

Whereas the honorable continental Congress has resolved to declare the American colonies to be free and independent states; in consequence of which it will be proper to omit those petitions in the liturgy wherein the King of Great Britain is prayed for, as inconsistent with said declaration.

Therefore, resolved, that it appears to this Vestry to be necessary...to omit the said petitions; and the rector and assistant ministers of Christ Church and St. Peter's are requested in the name of the Vestry to omit such petitions as are above mentioned.

Vestry Meeting Minutes, Christ Church and St. Peter's Philadelphia, July 4, 1776



**PRAYERS FOR THE NATION AND SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
JULY 4, 2021 - 10:00 A.M.
HOLY EUCHARIST AND SERMON**

Bell Preludes

Organ Prelude *Variations on a Folk Song (Peter, Go Ring Dem Bells)* Florence Price

All stand at the sounding of the bell

Celebrant We hold these truths to be self-evident.

People **That all of God's children are created equal.**

That they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights.

That among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 717

found in the Blue Hymnal

America

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of
2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the
3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from
4 Our fa - thers' God, to thee, au - thor of

lib - er - ty, of thee I sing; land where my
no - ble free, thy name I love; I love thy
all the trees sweet free - dom's song; let mor - tal
lib - er - ty, to thee we sing; long may our

fa - thers died, land of the pil - grim's pride,
rocks and rills, thy woods and tem - pled hills;
tongues a - wake, let all that breathe par - take,
land be bright with free - dom's ho - ly light;

from ev - ery moun - tain - side let freed - om ring.
 my heart with rap - ture thrills like that a - bove.
 let rocks their si - lence break, the sound pro - long.
 pro - tect us by thy might, great God, our King.

Words: Samuel Francis Smith (1808-1895) Music: *America*, from *Thesaurus Musicus*, 1745

The Prayers

May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

The congregation prays silently, and the celebrant concludes

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country sought liberty, hoping to light the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to share our liberties in righteousness, equity, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Congregation is seated for the Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

10:17-21

The LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the LORD your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The LORD is loving to everyone *
and his compassion is over all his works.

A Reading from a Letter to the Hebrews

11:8-16

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

People

Thanks be to God.

All stand, as able

Gospel Acclamation

Heleluyan

Muscogee (Creek) Indian



He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan: he - le, he - le - lu - yan;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: al - le, al - le - lu - ia;



he - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan: he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: al - le, al - le - lu - ia.

** May be sung as a round.*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

5:43-48

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Timothy Safford, *Rector*

All stand, as able

Intercessions and Petitions

Thanksgivings for the Nation

Leader Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

People Heal us.

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them and deny many full access to them.

Forgive us.

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong, including those whose names have not been written into history. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

Inspire us.

We thank you for the torch of liberty that has been an ideal in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden its light from immigrants and others.

Enlighten us.

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

Renew us.

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice in ourselves and society, and to abolish poverty and discrimination. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. **Amen.**

Prayer Hymn

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spi-rit in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Words and Music: Ken Medema (b.1943), © 1973 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission.

A Prayer for the People of Every Nation *(revised)*

Said in unison

This prayer was regularly used for the 4th of July Service at Christ Church during World War II

**God help us to keep free
from the over-jealous guarding of our personal views and opinions
so that we may not be deaf to the plea of others.
Help us to remain aware of those around us
so that we may recognize their needs above our selfish desires.
Help us to strive constantly toward a human behavior
which will make of this world a place fit for the presence of all humankind
of whatever nationality, creed, race, or sexuality,
so that we may all dwell in growing harmony.
Help us to live for each other and not just ourselves
so that nations and cultures, as well as individuals,
may become a credit to Thee our Maker. Amen.**

Concluding Collect

The Peace

Please be seated

Greetings

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Offertory Anthem

Zion's Walls

American Revivalist Song
arr. Aaron Copland

Come fathers and mothers,
Come sisters and brothers,
Come join us in singing the praises of Zion.
O fathers, don't you feel determined
To meet within the walls of Zion?
We'll shout and go round
The walls of Zion.

