The First Sunday After Christmas
December 28, 2025
9:30 AM



CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

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 Christmas 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, Doreen, 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, Vicent*

Anglican Cycle *– The Anglican Church of Canada*

Diocesan Cycle *– Church of the Holy Innocents in Beach Haven*

Christ Church Ministry *– Personnel Committee*

Birthdays this week *– Nicolas Adames, Shantell Eichorst, Charlotte Fergusson, Eric Sanders, Emily Watt Matthew Bharrat, John Buzbee, Maxine Dennis, Penny Gordon, Vinnah Robbin-Mason.*

Flowers at the lectern *are given by Mrs. Benjamin F. Stanton in memory of Virginia Rose L. Watson*

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 P. 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:

Meegan Adames, Rector's Warden
meegzy79@yahoo.com

Jonathan Gloster, People's Warden
jgloster73@gmail.com

John Ager, Treasurer
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PARISH STAFF:

The Rev. Daphne P. Roberts, *Deacon*
deacon@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Suzanne Davis McDonald, *Director of Music and Organist*
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Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*


Worshipping God Serving God's People
Christ Church New Brunswick

December 28, 2025
The First Sunday of After Christmas
9:30 AM
Presider: The Rev. Stephen J. Connor
Preacher: The Rev. Daphne P. Roberts

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE *Pastorale from the Christmas Concerto* Corelli

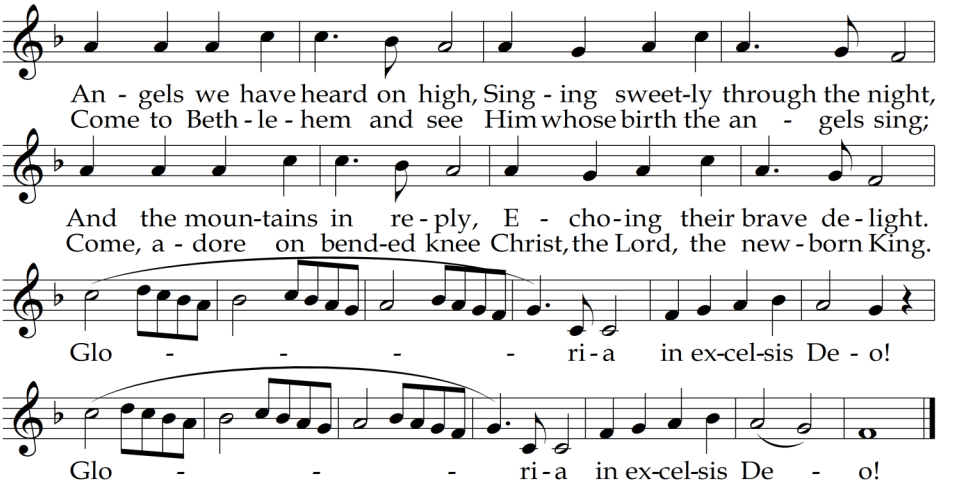
All who are able please stand as the ministers enter, and sing

ENTRANCE HYMN "Of the Father's love begotten" **Blue *Hymnal 1982*, #82**

The Presider welcomes the congregation, and then says

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

SONG OF PRAISE "Angels We Have Heard on High," GLORIA
Blue *Hymnal 1982*, #96 vs 1 & 3



Presider May God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
People **Amen.**

Please be seated

FIRST LESSON *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

Reader *A reading from the prophet Isaiah*:
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
Silence is kept for a space

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

PSALM 147

1 Hallelujah!
How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; *
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
3 He heals the brokenhearted *
and binds up their wounds.
4 He counts the number of the stars *
and calls them all by their names.
5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; *
there is no limit to his wisdom.

6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, *
but casts the wicked to the ground.
7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; *
make music to our God upon the harp.
8 He covers the heavens with clouds *
and prepares rain for the earth;
9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.]
13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
15 He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
17 He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON *Galatians 3:23-25;4:4-7*

Reader *A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Silence is kept for a space

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

All who are able please stand for the Gospel procession and sing

GRADUAL HYMN "There is a star in the east" **Red LEVAS *Hymnal*, #24**

GOSPEL LESSON *John 1:1-18*

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**
Reader In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will

of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Silence is kept for a space

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

SERMON The Reverend Daphne P. Roberts

All who are able please stand

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 Let us pray for the church and for the world responding,
"In the light of Christ."

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

THE PEACE

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

The People and Ministers greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All who are able please stand and sing the Offertory Carol as the gifts are presented

OFFERTORY HYMN "All glory be to God on high"

The **Blue** ***Hymnal 1982, #421***

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer 3*

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 All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth

all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout for joy:

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.

Presider Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you call a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the New Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People

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

Presider Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and

love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator

Presider Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of ending praise.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and forever. 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 THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

ALL T**herefore 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 the 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 "Joy to the World" The **Blue *Hymnal 1982*, #100**

AFTER COMMUNION

All who are able please stand

Presider Let us pray.

ALL **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

FINAL HYMN "Joy to the World" **The Blue *Hymnal 1982*, #100**

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

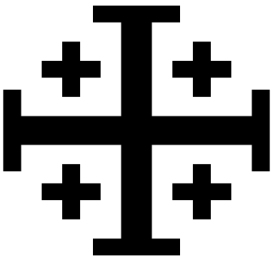
Presider May the song of the angels, the joy of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ child be with you this day and always.

People **Amen.**

Deacon Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Fantasia in* F Major Krebs



Parish Notes for December 28, 2025

Schedule for December 28– January 3, 2026

Parish Office Hours This Week:

The Church office will be closed on December 29 -January 1

Friday: 9:30am – 1:00pm

Sunday **9:30 a.m.** **Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**

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



Christ Church Annual Giving Tree
LAST DAY TO GIVE!

This year, our Angel Tree offering will support two vital ministries: the Rector's Discretionary Account and the Men's Rotating Shelter.

These funds provide direct assistance to some of the most vulnerable members of our community, offering help, hope, and stability where it's needed most.

We gratefully accept gifts via **Zelle, cash, or check**. If giving by check, please be sure to write **"Angel Tree"** in the memo line.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping us share Christ's love in this season of giving.

This campaign will run until Dec 28, 2025.

RaiseRight™
Formerly ShopWithScrip

It is time for the Christ Church January RaiseRight Order!

Paul Ambos, will be placing a new card order on the morning of **Monday, January 5.** Please place your orders accordingly. If you plan to mail him an order with a check, mail it by **Wednesday, December 31.** Please advise him by email when you mail it of what your order is so he can place it on time. If you place your own order directly on the RaiseRight website **https://www.raiseright.com/shop** or app, he will be able to see it there when he orders the monthly batch.

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 28 December to 16 March, when the temperatures are below freezing. Christ Church will be hosting 28 December to 4 January and 8 March to 16 March.

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 4th
- 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 January 18-30 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 1, 2026 Annual Meeting of the parish:

Gordon Arsenoff
Patricia Buckendahl
James Nichols
Isha Davies, 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:
Music
Property

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.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	December 28	January 4
Presider	Rev. Canon Steve Connor	Rev. Scott Russell
Preacher	Rev. Daphne P. Roberts	Rev. Scott Russell
Deacon	Daphne P. Roberts	Daphne P. Roberts
Organist	Fran Morton	
	9:30 A.M.	**9:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor	Shannon Pullaro	
LEM	Debra Lowe	
Acolyte / Server		
Vestry Announcements		
Usher	Peggy Smith	
Production Minister	Steve Caruso	Steve Caruso
Altar Guild	Nancy Walworth Sheila Cooper	
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

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

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