THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 20, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
HOLY EUCHARIST AND SERMON

Bell Preludes

Prelude

Solid Rock
Kendrah Butler, piano and vocals
Kimpedro Rodriguez, drums
Nimrod Speaks, bass

arr. Nimrod Speaks

All stand, as able

Opening Acclamation
Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People          Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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.
Hymn
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go…

All through the night…

The Collect of the Day
May God be with you.

People And also with you.
Let us pray.

The Congregation prays silently, and the Celebrant concludes
O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Congregation is seated for the Lessons
A Reading from the Book of Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty." And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Thanks be to God.
Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42  
Read responsively by whole verse

Noli aemulari

1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
   do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
   and like the green grass fade away.
3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
   dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
4 Take delight in the LORD, *
   and he shall give you your heart's desire.
5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
   and he will bring it to pass.
6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
   and your just dealing as the noonday.
7 Be still before the LORD *
   and wait patiently for him.
8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
   the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
   do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
    but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
    you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
    they will delight in abundance of peace.
41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
    he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
    he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
    because they seek refuge in him.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving
spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn from ‘Lift Every Voice & Sing’ hymnal

Great is thy faithfulness

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
   Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
   Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring-time and har - vest,
   Sun, moon and stars in their courses a bove,
   Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness,

3. Par - don for sin and a peace that endur - eth,
   Pardon for sin and a peace that endur - eth,
   Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

4. There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee;
   Pardon for sin and a peace that endur - eth,
   Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not,
1. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.
2. To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
3. Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed thy hand hath provided,

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People       Glori   w, Lord Christ.  6:27-38

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People       Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Susan Richardson

All stand, as able

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

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; 
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; 
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; 
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; 
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; 
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; 
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; 
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; 
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. 

Silence
We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept

Celebrant and People
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

The Peace

Please be seated
Greetings

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Offertory Music
Jesus Loves Me
arr. Kendrah Butler

All stand, as able
The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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:

**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.**

*The Congregation may remain standing or kneel, then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
    thy kingdom come,
    thy will be done,
    on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
    as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
    but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
    for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

The Celebrant breaks the bread and, after a silence, says

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

With these words, the Clergy moves through the congregation to distribute Communion. All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination and tradition, with all those seeking a deeper relationship with Christ, are welcome to receive the Eucharist.

After all have received Communion, we stand and pray together

Eternal God,
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.

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

People Thanks be to God.
Hymn

When the Saints Go Marching In

O when the saints go marching in,
O when the saints go marching in,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.

O when the sun refused to shine…

O when they crown him Lord of all…

Postludes

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.

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BELLRINGER  Steve Harvey
USHERS  Nicole Cesare, Greg Cesare
GUEST MUSICIANS  Kendrah Butler, Kimpredo Rodriguez, Nimrod Speaks
READER  Nathalie Bartle
LIVESTREAM COORDINATORS  Nate Drew, James Ashforth, Ethan Berlenbach
CLERGY  The Rev. Timothy Safford, Rector; The Rev. Susan Richardson, Associate Rector;
The Rev. K. Palmer Hartl, Parish Associate
ALTAR FLOWER GUILD  Kären Kaiser Falone
ALTAR GUILD  Eugene Frohlich, Charles Frohlich, Jen Miller, Jill Rawnsley, Gail Hearn

Please remember this week those in our parish family in need of healing:
Lauralou Bates, Janie Bingham, Kathy Frohlich, Sally Hardy, Judy Hartl, Michael
Krumrine, Janet Ussary, with prayers of special intentions for: Bruce & Sally, Cheryl,
Eleanor, Gretchen, Kathy & Rich, Sandy & Terry, Tramble

LIFE AT CHRIST CHURCH  Find your place within this community.

Welcome

Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome
at Christ Church. While we worship in an historical building, we are an active Episcopal
parish. At Christ Church no one is a stranger. Introduce yourself to the ministers and
ushers or fill out a blue card on the back table and place it in the offering plate. If you do
not have a church home in Philadelphia, we invite you to be a part of this Parish.
Offerings

The vestry and staff of Christ Church are very grateful for all who are keeping their offerings and covenant giving current during this time of disruption. Offering checks may be sent to Christ Church, 20 N. American St. Philadelphia, PA 19106. For online giving, please go to www.christchurchphila.org/give.

