December 22, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love



The **8:00am** Service begins on **page 6**

The **10:30am** begins on **page 16**

Parish Notes begins on **page 30**

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
5 Paterson Street, New Brunswick NJ 08901
732.545.6262 ▪ christchurchnewbrunswick.org



WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH, an Episcopal parish of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship this morning, and to receive Holy Communion or a blessing at the communion rail. We invite you to ask questions, explore, and to make yourself known to those around you. Please pick up any other information about the parish located on the table in the back of the church. Tell us more about yourself by filling out one of the cards located in each pew. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ALL SERVICES. Changing stations are available in both rest rooms at the Paterson Street entrance; you can get there through the side door of the church.

WE REJOICE that you have chosen to worship here this Advent season. If you would like to learn more about our Parish, please phone the Parish Office at 732.545.6262. Many of our upcoming events are listed on our web site, christchurchnewbrunswick.org; we hope that you decide to join us.

ABOUT THE LITURGY

Inclusive Language in Worship: Because language has the power to shape our thinking about God and one another, Christ Church makes every effort to bring the language of worship in line with biblical theology that affirms that the personhood of God embraces all that is truly female and male, and that men and women are equals. In our liturgy some historical texts that are widely known and loved are left unchanged.

YOU ARE INVITED to worship with us any Sunday.

Our regular service times are 8:00 and 10:30 AM.

FREE PARKING VOUCHERS

Are available for the Lower Church Street parking deck next to the church grounds. Please see an usher for a voucher and instructions.

INTERCESSIONS

AT EVERY CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST prayer is offered with intercession for the Universal Church, the nation, the welfare of the world, the concerns of this community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and the departed. Please feel free to add your own petitions during the prayers, either silently or aloud. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, you may also fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church.

WEEKLY INTERCESSIONS

We remember in today's prayers:

The Sick and Others in Need— *Barb, Brianna, Dennis, Doreen, Edith, Florence, Georgia, Hansford, Jean, Jeannine, Jefferson, Jim, Margaret, Pam, Pat, Robert, Steve, Stanford, Theayer, Timothy, Tisha, Vivian, Yvonne*

Anglican Cycle *– The Church of the Province of Uganda*

Diocesan Cycle *– The Revs: Sharon Patterson, Daniel Scott Russell, The Very Rev. Deborah A. Cook*

Christ Church Ministry *– Christ Church Choirs*

Birthdays this week *– Kendall Beckles, Elizabeth Clark, Tanner Fenn, Joanna Kuldinow, Effie Lamptey, Raritan Long, Ruth Macdonald, Mia Pangasnan-Ruddock, Ryan Van De Veen, Randy Weston, Madelyn Windle, Suzanne McDonald*

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in crisis, having surgery, are in the hospital and are in need of pastoral counseling from a clergy person, please do not hesitate to contact the Rev. Joanna Hollis—732.354.1450 or the Rev. Daphne Roberts -732.991.6733.

If you would like to schedule home communion, please contact Rev. Hollis and she will arrange for either herself, or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor to bring communion to you. Please do not hesitate to contact either Rev. Hollis or Rev. Roberts if you know of someone who is in need of care or counseling.

THE VESTRY:

The Rev. Joanna P. Hollis, Rector
rector@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

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TBD, Stewardship & Fundraising

PARISH STAFF:

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Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
bookkeeper@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*


Worshipping God Serving God's People
Christ Church New Brunswick

December 22, 2024
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:00 AM



THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE

References marked "BCP" are from the black Book of Common Prayer *in your pew.*

PRELUDE *Rhosymedre* R. Vaughan Williams

BLESSING AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Reader*:*
Candle Lighter:

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

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

Reader Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. (*First candle is lit.)*
We light this candle for peace. *(Second candle is lit.)*
We light this candle in joy! *(Third candle is lit.)*
We light this candle with love. *(Fourth candle is lit.)*

Out of love for the people of God, the Lord speaks through the prophet Isaiah, as found in the seventh chapter, verses 10-14:
The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Let us pray together:

All: **God of hope,**
Prince of peace,
Jubilee Judge,
and Lord of love,
your goodness is beyond our wildest imaginings. You give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us with impossible possibility
in the union of flesh and spirit.
Teach us to love this world and all people as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. God of promise, God of hope,
into our darkness come. Amen.