All stand, as able

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B, p. 369 *BCP*

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, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for with your co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of you, O God, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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 (*Sung by all in Spanish, then in English*)

Trad. Argentine

San-to, san to, san-to, mi co-ra-zón te a-do-ra! Mi
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, my heart, my heart a-dores you! My

co-ra-zón te sa-be de-cir: san-to e-res Dios.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho-ly, God.

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

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

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

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, 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 will move through the congregation. All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination and tradition, with all those seeking a deeper relationship with Christ, are welcome to receive the Eucharist.

Communion Anthem

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Music: Harold Friedell

Words: Percy Deamer

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; For when humbly, in thy name,
Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather In the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father Break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living Make us sacraments of thee,
That be caring, helping, giving, We may true disciples be.
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.

After all have received Communion, we stand and pray together

Let us pray,

**Father, may we who have received this sacrament
live in the unity of your Holy Spirit,
that we may show forth your gifts to all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 719

Materna

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - ci - ous skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - tri - ot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
 and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

Words: Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929), alt. Music: *Materna*, Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903)

Organ Postlude

Fugue-Finale on 'The Star-Spangled Banner'

John Knowles Paine

Bell Postludes

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.

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BELL RINGER Eugene Frohlich

ORGANIST Parker Kitterman

CHOIR Melissa Bilza, Peter Christian, Wayne Christman, Catherine Conybeare, Sally Hardy, Erica Johnson, Lynn Karoly, Ryan Ordnung, Becky Struwe, Cecilia Wagner, Janice Woodcock, Charles Wentz

USHERS Allan Hasbrouck, Kären Kaiser Falone, David Parke, Robin Parke

READER Aaron Skrypski

LIVESTREAM COORDINATORS Nate Drew, James Ashforth, Ethan Berlenbach

CLERGY The Rev. Timothy Safford, *Rector*; The Rev. Susan Richardson, *Assistant Minister*;
The Rev. K. Palmer Hartl, *Parish Associate*

ALTAR GUILD Mary Pier, Pat Walder

ALTAR FLOWER GUILD Helen Niedermayer

Please remember this week those in our parish family in need of healing:

Alice Abrash, Bernadette Allbaugh, Anthony, Jenna Baffone, Lauralou Bates, Janie Bingham, Rick Bravo, Frances Milliken Cramer, Trinity Eobbi, Heidi Fielding, Jean France, Kathy Frohlich, Annie George, Mary Gonzales, Sally Hardy, Emily Hayes, Barbara Kieran, Michael Krumrine, Sandra Langan, Terrance Langan, Joe Laskowski, Mary, Robert Metzger, Peggy Oakes, Lizunette Real, Jonathon Rist, Samantha, Margaret Simmons, Tom Spencer, Ken Sprang, Sue, Claire Lu Thomas, Stan Tomczak,
With prayers of special intentions for: **Craig, David, Joseph Gabriel, H.R. & Philip, Tramble,** and the victims of gun violence.

LIFE AT CHRIST CHURCH

Find your place within this community.

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 relies on



two different online giving methods: our Paypal email address is give@christchurchphila.org, or if using the PayPal mobile app, search for Christ Church Philadelphia. We have also

recommend the reliable, securely encrypted site: [Tithe.ly/give](https://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.

Congregational Listening

With the Rector’s announcement of his plans to retire as Rector of Christ Church 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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George Bingham	gfbingham1517@gmail.com
Wayne Christman	wchristman19106@icloud.com
Farnia Fresnel	farniafresnel@gmail.com
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Sarah Stevenson	ses222@gmail.com

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.

TODAY, JULY 4, 2021

Christ Church Welcomes Today Neil Ronk

Neil served Christ Church and the Preservation Trust for three decades. He retired as Senior Guide and Historian last summer, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the Christ Church community did not have opportunity to thank him for his years of devoted service. Greet Neil today at the festive reception after the 10 a.m. service.

Fair Trade Coffee & Tea (and Honey!)

Fair Trade Coffee and tea will be for sale the first Sunday of each month **beginning today**. The proceeds of this special organic coffee support the work of the Episcopal Relief and Development programs.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday Noon Service

This simple liturgy is no longer than 30 minutes and is in the church every Wednesday.

