

HOLY COMMUNION

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11, 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 Assurance: God, please help me to not lose heart. When I look at the world 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 at work in my life. In Jesus' name, 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

We pray now to the Holy Spirit

Buxtehude

(All stand.)

Opening Hymn

6

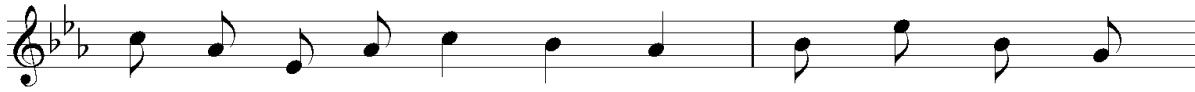
Christ whose glory fills the skies



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the
2 Dark and cheer - less is the morn un - ac - com - pan -
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of



on - ly Light, Sun of Right - eous - ness, a - rise!
ied by thee; joy - less is the day's re - turn,
sin and grief! Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine;



Tri - umph o'er the shades of night: Day - spring from on
till thy mer - cy's beams I see, till they in - ward
scat - ter all my un - be - lief; more and more thy -



high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.
light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

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.**

PRAISE AND ADORATION

Awesome God

47

The musical score for 'Awesome God' is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Our God is an awe-some God, He reigns from heav-en a - bove with wis - dom, pow'r and love— Our God is an awe-some God! Our God! Our God is an awe-some God! Our God is an awe-some God!'. The score includes various chords such as Em, D/E, G/B, C, Am, and Em/Bbm7. A 'Slowing' instruction is placed above the final system. The piece concludes with a final chord of Em.

Words and Music: Rich Mullins
 © 1988 by BMG Songs, Inc. 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, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Announcements

A Reading from Isaiah 25:1–9

(Lector)

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Silence for reflection follows the reading.)

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

- 1 The LORD is my 'shepherd; *
I shall not be in 'want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green 'pastures *
and leads me beside still 'waters.
- 3 He revives my 'soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his 'Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no 'evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they 'comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who 'trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running 'over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my 'life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for' ever.

(Silence for reflection follows the Psalm.)

A Reading from Philippians 4:1–9

(Lector)

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

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

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Silence for reflection follows the reading.)

(Standing as able)

Sequence Hymn

664

My Shepherd will supply my need



1 My Shep - herd will sup - ply my need, Je - ho - vah
2 When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres - ence
3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me



is his Name; _____ in pas - tures fresh he
is my stay; _____ one word of thy sup -
all my days; _____ oh, may thy house be



makes me feed be - side the liv - ing stream.____
port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.____
mine a - bode and all my work be praise.____



He brings my wan - dering spi - rit back when I for -
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my
There would I find a sett - led rest, while o - thers



sake his ways, _____ and leads me, for his
ta - ble spread; _____ my cup with bless - ings
go and come; _____ no more a stran - ger



mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.____
o - ver - flows, thy oil a - noints my head.____
or a guest, but like a child at home.____

The Gospel

Matthew 22:1–14

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

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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 and prisoners. For the addicted, victims of 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 **Michael Cauthen, Dianne Johnson*, Maxine, Rick, Michelle, Helen, Anita Christman*, Kip Carter*, David Ford*, Jim Abercrombie, Ben Murphy, Kristen Phillips, Erin Gardner, Julie Bowers, Melissa McPherson, Debbie, Cathy, Amanda Ford*, John, Kay Lamberton*, Mildred Wilmot, Diane Hood, Tric Deaton*, 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 and those celebrating anniversaries. We pray for St. Luke's, Columbia. 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.**

Celebrant:

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: 557 (omit *verses) Rejoice, ye pure in heart

The congregation is invited to follow the text and/or to sing along.