Christ Church recommends the reliable, securely encrypted site: Tithe.ly/give. No “.com” or “.org,” just “tithe.ly/give” They also provide an easy, intuitive giving app for iOS or Android. Please download the app and search for Christ Church in Philadelphia. Follow the instructions for making a one-time or recurring gift from a bank account or debit/credit card. Questions? Contact cwagner@christchurchphila.org.

TODAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Sunday Kids’ Programs

Christ Church welcomes all infants, toddlers, children and youth to participate in our Sunday education and formation programs.

We have a professionally staffed nursery for **infants and toddlers** on the third floor of Neighborhood House from 8:45a.m. (so parents can join in the Forum) to 11:15a.m.

For children **4 years old through 5th Grade**, we offer Godly Play with Ms. Robin on the third floor in Neighborhood House. Two start times every Sunday, at 9:00a.m. and 10:00a.m.

**Youth Group, 6th Grade through High School** - We will pause the 9 a.m. Sunday morning meetings and instead, we'll have a **once-a-month Pizza & Discussion for youth, following the 10 a.m. service** - 11:30 to around 1. We'll provide the pizza and some good info for discussion. We'll ask for RSVPs closer to time, so we're sure to order enough pizza! Questions? Check with Rev. Susan or Noah Love. Here are the dates - please mark your calendars: March 20 - 11:30; April 10 - 11:30; May 22 - 11:30

The Sunday Forum at 9:00a.m. – In-person and on Zoom

Discuss with the clergy how the scripture of the day applies to real issues of life and culture, or, how an issue in life or culture can be enlightened by scripture and theology. All are welcome.

Please join us for

Christ Church’s 326th Annual Parish Meeting Today following the 10:00a.m. Service

"Feed the Need"

Our Sages group is restarting the annual food drive for Philabundance, an organization whose main purpose is to help drive hunger from our communities. The giving is open to our entire congregation by purchasing suggested foods at local supermarkets and dropping them off at Church or in Neighborhood House. The drive **ends TODAY.**
TOP 10 MOST NEEDED ITEMS

In an effort to provide the most nutritious food to those we serve, this list represents our highest food priorities. These items are high in both demand and nutritional value. While we continue to accept other items, we kindly ask you to focus your efforts on these items so, together, we can have the maximum impact for individuals facing hunger.

- PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY
- COOKING OIL
- CANNED TUNA OR MEAT
- CANNED FRUITS & VEGETABLES
- CANNED STEW & SOUPS
- CEREAL
- OATMEAL/BREAKFAST CEREAL
- WHOLE GRAIN PASTA
- 100% JUICE
- RICE
- BOXED, NON-REFRIGERATED MILK

GUIDELINES:
Please donate products that are in boxes, cans or plastic bottles and do not require refrigeration.
Please note we prefer items that are low in sugar/sodium and free of high fructose corn syrup. Please do not donate bread and baked goods which have a short shelf life.

All items should be recently purchased and in good condition.

* PLEASE NOTE: THESE ITEMS ARE NOT RANKED IN A PARTICULAR ORDER BECAUSE ALL OF THESE ITEMS ARE VERY MUCH NEEDED *

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT PHILABUNDANCE.ORG
Celebration Book - Reserve Your Piece of History by Feb 27
The Rev. Timothy Safford has enriched this community with his calls to action and powerful, relevant messages for 23 years. We’ve compiled some of the best and most memorable messages into a book! This important keepsake serves as a reflection of Tim and the revolutionary spirit that drives our congregation. Reserve your copies today! $20 per book. By check made out to Christ Church or through tithe.ly adding “Celebration Book” in the comments field. Final pre-orders will be accepted through February 27 and books will be available by March 25.

Congregational Listening
With the announcement of the Rector’s plans to retire on March 31, 2022, the Vestry has been actively listening to members of our congregation as they give their thoughts on our future. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the Clergy or Vestry, should you wish to discuss any aspect of this privately. We are here to listen.