The Farmers' Market at Christ Church

Each Wednesday from 3:00 – 6:00p.m. Visit our local vendors on Church Street through the end of October.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 15 – 6:00 – 8:00p.m. (rain date: July 29, 6-8p.m.)

Sip and Paint Night with Kaity Lacy. Purchase tickets in advance at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sip-and-paint-night-tickets-149918840287>

Want a fun painting night out with your friends where you can actually learn how to paint? Kaity Lacy is a highly sought-after commission artist, art teacher, and published illustrator of the Gata Unbound book series. Her years of experience in the art industry will help you tap into skills you didn't even know you had. Join us as we complete together a watercolor painting featuring historic Christ Church as viewed from the North Garden. Cocktails from Art in the Age, wine, beer, and snacks available.

Baptisms at Christ Church in 2021

September 19, November 7 (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.

Journeys for Newcomers and Longtimers in 2021

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 Sept 26, 11:30-12:45 - "Journeys become stories"

Sun Oct 10, 11:30-12:45 "The journey of the Episcopal Church"

Sun Oct 24, 11:30-12:45 - "Living faith"

Fellowship at Christ Church – Small Groups

See a topic you're interested in? Contact the convener directly for more information, using the email listed. Have a topic you'd like to suggest, either as a participant or a convener?

Contact **Cheryl Dobleke Beirne** on the Parish Life team at cld331@gmail.com.

GROUPS TO JOIN

Lectio Divina. A group to discuss some scripture using a Lectio Divina format (re-reading a passage 2-3 times for personal influences/reactions).

Convener: Dennis Hendricks, dennisjhendricks@gmail.com

Good Shepherds. Reaching out to parishioners who may be lonely or struggling.

Convener: Kate Hall, cyprus8018@verizon.net

Sunday Bible Study. Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m., online. *Convener: The Rev. Palmer Hartl.* Use the link in the weekly parish email.

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*

Know how to use Zoom? Google Meet?

A few in our community are still struggling with connecting via Zoom. Would you be willing to be on a list of folks who can phone-talk them through getting on and off, muting and unmuting, etc.? Let **Beth Wilson** on the Parish Life team know: ewilson8044@gmail.com

Christ Church Staff

mail@christchurchphila.org

215.922.1695

www.christchurchphila.org

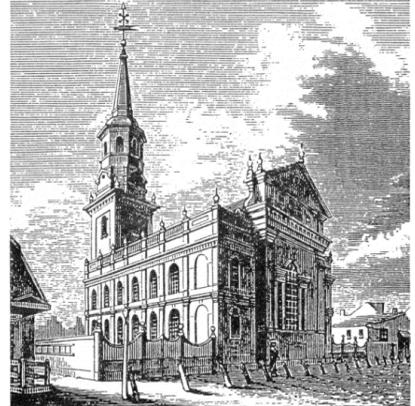
The Rev. Timothy Safford, Rector	tsafford@christchurchphila.org	ext. 22
The Rev. Susan Richardson, Assistant Minister	srichardson@christchurchphila.org	ext. 25
The Rev. K. Palmer Hartl, Parish Associate	kphartl@aol.com	
Parker Kitterman, Director of Music	pkitterman@christchurchphila.org	ext. 27
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Robin Parke, Minister for Children's Formation	rmparke@gmail.com	
Will Ware, Sexton		
Patrick McCue, Weekend Sexton		
Barbara Hogue, Exec Director of Christ Church Preservation Trust	bhogue@christchurchphila.org	ext. 29
Hannah Wallace, Director of Public Engagement	hwallace@christchurchphila.org	ext. 32
John Hopkins, Director of Operations	jhopkins@christchurchphila.org	ext. 33
Hannah Opdenaker, Rentals Manager of Neighborhood House	hopdenaker@christchurchphila.org	ext. 28
Carol Smith, Christ Church Archivist	carolwsmith@msn.com	ext. 34

CHRIST CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

Thirty-nine Philadelphia families, 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. 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, possibly 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.



In 1790, Christ Church designated a large, 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 of the United States. 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 first Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in its formative years, all while remaining Rector of the parish. 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

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mail@christchurchphila.org • www.christchurchphila.org