Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 7, 2025



The **9:30am** Service begins on **page 6**

Parish Notes begins on **page 16**

CHRIST CHURCH

5 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 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. 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 Pentecost 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.

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— *Allen, Dennis, Edith, Erica, Florence, Georgia, Gordon, Hansford, Jean, Jeannine, Jefferson, Jesse, Jim, Joan, Julia, Kristen, Lori, Pam, Pat, Rose, Sarah, Stanford, Steve, Thalia, Theayer, Thelma, Timothy, Tisha, Valerie,*
Anglican Cycle *– we pray for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa*
Diocesan Cycle *– Ministry of Transition Officers*
Christ Church Ministry *– Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors*
Birthdays this week *– Gloria Allen, Emma Chant, Wilfredo Coriano, John Egekeze, Zoe Jarrett, J Mary Nelson, Caleb Ola-Pratt, Owen Thomas, Dorothy Walworth*
Memorial Flowers *– are given by Mrs. Ray O. Peck in memory Charlette S. McCrelis, Kathryn and Cornelius B. McCrelis, Jr., Raymond O. Peck, Jr.,*

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. Daphne Roberts—732.991.6733.

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

THE VESTRY

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Worshipping God Serving God's People
Christ Church New Brunswick

September 7, 2025
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM
Presider: The Rev. Daniel Scott Russell



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE *Two short pieces* G.F. Handel

Please stand and sing at the Procession

ENTRANCE HYMN "Praise to the Living God!" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 377** *v. 1-3*

The Presider welcomes the people and says

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

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

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

THE COLLECT

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: *Jeremiah 18:1-11*

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

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

PSALM 139:1-5, 12-17

1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
14 My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.
15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.
16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!
17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number
than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to
be like yours.

THE EPISTLE *Philemon 1-21*

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. 7I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; 14but

I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

GRADUAL HYMN "If thou but trust in god to guide thee"

The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 635

THE GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

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

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

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

SERMON Rev. Daniel Scott Russell

All who are able please stand

THE NICENE CREED

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 Responding, "Hear our prayer," let us pray for our own needs and the needs of others.

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

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
People **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.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY HYMN "Immortal, invisible, God only wise" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 423**

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP, page 361

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

The Presider continues with the Proper Preface of the Day.

Presider 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

ALL **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 people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Presider 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:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, 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.**

Presider As our brother Christ taught us, we now pray,

ALL **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

ALL **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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.**

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.

COMMUNION HYMN "I come with joy to meet my Lord" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 304** v1-3

All who are able please stand

AFTER COMMUNION

Presider Let us pray.

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

FINAL HYMN "God is Love, let the heaven adore him" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, #379**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

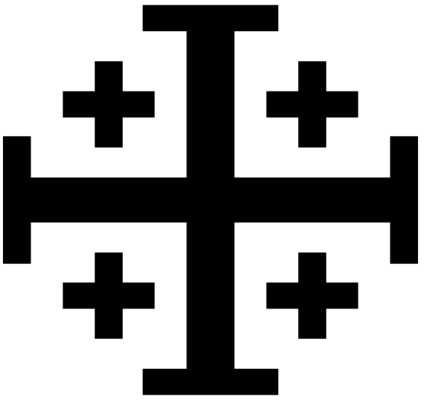
The Presider blesses the people.

People **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Voluntary* J. Clarke



PARISH NOTES

PARISH SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 7– SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

Parish Office Hours This Week:
Tuesday – 9:30am to 3:00pm
Thursday– 9:30am to 3:00pm
Friday – 9:30am to 1:00pm

Sunday **9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
Directly after service Wardens' Office Hours, Ross Room

Wednesday 12:00p.m. Noonday Prayer, Zoom
7:30 p.m. WomenSpirit, Zoom

*JOIN US AFTER THE 9:30 AM SERVICE FOR COFFEE HOUR IN THE NICHOLAS ROOM



Wardens' Office Hours!