Vestry Members of Christ Church
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Prayer for the Parish Transition
One of the most important aspects of our parish's upcoming leadership transition is to pray that God will shepherd our community through the process. We encourage everyone to pray for God's guidance as our community enters this exciting phase. For those who prefer to pray on their own, here is a prayer to guide you:  

God of love, in this season of change, we pray for our parish community, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, vibrant in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, joyous in our celebrations, imaginative about our future, and daring in our faith. As we enter into this time of change with excitement, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the gifts, talents, and skills with which you continue to bless us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. All this we pray, empowered by the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.
**THIS WEEK**

**Wednesday Noon Service**
This simple, brief Eucharist Service is in the church every Wednesday at Noon.

**New Opportunities from the Committee on Anti-Racism and Social Justice**
In 2020, the Christ Church community formalized our commitment to true inclusion by establishing the Vestry Committee on Anti-Racism and Social Justice. To date, we have established a flourishing relationship with the organizing group POWER. We held a series of congregation-wide workshops on coming to terms with our personal relationships with race. Tim has preached and written how “historic Black lives matter” and Susan has led the Bridge study group of Stephanie Spellers’ book The Church Cracked Open, a deep dive into the racist roots and framework of the Episcopal Church. We have also been researching how early members and associates of the church were involved in the system of slavery, holding a study group last year around the Butler family and the diaries of Fanny Kemble.

What’s happening now?

In October 2022, we will be holding a congregation-wide antiracism training in person. This workshop will be led by Maureen Walker and Bill Kondrath, who worked with the vestry and transition committee this fall. So hold the dates for October 14-16.

Beginning this month, our next study group will focus on our response to the church’s involvement with the Butler family. We will continue to explore issues of race and the history of Christ Church in a program meeting virtually on Thursdays at 6PM. We will look at a variety of programs that address the church’s involvement in slavery and the slave economy — as an institution and as church members. Our goal is to move closer to our own plan of action. All parishioners are welcome!

Upcoming Thursdays at 6 PM: **Feb 24, April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19**
We will pause in March so that all have time to participate in the Lenten Wednesday program. For more information or to sign up for the Zoom invitation, contact Elizabeth Kimball, Committee Chair, at ekimball99@gmail.com.

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**Join us!**
There will be a reception in the Great Hall of Neighborhood House after the 10am Service on **February 27**. Former Assistant Ministers, the Rev. Carol Anthony and the Rev. Wes Smedley, will be with us.
Journeys for Newcomers and Longtimers in 2022

Want to find out more about Christ Church? Or have you been here awhile and would enjoy a check-in? Our Journeys class combines newcomers and longer-time members in talk about faith and life, vocation, Anglicanism and Episcopal history, and how Christ Church can be part of your path now. Meeting over the course of three Sundays, members, newcomers, and clergy will journey together. Childcare and snacks provided; RSVP is needed. Questions? Check with Susan Richardson. srichardson@christchurchphila.org

Sun February 27, 11:30-12:45 - "Journeys become stories"
Sun March 13, 11:30-12:45 "The Journey of the Episcopal Church"
Sun March 20, 11:30-12:45 - "Living Faith"

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join a Small Group Fellowship at Christ Church

Lenten Reading Group. Using Henri Nouwen’s book “Show Me the Way: Daily Lenten Readings,” readers are invited to join a 40-day Lenten path as fellow pilgrims in a "search for the way” during weekly discussion. Wednesdays, 10-11a.m. on Zoom. Begins March 2. Convener: Donna Liu, cardinalcounseling@gmail.com. To join, please contact Donna Liu in advance.

Lectio Divina - Come for Lectio Divina or 'Sacred Reading'. We will connect scripture to Environment Stewardship. We will meet after the Sunday Service on March 13 at 11:45 in the Harding Room. Convener: Dennis Hendricks, hrforward@outlook.com

Tuesday Koin Group at 8:20 a.m. Morning Prayer using the appointed readings from Holy Women, Holy Men. Convener: Cecilia Wagner, cwagner@christchurchphila.org

Good Shepherds. Reaching out to parishioners who may be lonely or struggling. Convener: Kate Hall, cyprus8018@verizon.net

Ash Wednesday Services

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2 with In-person services at 8:00a.m. and Noon. Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes. The Noon service will also be livestreamed.