Reader: The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Let us pray together:

All: **Faithful God,**
you are at work to restore all of creation in its intended harmony.
Give us your shalom
that we may be reconciled to all enemies in the peace that passes all understanding through Christ Jesus our Lord.
God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY *BCP, p. 323*

The Presider says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Presider continues

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

THE KYRIE *BCP, p. 324*

Presider: Lord, have mercy upon us.
People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Presider: Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 15 The Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

THE SECOND LESSON Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would

be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON Rev. Joanna Hollis

THE NICENE CREED *BCP, p. 326*

ALL **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader As we reflect upon the meaning of God's real presence in our lives this Advent, let us pray for the Church and the world.

The Leader requests the prayers of the People of God for the world, the mission of the Church, and for those individuals who have asked for or need our prayers. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church.

After the last petition, the Presider adds a concluding Collect.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Presider Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

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

Presider Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN "Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, #268**

Scan this code to support Christ Church's ministries and outreach to the community.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer II, BCP, page 340*

Presider The Lord be with you.
ALL **And with thy spirit.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
ALL **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
ALL **It is meet and right so to do.**

Presider It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

The Presider continues with the Proper Preface of the Day and then continues.

Presider Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS

ALL **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people may stand or kneel as able

Presider All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of
sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

ALL **Amen**

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread.

Presider O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
ALL **have mercy upon us.**
Presider O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
ALL **have mercy upon us.**
Presider O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
ALL **grant us thy peace.**

INVITATION

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

The congregation may kneel or sit following the Invitation. All are most welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion this morning, you are cordially invited to come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak to the member of the clergy who is serving the bread.

The Bread and Cup are given to the Communicants with these words

Minister The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Recipient **Amen.**
Minister The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Recipient **Amen.**

AFTER COMMUNION

Presider Let us pray.

ALL **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and also are heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Presider will give the blessing.

People **Amen.**

The Deacon will give the dismissal.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*
(How Brightly shines the Morning Star) D. Buxtehude



December 22, 2024
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:30 AM



THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

PRELUDE *Rhosymedre* R. Vaughan Williams

ENTRANCE HYMN "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, #66**

BLESSING AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Reader*:*
Candle Lighter:

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

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

Reader Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. (*First candle is lit.)*
We light this candle for peace. *(Second candle is lit.)*
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We light this candle with love. *(Fourth candle is lit.)*
Out of love for the people of God, the Lord speaks through the prophet Isaiah, as found in the seventh chapter, verses 10-14:
The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.
Let us pray together:

All: **God of hope,**
Prince of peace,
Jubilee Judge,
and Lord of love,
your goodness is beyond our wildest imaginings. You give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us with impossible possibility
in the union of flesh and spirit.
Teach us to love this world and all people as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. God of promise, God of hope,
into our darkness come. Amen.


Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, ___
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord,
Christ, ___
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, ___ have mer - cy.
Lord,
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

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But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 15 The Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

THE SECOND LESSON Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN "Sing the Wondrous Love of Jesus" **Red LEVAS II *Hymnal* # 20**

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON Rev. Joanna Hollis

NICENE CREED *BCP, p. 358*

ALL **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader As we reflect upon the meaning of God's real presence in our lives this Advent, let us pray for the Church and the world.

The leader requests the prayers of the People of God for the world, the mission of the Church, and for those individuals who have asked for or need our prayers. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the church.
After the last petition, the Presider adds a concluding collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION *BCP, p. 360*

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

ALL: 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.

Presider 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.***

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

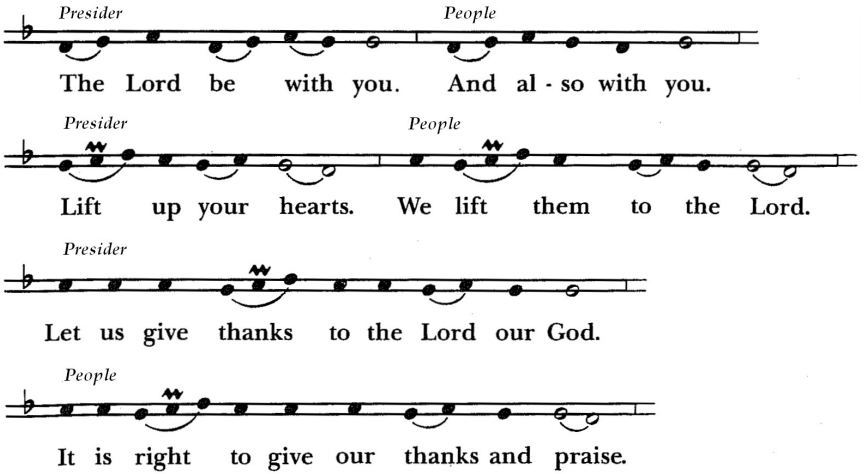
THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN "Ye Who Claim the Faith of Jesus" **Blue *Hymnal* 1982, #268**

Scan this code to support Christ Church's ministries and outreach to the community.

