea

Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come Now the hear - ing

Now the power Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing

Now the Bo - dy Now the Blood Now the joy - ful

cel - e - bra - tion Now the wed - ding Now the songs

Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing Now the Spi - rit's

vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - an - y

Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now

Celebrant: These are Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving. Come for all is prepared.

(The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words.)

Music During Communion

(Standing or kneeling, as able.)

Post-Communion Prayer

*Celebrant and **People**:*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn at the Closing

655

O Jesus I have promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end:
2 O let me hear thee speak-ing in ac - cents clear and still,
3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom-ised to all who fol - low thee,



be thou for ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
a - bove the storms of pas-sion, the mur-murs of self - will;
that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be;



I shall not fear the bat - tle, if thou art by my side,
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
and, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path-way, if thou wilt be my guide.
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard-ian of my soul.
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

The Blessing

Celebrant: May the grace of God uphold you the peace of God surround you, the love of God flow from you; and the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit rest upon you now and always. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

TODAY

The flowers today are provided by Terry and Sue Campbell in celebration of their 25th anniversary.

A love offering for Amethyst Gardner and her soon to arrive new addition to the family is being collected. As many of you know Amethyst grew up in Christ Church and Nicki has been a long-time dedicated member of the congregation. Please donate generously. Please mark your donations accordingly and place in the collection plate or give your donation to one of the following people: Kathy Sistare, Joan Crawford, or Linda Baker. We need all donations by Sunday, September 6th.

THIS WEEK

Fellowship/Discussion Group meets each Monday at 4:00 pm.

Support Group meets Mondays 5:30 pm and Saturdays 8:30 am

Church/Nave is Reserved for Rehearsals every Saturday from 10:00 am–1:00 pm

Choir practice every Wednesday at 7:00 pm. beginning September 2nd.

FINANCIAL REPORT

2026 Pledge and Plate Budgeted: \$100,000.00

Pledge and Plate Budgeted monthly: \$8,333.00

Pledge and Plate Received as of July 31, 2026: \$6,386.90

This does not include any designated contributions such as EDUSC, HOPE, Sheltered, Ray's, etc.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

September 1st – Terry & Sue Campbell

September 5th – Joe Giardiello

PARISH PRAYER LIST

(* Denotes member) **(Please contact office to add/remove names)**

Maxine, Rick, Michelle, Helen, Anita Christman*, Kip Carter*, David Ford*, Jim Abercrombie, Ben Murphy, Kristen Phillips, Belinda, Erin Gardner, Julie Bowers, Melissa McPherson, Debbie, Cathy, Amanda Ford*, John, Kay Lamberton*, Mildred Wilmot, Diane Hood, Tric Deaton*, John Port, Fionna, Allen, Rebecca Bryson, Wayne, Amelia Davis, Mike Lamberton*, Pam Giardiello*, Earle Holmes*, Aubrey Crawford*, Father Bill Walters

PARTICIPATING TODAY

DATE	L E M	ACOLYTE/ CRUCIFER	USHERS/ GREETERS	TELLERS	ALTAR GUILD	LECTOR
Sunday, August 30, 2026	Linda Baker	Ernest Jenkins	Mike Sistare, Jake Wilson & Melton Mayfield	Nicki Robertson & Kathy Sistare	Linda Baker & Merrio Morton	David Ford

Priest: Phil Emanuel, Parish Musician: Dana Lee Walters, Security: Ernest Jenkins

PARTICIPANTS NEXT SUNDAY

DATE	L E M	ACOLYTE/ CRUCIFER	USHERS/ GREETERS	TELLERS	ALTAR GUILD	LECTOR	VIDEO OPERATOR
Sunday, September 6, 2026	Caroline Oliver	Ernest Jenkins	Mike Sistare, Jake Wilson & Melton Mayfield	Joan Crawford & Pam Giardiello	Bart & Caroline Oliver	Lisa Stamper	Wayne Johnson

Father Emanuel is available for conversation regarding matters of faith and life at a place of your choosing and at times by appointment. He may be reached via the following:

orionrigelstar@gmail.com or 843-325-3362.