A Lenten Journey - Prodigal Grace

March 9, 16, 23 & 30 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Led by Timothy Safford at Neighborhood House and via Zoom
Register via: https://forms.gle/Fc4qKkXGwfdkJjir8 or cwagner@christchurchphila.org

"There was a man who had two sons," begins the parable of Jesus that has been bedrock for my faith. In the misnamed "Parable of the Prodigal Son," Jesus tells of God's persistent love, overwhelming embrace, and transforming forgiveness.
Still, the wandering child has an older sibling who prefers exclusion to embrace, judgement before forgiveness, and love with strings attached.

Who are we in the story? Lost child? Indignant child? Loving parent? Whom do we want to become, as God’s grace provides?

Jesus wanted the parable, I believe, to encourage a community of people—a koinonia—to retell their story and imagine an unexpected future into which God was calling. In this Lenten program, we will do the same.

I have spent my entire ministry wondering about this parable. I look forward to one last wandering through this "Parable of the Loving Father" as both Christ Church and I begin a new journey deeper into the grace and mission of God. Timothy Safford

March 9 - Martha and Mary, Jacob and Esau, You and Me
God’s prodigal grace toward those who rebel and return.

March 16 - Lose Yourself!
The myth of having nothing to come home to

March 23 - Righteous anger and the need to let go
The burden of obedience; God’s rule of love before forgiveness

March 30 - Finding a future not our own
Softly, tenderly, Jesus is calling us home

Notes
· Please register by Ash Wednesday, March 2.
Registration is a commitment to all four Wednesdays.
· We will follow Covid restrictions in effect, likely all to be masked and vaccinated
· Please bring for yourself “Tide me over” snacks as dinner will not be served
· The schedule each week is 6 to 6:30, Evening Prayer; 6:30 to 7, presentation; 7:15 to 7:50 p.m. discussion in small groups.
· Please bring a bible, if convenient.

The Bridge Meeting
The young adults group the Bridge will continue our book discussion on "The Church Cracked Open" by the Rev. Stephanie Spellers, available on Amazon. She’s an Episcopal priest who works on the staff of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. PB Curry said about this book, "It will make a profound difference for the church in this moment in history." 2022 meeting dates following the 10am Service: Mar 6, Apr 3, May 1. Questions? Contact the Rev. Susan Richardson.
**Remembering the Weeping Time on March 6**
The Weeping Time is the largest single sale of humans on U.S. soil, held in Savannah on March 2 and 3, 1859. 426 people, all part of the longstanding community of rice farmers in the Georgia Sea Islands, were authorized for sale by Pierce Mease Butler in order to pay his gambling debts. Butler is buried in the Butler family tomb in our North Garden.

As a way of remembering those 426 people, we will be holding a reading of their names in the garden **after church on Sunday, March 6**. The reading marks our first public acknowledgment that the presence of the Butler tomb is hurtful to African Americans who should find a refuge from racism at Christ Church, rather than a reminder of it. By beginning to acknowledge our history, we can move towards healing and transformation. Most of all, we will simply honor those 426 people by calling their names in prayer.

Members of our sibling congregations of African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas and St. Peter’s will also be joining us.

If you would like to read at the event, please contact **Kaye Pyle** (kayepyle1010@gmail.com) or **Liz Kimball** (ekimball99@gmail.com).

**Fair Trade Coffee & Tea (and Honey!)**
Fair Trade Coffee and tea will be for sale the first Sunday of each month. The proceeds of this special organic coffee support the work of Episcopal Relief and Development programs.

**Sam Little Memorial Service**
The Memorial Service for Sam Little will be held in the church on **Saturday, March 12 at 11:00a.m.** All are welcome to attend.