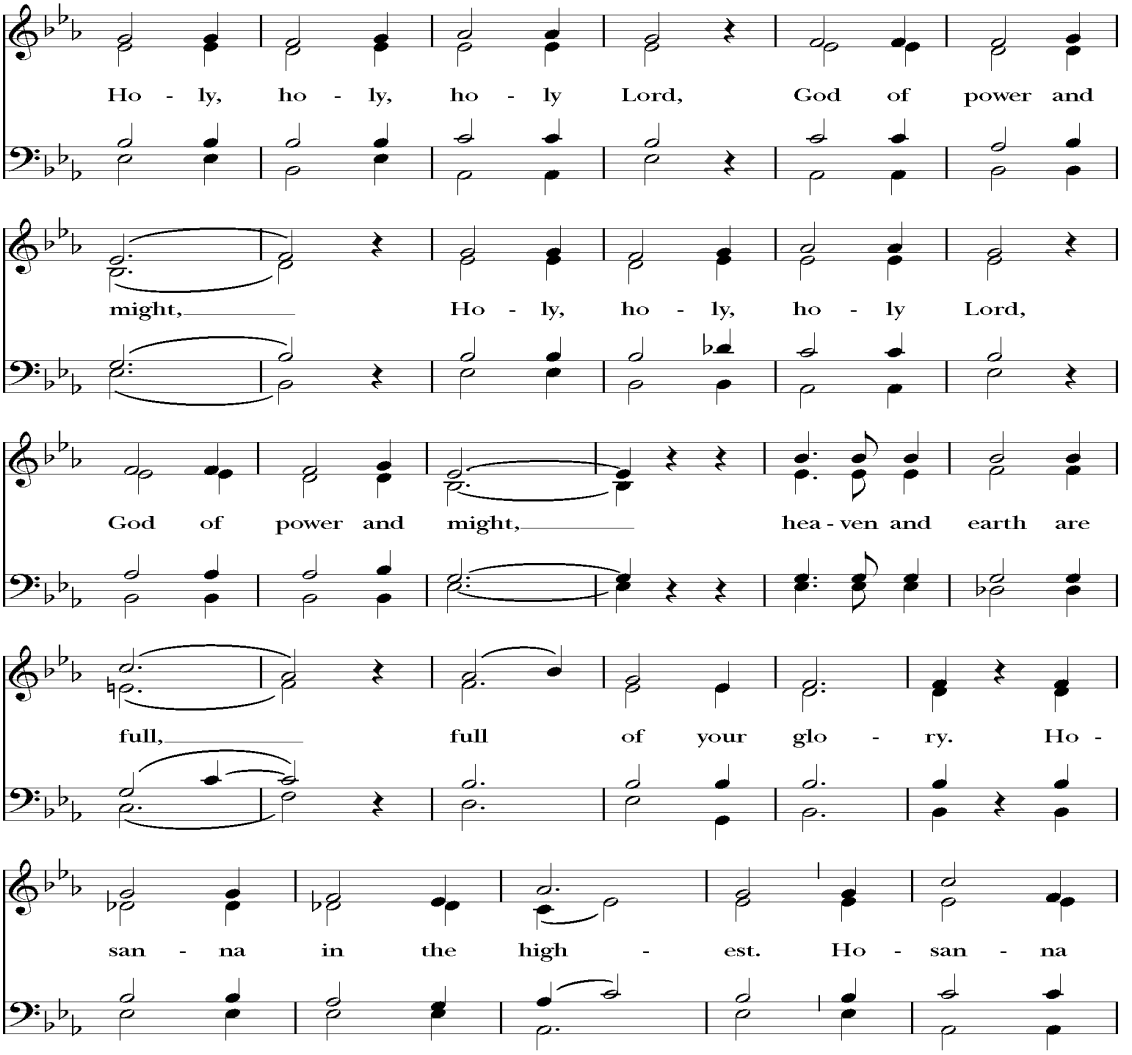
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP, p. 367