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and
2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of
3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias
4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye
5 Still lift your stand - ard high, still march in firm ar -
*6 At last the march shall end; the wea - ried ones shall
*7 Then on, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and



1 sing! Your glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the
2 earth, pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true
3 loud; while an - swering ech - oes up - ward float, like
4 go, from youth to age, by night and day, in
5 ray, as war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till
6 rest; the pil - grims find their Fa - ther's house, Je -
7 sing! Your glo - rious ban - ner wave on high the



1 cross of Christ your King.
2 rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
3 wreaths of in - cense cloud.
4 glad - ness and in woe. Ho - san - na, ho -
5 dawns the gold - en day.
6 ru - sa - lem the blest.
7 cross of Christ your King.



san - na! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing.

(We stand as the offering is presented.)

The Presentation of the Offering

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(The people remain standing.)

Sursum Corda

S-120

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 851

Holy, holy, holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav - en 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 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, Peter, Paul, Prisca and Aquila, Lydia, Andrew, 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.

Fraction Hymn

WLP 876

Antiphon
Cantor, then all

The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing

Fine Verses

— of the bread.

1. The bread which we break, Al - le - lu -
2. One bo - dy are we, Al - le - lu -

All repeat Antiphon

ia, is the com - mun-ion of the Bod - y of Christ.
ia, for though ma - ny we share one bread.

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.

1 God the Om - ni - po - tent! King, who or - dain - est
 2 God the All - mer - ci - ful! earth hath for - sak - en
 3 God the All - right - eous One! earth hath de - fied thee;
 4 God the All - prov - i - dent! earth by thy chas - tening

thun - der thy clar - ion, the light - ning thy sword;
 thy ways all ho - ly, and slight - ed thy word;
 yet to e - ter - ni - ty stand - eth thy word,
 yet shall to free - dom and truth be re - stored;

show forth thy pi - ty on high where thou reign - est:
 bid not thy wrath in its ter - rors a - wak - en:
 false - hood and wrong shall not tar - ry be - side thee:
 through the thick dark - ness thy king - dom is haste - ning:

give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
 give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
 give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
 thou wilt give peace in thy time, O Lord.

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 restrooms downstairs are no longer in service. Please use the restrooms in the annex.

PLEASE COMPLETE FORMS FOR LISTING NAMES TO BE READ DURING THE PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED DURING SERVICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st AND PUT IN THE COLLECTION PLATE. FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT EACH ENTRANCE.

Trunk or Treat at Christ Church

Friday, October 31st

5:00pm – 7:00

Please contact Pam Giardiello if you would like to volunteer and/or donate candy.

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 & Plate Received as of September 30, 2026: \$5,283.90 Priest Discretionary: \$22.00

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

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Please contact the church office if your birthday or anniversary is this week.

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## **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

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

**Michael Cauthen, Dianne Johnson\*, Maxine, Rick, Michelle, Helen, Anita Christman\*, Kip Carter\*, David Ford\*, Jim Abercrombie, Ben Murphy, Kristen Phillips, Erin Gardner, Julie Bowers, Melissa McPherson, Debbie, Cathy, Amanda Ford\*, John, Kay Lamberton\*, Mildred Wilmot, Diane Hood, Tric Deaton\*, 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/<br>CRUCIFER | USHERS/<br>GREETERS                               | TELLERS                              | ALTAR GUILD             | LECTOR           |
|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Sunday,<br>October 11, 2026 | Linda Baker | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Joan Crawford<br>& Pam<br>Giardiello | Mike & Kathy<br>Sistare | Kay<br>Lamberton |

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

## **PARTICIPANTS NEXT SUNDAY**

| DATE                        | L E M              | ACOLYTE/<br>CRUCIFER | USHERS/<br>GREETERS                               | TELLERS                                | ALTAR GUILD             | LECTOR           | VIDEO<br>OPERATOR |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday,<br>October 18, 2026 | Caroline<br>Oliver | Ernest<br>Jenkins    | Mike Sistare, Jake<br>Wilson & Melton<br>Mayfield | Ernest Jenkins<br>& Nicki<br>Robertson | Mike & Kathy<br>Sistare | Sally<br>Higgins | Linda Baker       |

