Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 31, 2025



Artwork: Entertaining Angels
Rublev Trinity

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, Barb, Dennis, Doreen, Edith, Erica, Florence, Georgia, Hansford, Jean, Jeannine, Jefferson, Jesse, Jim, Julia, Kristen, Lori, Pam, Pat, Rose, Sarah, Stanford, Steve, Thalia, Theayer, Thelma, Timothy, Tisha, Vivian*
Anglican Cycle *– we pray for The Church of South India (United)*
Diocesan Cycle *– United Thank Offering Coordinator*
Christ Church Ministry *– Food Choice and Resource Center at Unity Square*
Birthdays this week *– Christian Fergusson, Jaxon Phills, Nicholas Albrecht, Karen Bemis, Dolores Centolanza, Joyce Duhr, Kenreic VanLoo, Max Wilkerson, Katherine Yurga*
Memorial Flowers *– are given by Elaine H. Sullivan in memory Eleanor M. Schaefer, a friend of Christ Church in memory of Henry and Helen Torrey.*

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

August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM
Presider: The Rev. Alistair So-Schoos



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE *Christ the Life of All the Living* Johann Krebs

Please stand and sing at the Procession

ENTRANCE HYMN "Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord"
The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 438

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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: *Jeremiah 2:4-13*

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

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

PSALM 81:1-10-16

1 Sing with joy to God our strength *
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

10 I am the Lord your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, *
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."
11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *
and Israel would not obey me.
12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, *
to follow their own devices.
13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!
14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.
15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, *
and their punishment would last for ever.
16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat *
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

THE EPISTLE *Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16*

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

GRADUAL HYMN "Jesus, Jesus, There's just something about that name!"
Red *LEVAS Hymnal* II, # 107

THE GOSPEL Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

SERMON Rev. Alistair So-Schoos

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 Let us pray to our God, by 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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

OFFERTORY HYMN "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 376**

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 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 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 "All My hope on God is founded" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 665** 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 "All hail the power of Jesus name!" **The Blue *Hymnal* 1982, # 450** v1-3, 6

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

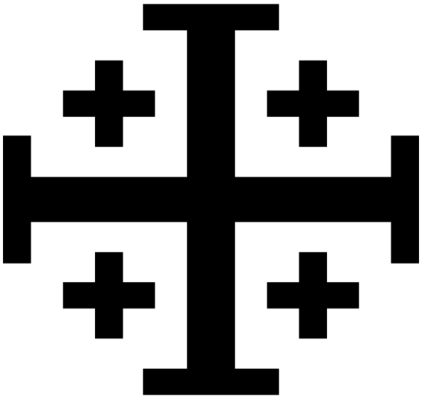
The Presider blesses the people.

People **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *I Call to You Lord Jesus Christ* Johann Krebs



Parish Notes

Parish Schedule for August 31– September 1, 2025

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

Sunday	**9:30 a.m.**	**Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
Wednesday	**12:00p.m.**	**Noonday Prayer, Zoom**
	7:30 p.m.	WomenSpirit, Zoom
Saturday	**10:00 a.m.**	**Youth Group Apple Picking Event, Warwick, NY**

*Join Us AFTER THE 9:30 AM Service for Coffee Hour in the Nicholas Room



Prayer List Update

Our prayer list will be updated on **September 7**. If you would like to add a name to the list, please be sure to submit it by **TODAY Sunday, August 31**.

Important: Any names not submitted by **August 31** will **not** be included in the next update. Names can written in the Prayers of the People binder located in the back of the church or emailed to admin@christchurchnewbrunswick.org



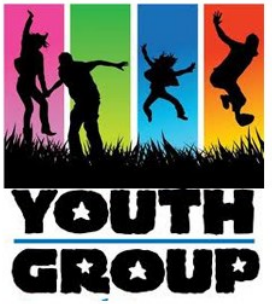
Join Christ Church NEXT Sunday, September 7 for our annual Blessings of the Backpacks!



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. ***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



Youth Group Kickoff Event!
Middle School & High School Students – You're Invited!

Our **first meeting** will be on **Saturday, September 6th** we are going **apple picking** in beautiful **Warwick, NY**!

Bring your friends, your best flannel, and your fall vibes. It's going to be a great time to hang out, make memories, and pick some apples.

RSVP & Get Transportation Info:
Text or call **Meegan Adames** at **(732) 986-2775**
Let us know you're coming – we can't wait to see you there!