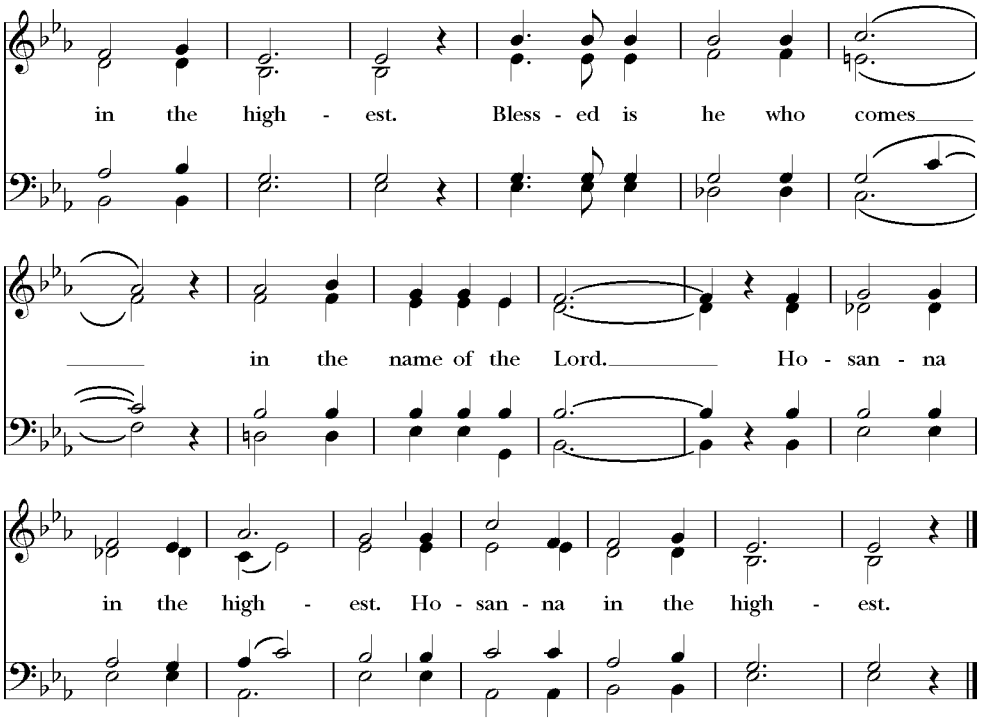


It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

SANCTUS CONTD.



The people stand or kneel, as they are able.

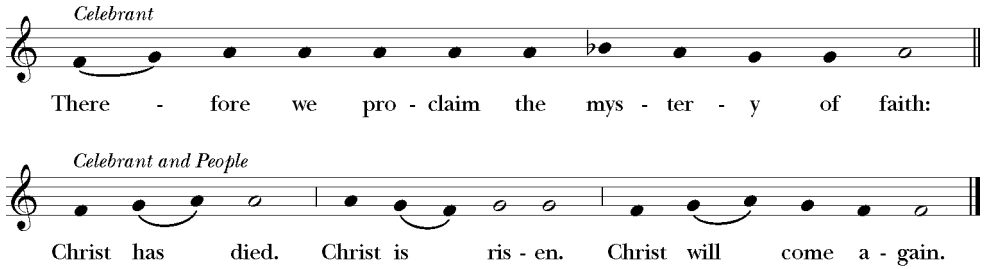
Then the Presider continues

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."

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION Blue *Hymnal 1982*, S-133

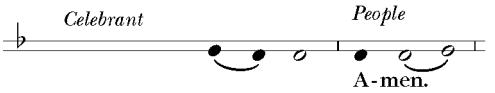


The Presider continues

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 [___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.