SERMON: Copies of the sermon are on the table across from The Gathering Space.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

Sheltered of Lancaster: Sheltered is a non-profit in Lancaster, SC with the goal of providing housing, showers, food and other needs for members of our community. Please contact Jamie Miller at 803-287-7443 if you would like to volunteer at one of their events. Christ Church supports this ministry by individual contributions. **Items needed: Men's pants (size 34 and smaller), T-shirts (men/women), underwear (all sizes) men/women, White socks, Gatorade, Sodas, Can food (pop tops only), Soup, Spaghetti, Ravioli, Beanie weenies, Vienna weenies, Hygiene items: Towel, Tooth brush, Deodorant, Shampoo, 2-gallon zip lock bags, Please bring any items to our office. 713 S Main Street Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9am-noon and Monday-Friday 1pm-5pm.**

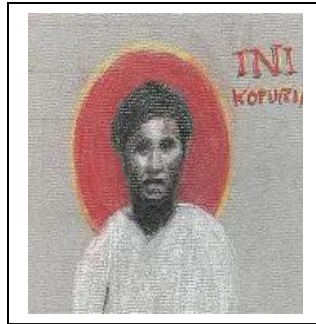
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**HOPE:** Shelf stable milk (store brand is fine) grits, beef stew, mixed vegetables, sweet peas, jelly, boxed instant potatoes, canned meats, dry beans, juice (any type.) Please remember HOPE prefers plastic containers. Place your donated items in the shopping cart. Grocery bags are also needed. There are so many that are in need of basic food items. **HOPE has served 5,363 clients during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter. This is a 45% increase over the same period last year. They have given away 146,581 pounds of food and given \$89,121 in financial aid. They have 250 volunteers who have donated 4,018 hours of service. Linda Miller delivered 98 pounds of food to HOPE for the month of August.**

**Ray's Backdoor Ministry:** Christ Church will continue to support the ongoing needs of this ministry. The cost to purchase items for the kits is approximately \$220 every other month. We assemble and deliver kits every other month as funds allow. This ministry is supported by individual contributions.

**Cans for Kitties Project:** Please remove labels and separate aluminum from steel cans, bag them and place them in the labeled green trash bin located beside the storage building behind the church. This ministry benefits our feline friends by providing spay/neuter services for cats.

## **Ini Kopuria, Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945**



Ini Kopuria, the first Elder Brother of the Melanesian Brotherhood, was born soon after the start of the twentieth century on the island of Guadalcanal in the Solomons.

Ini attended St. Barnabas School on Norfolk Island, an institution started by Bishop J. C. Patterson with the purpose of training young men to teach their own people. Ini's daily contact with the Anglican Christians at St. Barnabas led to his own developed sense of religious calling. One story about his time there relates his strict adherence to a rule of silence during Lent, and on one Ash Wednesday, when confronted by a teacher who questioned this practice, Ini replied by letter, refusing to break his vow. It was then that many around him began to notice his calling to a religious vocation.

Although it was expected that upon leaving school, Ini would return to Guadalcanal to teach his own people, he surprised everyone by becoming a police officer in the Native Armed Constabulary. Though initially unhappy with his role in the police, he earned the respect and admiration of his superiors with his dedication and wisdom. In 1927, after he had left the police force, he was asked by the Commissioner to return to the police and go to the island of Mala to quiet local unrest. Ini is said to have remarked, "It would be bad if I were to go there with a rifle; I may want to return one day with the Gospel."

It was during his recovery from an injury in 1924 that Ini came to the realization that only in service to Christ would his life find meaning and fulfillment. Under the direction of his Bishop, John Steward, he took his vows as the first Elder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, an Anglican order devoted to the spread of the Gospel among the non-Christian areas of Melanesia. The Order, characterized by its vows of simplicity, in this day continues its work of peacemaking and includes not only Melanesians, but also Polynesians, Filipinos, and Europeans.



## **Bishop of the Diocese of Upper S. C.**

The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards

### **Priest**

The Reverend Philip G. Emanuel

### **Parish Musician**

Dana Lee Walters

### **Digital Ministry**

Linda Baker and Wayne Johnson

### **Vestry Members**

Joan Crawford ('26), Pam Giardiello ('27), Ernest Jenkins – Senior Warden ('26),  
Nicki Robertson ('28) and Kathy Sistare – Junior Warden ('28)

### **Treasurer**

Linda Baker

### **Clerk**

Linda Baker

## **Christ Episcopal Church**

534 Plantation Road (PO Box 488), Lancaster, SC 29721

Church Office 803-286-5224 / E-mail: [episcopal@comporium.net](mailto:episcopal@comporium.net)

Office hours: Monday–Thursday 8:00 a.m. – Noon

Website: [www.christchurchlancaster.com](http://www.christchurchlancaster.com) / Facebook: Christ Episcopal Church

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Father Emanuel may be reached at 843-325-3362 or [orionrigelstar@gmail.com](mailto:orionrigelstar@gmail.com)



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