**Old First Reform Shelter Meals**
You can get involved with our Old First Reform Shelter Meals! This season, Christ Church is coordinating “drop off” shelter meals. We will be delivering food to the shelter that has been prepared by various volunteers from Christ Church (which can include YOU!). Here are the dates for the 2021-2022 Shelter Meal season: **Mar 14, Apr 11**

**First Step:** Contact **Anne McAteer** at annekmcateer@gmail.com for sign-up details.

**Second Step:** Prepare your dish and deliver it from 3pm to 4:30pm on the day of the shelter meal to Christ Church Neighborhood House at 20 N American St, Philadelphia, PA 19106

**Third Step:** The Shelter Coordinators (Nick, Joey, Lee, etc.) will prepare a hot entree at the shelter and will deliver all of your wonderful side dishes to the shelter guests' 5:30pm meal time!
Baptisms at Christ Church in 2022
April 17 (Easter), June 5 (The Day of Pentecost), September 18, November 6 (All Saints).
If you would like to have a baptism for yourself or your child, please contact the Rev. Susan Richardson at 215.922.1695, ext 25.

Free Parking
When attending Christ Church services, classes and fellowship on Sunday morning, you may park free of charge in the lot behind Neighborhood House. Always display the "ATTENDING SERVICES" sign (available from an usher or the office) on your front dashboard and on the back windshield, too! This also allows free parking on Market, American and both sides of Second Streets, but NOT IN THE SEPTA BUS ZONE NOR FILBERT STREET! If you receive a parking violations ticket while parking in the allowable spaces for Sunday or Wednesday service, give the ticket (or a good copy) to the office. Please leave your name with the ticket.

Flowers Given to the Glory of God
Each week, a member of the Christ Church Flower Guild lovingly arranges loose cut flowers into two beautiful bouquets. Placed at the front altar, these bouquets become thanksgivings for blessings in our lives or memorials for loved ones now passed. You are invited to name a thanksgiving or memorial with a suggested donation of $70.00. Just contact Cecilia at 215.922.1695, ext 21 or cwagner@christchurchphila.org to make your request now.

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Christ Church Staff

mail@christchurchphila.org 215.922.1695 www.christchurchphila.org

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CHRIST CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

Thirty-nine Philadelphia colonists, loyal to the Bishop of London and desiring to worship according to the rites of the Church of England, established Christ Church on November 15, 1695 on land previously under the care of the Lenni Lenape peoples. Construction began on the current church building in 1727 and concluded in 1744. The tower and steeple, financed by a lottery managed in part by Benjamin Franklin, were completed in 1754. The building is an outstanding example of colonial architecture in the Georgian spirit, arguably the finest building of its time in the colonies.

Christ Church and its clergy played a critical role during the Revolutionary era. In September 1774, the Rev. Jacob Duché, opened the first Continental Congress with prayers citing the 35th Psalm, *Plead my cause, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me.* John Adams recounted to his wife Abigail, “I must confess I never heard a better prayer; heaven had ordained that psalm to be read on that morning.”

During this time, influential Philadelphians heard sermons in Christ Church both supporting and discouraging Independence. On July 4, 1776, Christ Church struck King George’s name from the prayers in worship. Christ Church clergy served as chaplains to the Continental Congress.

In 1790, Christ Church designated a double-pew in the center aisle for the President of the United States to use for worship. President George Washington regularly attended, as did President John Adams while Philadelphia remained the capital. The pew is still so designated, but any worshipper may use it if not occupied.

Seven signers of the Declaration of Independence and five framers of the Constitution are buried in the hallowed grounds of Christ Church. In 1948, Congress designated Christ Church as a national shrine during the creation of Independence National Historical Park.

After the Revolution, Christ Church played the instrumental role in organizing the Episcopal Church out of the remnants of the colonial Church of England. Buried in the chancel of Christ Church is the Right Reverend William White, ninth Rector of the parish, Chaplain of the Continental Congress, first Bishop of Pennsylvania, and Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in its formative years. Bishop White demonstrated that the Church in this nation could be independent yet still in communion with the Church in England, a fundamental tenet of Anglicanism. The first General Convention that unified the scattered Episcopal Church and approved the first American *Book of Common Prayer* met in this building in 1789.

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you belong and are welcomed just as you are, to receive the blessings of God.

Worship: Sunday at 10 a.m. and Wednesday at Noon
Services are livestreamed at www.christchurchphila.org/live

20 N. American Street • Philadelphia, PA 19106 • 215.922.1695
mail@christchurchphila.org • www.christchurchphila.org