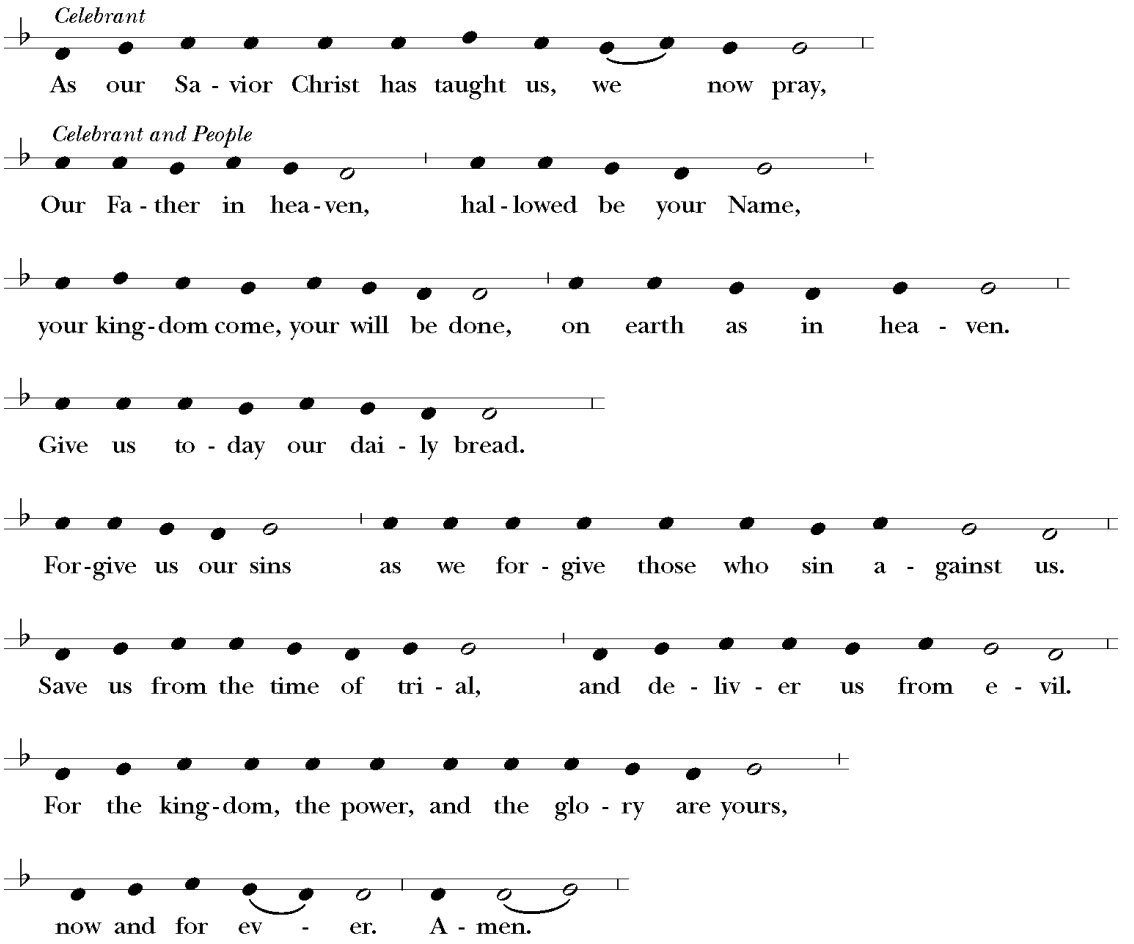
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

GREAT AMEN Blue *Hymnal 1982*, S-142



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Blue *Hymnal 1982*, S-148




Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

INVITATION *BCP, p. 364*

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

The congregation may kneel or sit following the Invitation. All are most welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion this morning, you are cordially invited to come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak to the member of the clergy who is serving the bread.

COMMUNION SOLO "He Shall Feed His Flock" G.F Handel
Soloist: Amani Cole-Felder

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd:
And he shall gather the lambs with his arms,
With his arms,

And carry them in his bosom,
And gently lead those that are with young
And gently lead, and gently lead those that are with young.

Come unto him, all ye that labour,
Come unto him , that are heavy laden,
And he will give you rest,

Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him;
For he is meek and lowly of heart:
And ye shall find rest, and ye shall find rest Unto your souls,

Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him;
For he is meek and lowly of heart
And ye shall find rest,

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER FOR THOSE JOINING US ONLINE:

Gracious God, our sustainer and source of all good things in the universe. As we gather in community this day, we are mindful of those who through circumstance or conscience are unable to partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation at this time. You are the source of the food and water which nourishes and sustains us. As we are the product of all we have partaken, we know that we are infused with your life-giving food and drink and that are never separated from you. Though we are many, we are joined in Christ. We are one Body, one Cup in the name of the One God. Amen.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *BCP, p. 365*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN "Tell, Out My Soul, The Greatness of The Lord"

The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, #438

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The Presider will give the blessing.