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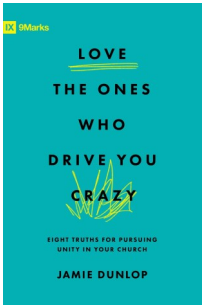
It is time for the Christ Church September RaiseRight Order!

Paul Ambos will be placing a new card order on the morning of **Monday, September 8**. Please place your orders accordingly. If you plan to mail an order with a check, please (a) mail it by **Wednesday, September 3,** or, better, (b) advise Paul by email when you mail it of what your order is so that he can place it on time despite possible Post Office delays. Or, if you place your own order directly on the RaiseRight website or app, Paul will be able to see it there when I order the monthly batch.

RaiseRight website **https://www.raiseright.com/shop**

FOURTH CENTURY TASK FORCE ESTD.1742

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.



Last Chance! One Ticket Left for the 2025 ECS Gala!

Don't miss out on this special evening honoring **our very own Catherine Ambos** at the **2025 ECS Gala**!

We've got **just ONE ticket remaining**, so if you've been thinking about going — **now's the time to sign up!**

Use the link in the weekly email to claim it – ASAP!



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!



✨ 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!**

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



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/

AUGUST 31, 2025
TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Freed by Christ to honor others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	**Luke 14:1, 7-14**	**Humility and hospitality**
Monday	**Proverbs 25:6-7**	**Wise sayings of Solomon**
Tuesday	**Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**	**Service that pleases God**
Wednesday	**Matthew 25:31-46**	**Judgment of the nations**
Thursday	**Exodus 2:16-25**	**Moses flees to Median**
Friday	**Proverbs 3:27-30**	**Be kind to your neighbors**
Saturday	**Psalm 112**	**Blessings of the righteous**
Sunday	**Luke 14:25-33**	**The cost of being a disciple**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous. **Luke 14:13-14 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
God of mercy, help us to see as you see, that we may give praise to you and honor those we are with for the sake of Jesus Christ, the one who sets us free. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, may the gift of this food remind us that we all receive your grace and mercy; for this we thank you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God bless you with joy to honor others.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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AUGUST 31, 2025

HYMN OF THE WEEK

All Are Welcome

taking faith home

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:

- When was a time you or someone you know were honored? Explain.
- Why do you think Jesus would challenge our current social standards of behavior?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 14:1, 7-14.

Am I smart enough, rich enough, talented enough, or powerful enough? Do I fit in? Am I acceptable the way I am? These questions can lead to self-doubt and a quiet despair. As Jesus was noticing those who tried to take the seats of honor at the banquet, he reverses these questions. We should ask: "Do I honor others, especially those in need? Does my life value and lift up the lives of those around me"? We are freed from the self-doubting questions and liberated to bring delight to others by simply valuing them. The power to honor others is a position that cannot be taken away from us. We can enjoy the pleasure of others honoring us as well, not because of our status in life, but because we are loved children of God. Through Jesus Christ, we receive grace and mercy. He came to take away our fears, hurts, and disappointments in life. What we need to know is that we are lovable, forgivable, and capable to honor and love others in Christ.

Discuss: When and how have you or someone you know been honored?

Pray: **Loving God, you promise us an eternal banquet of peace and love; help us to enjoy that banquet feast now as we welcome others with generous hearts through Jesus Christ. 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 give dignity to someone who doesn't feel valued?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus uses a parable about a wedding to show how God's protocol for good manners is a different way to look at the world. At God's table everyone is welcome. Think or talk about who you would invite if you were hosting a dinner. Write their names on a piece of paper. Look at the names and think about how you could make each guest feel welcome.

Pray: **Lord Jesus, teach us to be humble like you. Help us to welcome all people to God's table in your name. Amen.**

MILESTONES MINISTRY

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	August 31	September 7
Presider	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos	Rev. Daniel Scott Russell
Preacher	Rev. Alistair So-Schoos	Rev. Daniel Scott Russell
Deacon	Daphne Roberts	Daphne Roberts
Organist	Fran Morton	Suzanne McDonald
	9:30 A.M.	**9:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor	Shannon Pullaro	Meegan Adames
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Kevin Stansbury	Artie Phills
Acolyte / Server		
Vestry Announcements	Jonathan Clark	Meegan Adames
Usher		
Production Minister	Steve Caruso	Steve Caruso
Altar Guild	Mervis Johnson Margaret Brown-Stansbury	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

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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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