**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](mailto:orionrigelstar@gmail.com) or 843-325-3362.

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

Dear Christ Church family,

I was completely blown away by your generosity. The Love Offering you all collected for Baby Scarlett was more than I could have imagined. There are so many things Bobby & I need and want as we prepare for the arrival of River's little sister. With your generous contributions, we are now able to get many items checked off of our wish-list. Your support means the world to our growing family, and we appreciate your thoughtfulness more than words can say. We cannot wait for you all to meet Baby Scarlett!

Love,

Amethyst

## **Gifts for Life**

Have you ever had difficulty finding a good, meaningful gift for someone?

Have you ever wanted to help people in need?

Did you know that the Episcopal Church provides a way for you to accomplish both goals at the same time?

Episcopal Relief and Development, the international relief and development agency of the Episcopal Church, issues the Gifts for Life Catalog. Through the gifts offered in the catalog, we can help transform lives through giving gifts with lasting impact. Gifts featured in the catalog include clean water, disaster relief kits, beehives, goats, bicycles, care for mothers and newborns, family gardens, and savings and loan groups for women. We have a copy of the 2025-2026 catalog available in our church office if you would like to consult it. You may also order online at [www.episcopalrelief.org/gifts](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/gifts) or call Gifts for Life at 1.855.312.4325.

## **The Work of the Diocese**

What does the Diocese of Upper South Carolina do? Here are some of the activities of our diocese.

Our diocese engages in an impressive array of international ministries. We have been involved in Haiti since 1979. Much of our work there now supports Zanmilasante, the Haitian branch of Partners in Health. Partners in Health is an international charitable mission founded over twenty years ago by Dr. Paul Farmer, a Harvard physician. Clemson Engineers in Developing Countries provides valuable expertise assisting in these efforts. We also support work in Ecuador. Cameron Graham Vivanco, formerly the Youth Pastor at the Episcopal Church of the Advent in Spartanburg, started Education Equals Hope (E=H). This is a micro-scholarship program that helps provide for the education of those living in desperate and difficult situations in Ecuador.

Within our diocese we provide leadership opportunities for youth and young adults. These opportunities include serving on our Diocesan Youth Leadership Committee, serving as peer ministers in our Canterbury Campus Ministries, and attending the Episcopal Youth Event. This event focuses on helping youth develop leadership skills, spiritual practices, and early stages of vocational discernment.

We provide a range of spiritual development opportunities for youth and adults, including the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bridge Retreat, New Beginnings (a weekend retreat for youth in grades 6-8), Vocare (a weekend retreat for young adults ages 18-30), and Cursillo. Some of these events are hosted by Camp Gravatt near Aiken, and some are hosted at several parishes in our diocese.

The Matthew 25 Committee of our diocese administers a grant program to encourage deaneries and congregations to create, join, and expand ministries of compassion and justice. These ministries address the needs of the poor and those at risk in our home communities and throughout the world. Proposals should include plans to sustain these ministries beyond the grant year. Churches of all sizes within our diocese have received these grants.

This is not an exhaustive list of activities supported by our diocese, but I hope that it indicates the range and importance of those activities. If any of this work appeals to you, please consider supporting it. You may make a check out to Christ Church and indicate "EDUSC" or "Diocese" on the memo line. You would help our vestry achieve our goal of increasing our diocesan contributions. We, and our sisters and brothers across our diocese and beyond, all benefit from these contributions. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Ernest Jenkins  
Senior Warden

**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:**

**Women's underwear (all sizes), Men's pant (34 and under), 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. *Sheltered is in need of volunteers to help with clients at the office. Here are the days and times: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9am- noon. Please call or come by to sign up.***



**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.

**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.



## **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**

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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

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@christepiscopalchurchSC>

**Look for Christ Episcopal Church Lancaster SC on YouTube and subscribe.**

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



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