People **Amen.**

The Deacon will give the dismissal.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

(How Brightly Shines the Morning Star) D. Buxtehude



Parish Notes for December 22, 2024

Schedule for December 22— December 28, 2024

Parish Office Hours This Week:

The Parish Administrator will be away until January 7. Contact Rev. Hollis for special requests.

Sunday	**8:00 a.m.**	**Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
	9:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m.	**Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
Tuesday	**4:00p.m.**	**Christmas Eve Family Eucharist, Sanctuary**
	8:30 p.m.	**Special Christmas Music, Sanctuary**
	9:00 p.m.	**Celebratory Choral Eucharist, Sanctuary**
Wednesday	**9:30a.m.**	**Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**

*Join Us AFTER THE 10:30 AM Service for Coffee Hour in the Nicholas Room





Christ Church Annual Giving Tree

For the Angel Tree this year we are collecting Visa gift cards in the amount of $25 for there use in the Rector's Discretionary Account. Cash/checks are also accepted, please write Angel Tree in the memo line of checks.

Extra funds will be shared with the Men's Rotating Shelter. This campaign will fund from Dec.1-29, 2024.The more donations we get, the more ornaments will end up on the tree. Let's get the tree filled with decorations by the end of the month!

Thank you for your generosity!



Have you completed your online Pledge Certificate for 2025? The link is located in the weekly email. A paper copy can be found on the table in the back of the church.

Thank you to those who have pledged $233,274 to date.

Mervis Johnson
Mark McMahon and
Roberto Silva Moreira
Sheila Cooper
H. Arthur Phills
Sarah Braun
The Pullaro Family
Jo Duhr
Wendy Benjamin
Vincent Ryan
Elizabeth and
Jonathan Clark
Gordon Arsenoff
Jean Houvener
Hansford Kilkenny
Sandy Smithson
Kenreic and
Marva VanLoo
David and
Beverly Briggs
Meegan Adames
Patricia Buckendahl
Mel & Alice Garber

Ronald Stansbury and
Margaret Brown-Stansbury
Nancy Walworth and
Bob Chant
Paul & Catherine Ambos
Peggy Smith
Rozanne Jhamb
Joanna Hollis
Jean H. Zimmerman
Monica Williams and
Jeremiah Weston
Jonathan Gloster
Eleanor Forbes
Karen Bemis
Gloria Peroune
Joan Borden
Fernanda Perrone
Debra Lowe
B Pat Lowe
James Nichols and
Lori Covey
Towanda Stovall

Barry and
Dawn Johnson
Beth Binde
Nancy Lown
Barry V Qualls
John and Anne Ager
Thelma Fergusson
Yvette Bailey
Doreen Sirjue
Joanna and
Stephen Greenwood
Tanya Penman-Sterling
Liard, Deborah, Jaylen &
Aaliyah Weston
Louise & Frank Deis

RaiseRight™

Formerly ShopWithScrip

It's almost time for the January Christ Church RaiseRight! Order Epiphany is also coming!

Paul Ambos, will be placing a new card order on the morning of **Monday, January 6.** Please place your orders accordingly. If you plan to mail him an order with a check, mail it by **Wednesday, January 1.** Please advise him by email when you mail it of what your order is so he can place it on time despite possible Post Office delays. If you place your own order directly on the RaiseRight website or app, he will be able to see it there when he orders the monthly batch.

Don't want to write a check? No problem! Use the RaiseRight payment options through your checking account or credit card (checking costs a 29 cent charge per order; credit cards charge a percentage that is usually more). If you want physical cards delivered directly to your home, you can arrange delivery through the app. There is a charge for delivery. If you order for delivery through Paul, the church covers the delivery charge. RaiseRight website is **https://www.raiseright.com/shop.**

Thank you for your support of this parish program.

Vestry Key Topics

1) The Vestry celebrated the funding of the Handilift repair and approved a down payment to start the work.
2) The Vestry approved the 2025 Budget.
3) The Vestry was informed of the work with trinity Wall Street for the revitalization of the Church's campus.



Join The Christ Church Grief Support Group

Our next session is Tuesday, January 7 at 6pm.

This six-session series is for adults grieving the death of a loved one. The group includes education about grief and loss and provides participants an opportunity to share their experience.