Have something to share with our wardens? Meegan Adames, Rector's Warden & Jonthan Gloster, People's Warden, will be holding office hours on the first Sunday of each month. Beginning ***TODAY September 7th*** *- after the 9:30 service in the Ross Room.*

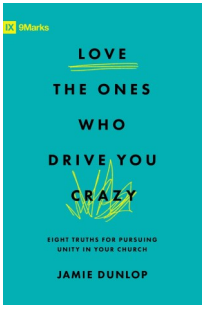
Save the following dates, with time and location to follow: October 5th, November 2nd, December 7th

RaiseRight™
Formerly ShopWithScrip

It is time for the Christ Church September RaiseRight Order!

Paul Ambos will be placing a new card order on **Monday September 8.** Please place your orders accordingly. Visit the RaiseRight website for more information https://www.raiseright.com/shop

The 4th Century Task Force will be meeting the 2nd Saturday of each month. Our next meeting will be **Saturday, September 13**.
We look forward to seeing you there.



The Tuesdayers' Next Book: "Love the Ones Who Drive You Crazy: Eight Truths for Pursuing Unity in Your Church"

Churches are full of differences. Those differences might be rooted in culture, personality, politics, or even musical style. Yet if a church is centered on Christ alone, then unity at church will sometimes require building genuine friendships that bridge across all those differences. How can Christians navigate those relationships? Can we really love people at church who sometimes drive us crazy? Jamie Dunlop offers a practical guide that explores eight truths from Romans 12–15 that show us how to find God-exalting unity at church with those we struggle to love. The Tuesdayers invite you to join our discussion, which will start on **September 16**. We meet over Zoom on Tuesdays (except the second of the month), 7:00-8:30 pm. For more information contact Jonathan Clark at im4canoes@yahoo.com.



Do you have Keys to the Church?

Hey there, key holders!

Do you have keys to the building? We're doing a little "key inventory" and want to know who's got the magic touch! If you have a key, we would love to hear from you. Please email the office (admin@christchurchnewbrunswick.org) and let us know:

- What type of key(s) you have (e.g., front door, all-access, etc.)

Help us keep things secure and organized. Thanks for being part of the team!

The Stewardship Committee is inviting you to join members at a Cottage Meeting.

Why should you attend a Tell Out My Soul Cottage Meeting?

During this time of transition at Christ Church, better knowing each other's stories will be crucial in determining, with God's help, how to move forward as a parish.

There are four opportunities to join a Cottage Meeting this September. Please plan to join one, if you are able.

September 14

At the home of Shannon Pullaro
56 Yorktown Road, East Brunswick, NJ 08816
1:00-2:30 pm

September 20

At the home of Sheila Cooper
6502 Schindler Drive S, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852
11:00-12:30 pm

September 24 (via Zoom)

Facilitator Jonathan Gloster
6:00-7:30 pm

September 28

at the home of Mark McMahon
1 Spring Street Apt 1502, New Brunswick, NJ -one block away from church
11:30-1:00 pm. Please note-max 8 people for this session.

October 12

after the service (11 am) in the Ross Room. In case none of the other sessions fit your schedule. No RSVP needed for this session.

- Please note that all three hosts for the in-person session have pets, Shannon-dog (will be contained); Sheila-cats (mostly will hide); Mark-a cat and a dog

- Please RSVP if you plan to attend. Meetings with no attendees reserved will be canceled. RSVP for any of the meetings by Sep 10, 2025. Link to RSVP: https://forms.gle/N3FA6DxHMSxaXSnZ7



✨ Sparkle for a Cause! ✨

Get ready for a **shimmering fundraiser** at **Christ Church**!

Coming **mid to late September** (date to be announced), join us **after service** for a special event featuring **beautiful silver jewelry**, perfect for treating yourself or finding a meaningful gift.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned—**you won't want to miss it!**



Liturgical Ministers Needed!

The link is in the weekly email.

PLEASE consider signing up for one or more Sundays.



Blessing of the Animals St. Francis of Assisi Day

Bring your pet for a special blessing for the year!
We will also be blessing shelter animals.



Saturday, October 4
1:00 p.m.

Franklin Animal Shelter
475 DeMott Lane
Somerset NJ

(On the grassy area between the old school house and the shelter building)

Cat or dog food donations are greatly appreciated.

Second Chance For Animals Since 1998

The Franklin Township Animal Shelter was established more than 30 years ago to handle the animal control and sheltering needs of the municipality. Second Chance for Animals, a volunteer organization dedicated to improving the lives of animals in shelters, provides volunteers and support to the shelter. Puppies, dogs, kittens, and cats are available for adoption. More information on Second Chance for Animals can be found at http://secondchanceforanimals.org/.

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

We, the body of Christ Church, seek to share God's love through our relationships with each other and our extended communities.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE

Like https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchNB/

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Following Jesus is important and demanding.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	**Luke 14:25-33**	**The cost of being a disciple**
Monday	**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**	**Choose life, not death**
Tuesday	**Philemon 1:1-21**	**Philemon's love and faith**
Wednesday	**Isaiah 57:14-21**	**A promise of health and healing**
Thursday	**John 15:12-17**	**Love one another**
Friday	**Philippians 2:12-18**	**Shining as lights in the world**
Saturday	**Psalm 1**	**The way to happiness**
Sunday	**Luke 15:1-10**	**The lost sheep and the lost coin**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live. **Deuteronomy 30:19 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Creator God, your ways bring life, love, and hope; help us to follow your ways that our lives may flourish, and our acts of love serve others through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, may your life-giving gift of food remind us of your love and faithfulness that makes all the difference for our daily lives. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:
Grace and peace to you from God the Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Philemon 1:3)

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

taking faith home

HYMN OF THE WEEK

O, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What does it mean to you to "follow the crowd"?
- How does following God's ways help you? How does it challenge you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 14:25-33 and Deuteronomy 30:15-20.

The way of discipleship is demanding. In Luke, Jesus makes drastic demands of those who want to follow him. Deuteronomy makes a similar demand. Either you follow the ways of God and live or you follow false gods and die. Dramatic and clear? Yes! Deuteronomy was written with the people of the Babylonian captivity in mind. The enslaved people in Babylon had not followed God by adhering to the commandments, decrees, and ordinances. The people were given a new chance to make the right choice. God's word is to be taken with all seriousness. This message is to be heard by us now as well. There are real consequences for not having the right priorities in life, including the importance of following Jesus completely. God's eternal grace does not diminish the importance of being a disciple of Jesus. Following Jesus, however imperfectly, does not wipe out the power of grace that gives us a new beginning each and every day.

Discuss: What do you think makes following Jesus difficult?

Pray: **Almighty God, your ways lead to life; give us courage to place our trust in Jesus that we may pick up our crosses and experience life with grace and mercy now and always. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who needs a second chance?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Paul wrote to his friend Philemon: *"When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus"* (Philemon 1:4-5). This love was a gracious gift of God. Write a list of those from whom you have received the gracious gift of God's love. Send them a note, email, or text giving thanks for them for being part of your life.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	September 7	**September 14**
Presider	Rev. Daniel Scott Russell	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos
Preacher	Rev. Daniel Scott Russell	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos
Deacon	Daphne Roberts	
Organist	Suzanne McDonald	Suzanne McDonald
	9:30 A.M.	**9:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor	Meegan Adames	Doreen Sirjue
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Artie Phills	Sheila Cooper
Acolyte / Server		
Vestry Announce-ments	Meegan Adames	Jonathan Gloster
Usher		
Production Minister	Steve Caruso	Steve Caruso
Altar Guild	Nancy Walworth Sheila Cooper	Mervis Johnson Margaret Brown-Stansbury
Coffee Hour		

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

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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 Daphne Roberts, *Deacon*
Suzanne McDonald, *Music Director and Organist*
Brittney Girault, *Parish Administrator*
Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*

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