Allow us to connect ***hand-in-hand*** with you!

6pm-7pm: January 7 & 21.

Sessions will **not** be recorded.

Zoom link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88251220962?pwd=JZe07lfHvdr441lMlLKSxrgR3CzFQL.1

Meeting ID: 882 5122 0962
Passcode: 782916

Interfaith Rotating Shelter

Every winter, houses of worship in New Brunswick unite to open their doors to our unhoused neighbors. We rotate from church to church each week and typically house about 15 men. The shelter runs from 22 December to 10 March, when the temperatures are below freezing. Christ Church will be hosting 4 January to 12 January and 16 February to 23 February.

The ministry has been running for over 20 years, and is recognized by our homeless neighbors and by community leaders as compassionate, life-saving, and much needed. This year, our needs are:

- Volunteers to stay overnight with the guests
  - A full shift is 7 PM – 7AM and partial shifts are possible.
  - At Christ Church, volunteers will typically sleep in the choir room from 11 PM – 5:30 AM and then start the coffee pots.
- Volunteers to help with move-out and cleaning on Sunday, January 12th
- Volunteers to cook or bring meals for 15 guests + 3 volunteers
- If you can't volunteer your time, you can also donate supplies or money

To sign up for a shift or meal, please reach out to Jason Kaelber at interfaithrotatingshelter@gmail.com or 848 228 3620. We also have volunteer openings for February at First Reformed Church and elsewhere, so you need not restrict yourself to the days Christ Church is hosting.

Thank you for supporting this ministry and the homeless men of New Brunswick!

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following parishioners have been appointed to the Annual Meeting Committee of Christ Church for the February 2, 2025 Annual Meeting of the parish:

Sheila Cooper
Wendy Benjamin
Rev. Joanna Hollis
Margaret Brown-Stansbury
Nancy Walworth
Penny Gordon, Chair

The offices to be filled at the meeting are:

One 1-yr term – People's Warden (elected position)
Two 3-yr term Vestry slots for the following functional positions:
Discipleship
Outreach
One 2-yr unexpired term Vestry slot for the following functional positions:
Stewardship
Three 1-yr term representatives for Deputy to Diocesan Convention (1 meeting + associated costs)
Three 1-yr term representatives for Alternate to Diocesan Convention (1 meeting + associated costs)
Six 1-yr term representatives for Delegate to Northern Convocation (Attend 3 local meetings)

Nominations for the offices to be voted on should be made through the Committee by completing and signing a nomination form and submitting it to the parish office or giving it in person to any member of the Committee.

Dated:October 24, 2024

Joanna Hollis, Rector

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	December 22	December 29
Presider	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Joanna Hollis
Preacher	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Daphne Roberts
Deacon		Rev. Daphne Roberts
Organist	Suzanne McDonald	Fran Morton
	8 AM	**8 AM**
Lector & Intercessor	Meegan Adames	Debra Lowe
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Debra Lowe	Sheila Cooper
Vestry Announce-ments	Jim Nichols	
Ushers		
Altar Guild	Nancy Walworth, Sheila Cooper	Mervis Johnson
	10:30 A.M.	**10:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor	Stephanie Elson	
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*		
Acolyte / Server		
Vestry Announce-ments	Gordon Arsenoff	
Ushers	Peggy Smith	
Production Minister	Steve Caruso	Steve Caruso
Altar Guild	Nancy Walworth, Sheila Cooper	Mervis Johnson
Coffee Hour		
Counters		

8:00 a.m.

Advent Wreath Ministers:
Reader
Candle Lighter

10:30 a.m.

Advent Wreath Ministers :
Reader
Candle Lighter

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
WORSHIPPING GOD, SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

✠

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Historic Christ Church is a mutually supportive Christian community worshiping in the living Anglican tradition of beauty in liturgy and music. Christ Church bears witness to the love of Christ in prayer, service and fellowship.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE.

5 Paterson Street ▪ New Brunswick NJ 08901
732.545.6262 ▪ christchurchnewbrunswick.org



The Reverend Joanna P. Hollis, *Rector*
The Reverend Daphne Roberts, *Deacon*
Suzanne McDonald, *Director of Music and Organist*
Brittney Girault, *Parish Administrator*
Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*

Scan this code to support Christ Church's ministries and outreach to the community.

www.ChristChurchNewBrunswick.org
https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchNB/