

Celebration of Holy Eucharist
Second Sunday of Advent



Christ Episcopal Church
Kensington, Maryland
December 7, 2025
8:00 AM

Blessed Sunday & Welcome to All

We are so glad you have joined us for worship this morning, especially if you are new or visiting!

The service is taken primarily from *the Book of Common Prayer*, but everything you need can be found in the bulletin. The congregation's responses are **bolded**.

Children of all ages are welcome in the service. There are child-friendly materials on the table at the back of the church should you – or they - want them!

Should you be interested, we have faith formation for PreK-5th grade, and Junior High Youth Group at 9:30am. Nursery coverage is provided from 9:30-12:30pm.

Would you like more information about children and youth at Christ Church?

Contact Children's Minister Ann Enkiri sundayschool@ccpk.org

All are welcome to receive communion. Instructions for communion are in the bulletin just after the invitation. ("The gifts of God for the people of God...") We will move to the chancel after the Announcements for the Eucharistic Prayer and distribution of Communion.

Offerings. You may make a donation by placing cash or checks in the offering plate, or you may give online via the link on our website, or simply scan the QR code below. We are grateful for your support!



All-gender restrooms and water are located at the end of the hallway off the back of the sanctuary.

Welcome to all our visitors!

Please introduce yourself after the service. If you'd like more information, fill out a visitor's card in your pew and give it to the usher or a member of the clergy. You can also email our Parish Administrator Jen Luna administrator@ccpk.org, or calling us at 301-942-4673. We'd be happy to connect with you, and if you wish, add you to our weekly e-newsletter the *Christ Church Connection*. If you would like more information about Christ Church, please visit our website at www.christchurchkensington.org.

**We are better for your presence with us today,
and would love to get to know you.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Presider continues:

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 Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah *Isaiah 11:1-10*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 *Deus, iudicium* *read responsively by half verse*

- 1 Give the king your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the king's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
rescuing the poor and crushing the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed are you, Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
for you alone do wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be your glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with your glory.
Amen. Amen.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans *Romans 15:4-13*

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name"; and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again,
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel *Matthew 3:1-12*

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out

to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

Sermon

The Rev. Hope Christensen

moment of silent reflection

The Nicene Creed

**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

We are called to watch and pray, therefore let us pray together saying:

Christ, in your mercy, **come to your people.**

Gracious God, we thank you for coming to us in Jesus, and for coming to us whenever we gather in your name. Keep us alert and watchful through the dark night of this world, and give us confidence as we await your coming in glory.

Christ, in your mercy, **come to your people.**

We pray for your church—its people and its leaders. Keep us alert and watchful in support of one another, guard us from everything false and untrue, and shine on us with the light of your holy word.

Christ, in your mercy, **come to your people.**

We pray for our country and all nations. Lift the hearts of those in authority that they may govern wisely and well, for the good of all. Bring your peace to all communities torn by division, violence and war, especially in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti and everywhere there is violent conflict. Keep us alert and watchful that we might serve you by serving our neighbors and all creation.

Christ, in your mercy, **come to your people.**

Loving Christ, hold us in your mercy: heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the refugee, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle. We lift up the sick of our parish including Helen-Paige Buck, Nora Buckley, Kevin Conway, Bonnie Douglas, Maggie Elgin, Jon Martineau, America Perez, Lissa Ramsepaul, John Rowan, Kitty Shuler, Calvin Smith, Helen Urquhart and Patrice Upshaw-Whiting; all caregivers; and all those who need our prayers:

You are invited to add your own intercessions, silently or aloud.

Christ, in your mercy, **come to your people.**

We pray for all who have died and all who mourn. We remember especially Michael “Chip” Davis; all those tragically killed as a result of gun violence and war; and those we now name:

You are invited to add your own prayers for the departed, silently or aloud.

We thank you, O God, for the blessings in our lives. We give thanks for those celebrating their birthdays this week, especially Pamela Lebeaux, Carl Keith, Charlie Flynn, and Nick MacDonald. Keep us alert and watchful for moments of joy, and move us to give generously out of our abundance.

You are invited to add your prayers of thanksgiving, silently or aloud.

Christ, in your mercy, **come to your people.**

The Presider offers a concluding prayer.

Give us ears to hear, O God, and eyes to watch, that we may know your presence in our midst during this holy season of joy as we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

A moment of silence

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.

The Presider offers Absolution

The Peace

Presider The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Most Sundays, we invite the congregation to come forward to the Chancel for the remainder of the service. There are a few stairs. If it is difficult for you to come forward for any reason, please alert the usher.

Offertory

Presider All things come of thee, O Lord

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer II*

Book of Common Prayer, p. 340

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

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. Christ the Sun of Righteousness has dawned as our deliverance, and as your power to renew the world in love and justice. Therefore with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**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.**

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 all, 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. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Breaking of the Bread

The presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Invitation and Communion of the People

Presider The holy gifts of God for the holy people of God.

All are welcome to receive communion at Christ Church.

At this service, we distribute the sacrament at the altar rail. Gluten-free wafers are available, simply tell your server. You may either drink from the silver chalice or hold your wafer up to alert the server that you wish to wait to intinct (dip the bread) in the glass chalice, which will follow. If you would like to join the communion and not receive the sacrament, simply cross your arms over your chest, and we will offer a blessing instead.

Post Communion Prayer

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 are also 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

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

We raise to God those who are on our hearts and are in need of prayer:

Friends and Family of our Community

All who ask for prayers through our website
Anthony
Bob (friend of Nachin Bone)
Santo Borruso (father of Sarah Burruso)
Bruce Beamer (uncle of Nina Upshaw)
Betty
Charles
Coley Beggy (friend of the Hoffeditz Family)
Susan Best (sister-in-law of Jeff Taylor)
Steve Campbell (Uncle of Jackie Campbell Waidmann)
Moises Carera and the Carera family
Susan Catlette
Cecelia
Cindy
Maureen Cordell (sister of Nora Buckley)
Eric Cozzens (son of Peter Cozzens)
Yvonne Dean (friend of Bonnie Douglas)
Kelly Doig (friend of Katie, Jackie & Katherine)
Laura Duchelle (sister-in-law of Kate Duchelle)
Daniel Epps (father of Cynthia Mitchell)
Gerald & Sandy Giddings (relatives of Liz & Bob Quinn)
John Godfrey (brother of Rena Godfrey)
Sandra Goldman (mother of Brad Christmas)
Gema Guarin (friend of Joan Centrella)
Rob Guzzon (father of a friend of Katherine Chatt)
Laura (friend of Betsy Robbins)
Doug Hanscom (friend of Emily Guthrie)
Lisa Harrison (friend of MaryBeth and Mike Etherton)
Earl Hill (godfather of Sean Quinn)
Terry Hodge (friend of Annie Seale)
Amanda Hoey (daughter of Anne Witt)
Bob Hoffman and his son Cornell
Floris & Rob Houston (friends of Joan Centrella)
John (friend of Mary Ellen Huzzard)
Nelly Jones (mother of Jennifer Jones)
Robert Kellam (cousin of Victoria Thanos)
Nancy & Pete Lane (sister & brother in law of Joan Centrella)
Abbi Livay (granddaughter of Ann Hagan)
Chris Lloyd (friend of Kitty Shuler)
Ray Martens (uncle of Roma Hart)
Martha (prayers for healing)
Maureen (friend of Donna Berkowitz)
Chris McCann (cousin of Katie Wallace)
Bob McCarthy (friend of Bob Quinn)
Nick McGray (father of Craig McGray)
Meaghan Morin (Kensington neighbor)

Melanie Moxness (niece of Dwight Allen & Joan Centrella)
Miriam
Nicole
Julianne Paige (mother of Jason Paige)
Cabrini Pak (friend of Dwight Allen)
Dawn Porter (friend of Liz McLeod)
Vivian Puricelli (mother of Lee Puricelli)
Ricky Reeves (grandson of Pat Reeves)
Robbie (friend of Sibbie O'Sullivan)
Andrew Rupli (son of Brenda Rupli)
Lori Richards (sister of Lisa Albright)
Sarah Rosenbaum (friend of Helen Urquhart)
Ray Salomon (nephew of Jen Luna)
Karen Sechrist (friend of Liz Quinn)
Margarita Serrano
Jerry Sheard (brother of Liz Quinn)
Scott Sherman (brother of Sara Thorne)
Sr. Margaret (friend of Leslie Everheart)
Naneita Smith (daughter of Calvin Smith)
Ben Sudbrink (son of Emily & Bill Sudbrink)
Jim Tavares (brother of Phyllis Knight)
Jamie Tippit (friend of Roma Hart)
Ronald Young (cousin of Patrice Whiting)

Those in our community in need of healing prayers:

Helen Paige Buck, Nora Buckley, Kevin Conway, Bonnie Douglas, Maggie Elgin, Jon Martineau, America Perez, Lissa Ramsepaul, John Rowan, Kitty Shuler, Calvin Smith, Helen Urquhart and Patrice Upshaw-Whiting; all caregivers; all federal civil servants and those impacted by funding cuts.

Those in need of continued prayer: Dorothy Clarke, Sara Cowan, Florence Crozier, David Dixon, Stephanie Feller, John Frohman, Ray Gardiner, Liz McLeod, Lee Puricelli, and Betsy Robbins.

We remember those in our community serving our country.

Clara Bartram, Alex Cox, Michael Cullinane, Alex Miller and David Hanna.

We remember those who have died: especially Michael "Chip" Davis; victims of natural disasters; and those tragically killed as a result of gun violence and war.

We give thanks: for all in our parish who celebrate their birthdays this week, including Pamela Lebeaux (12/8), Carl Keith (12/12), Charlie Flynn (12/13), and Nick MacDonald (12/13). Happy Birthday!

Have we missed your birthday? Please let us know!

Send your prayer requests to emily@ccpk.org

Staff

Rector

The Rev. Emily Guthrie
emily@ccpk.org

Parish Administrator

Jennifer Luna
administrator@ccpk.org

Children's Minister

Ann Enkiri
sundayschool@ccpk.org

Deacon

The Rev. Sara Thorne
sara@ccpk.org

Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Christensen
hope@ccpk.org

Organist-Choirmaster

Dr. Theodore M. Guerrant
guerrant@umd.edu

Childcare

Mary Mutisya
Emmy Kahi

Vestry

Sr. Warden

Chris Ours
christopher.ours@gmail.com

Jr. Warden

Katie Wallace
katiwallace818@gmail.com

Treasurer

Peter Gergen

Asst. Treasurer

Ted Seale

Clerk

Alex Thomas

At large Vestry Members

Terri Clausen
Linda Daisley
Claudia Deane
Rena Godfrey
Aime Keith
Jason Paige
Sean Quinn

Property

Bob Quinn

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, December 7 – Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 AM Choir rehearsal
9:30 AM Children's Christian Formation, lower-level classrooms
9:30 AM Junior Youth Group, Children's & Youth Library
10:00 AM Children's Chapel, Parish Hall
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist & Baptism, In Person and Live Streaming on YouTube
11:30 AM Choir rehearsal
4:00 PM Bible Study, Library and Live on Zoom
5:00 PM Holy Eucharist, In person and live on Zoom

Monday, December 8 – Office Closed

8:30 PM Compline, Live on Zoom

Tuesday, December 9

7:30 PM Holy Handcrafters, Library

Wednesday, December 10

6:30 PM Evening Prayer, Live on Zoom

Thursday, December 11

12:15 PM Prayers for Peace, Live on Zoom
6:30 PM Visio Divina, Live on Zoom
8:30 PM Compline, Live on Zoom

Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent

Note: There will be only one morning service; no 8:00 AM service!

9:00 AM Choir rehearsal
9:30 AM Children's Pageant Preparation, Parish Hall
9:30 AM Junior Youth Group, Pageant preparation
10:00 AM No Children's Chapel – Christmas Pageant!
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist & Pageant, In Person and Live Streaming on YouTube
11:30 AM Winder Wonderland Coffee Hour
11:30 AM Choir rehearsal
4:00 PM Bible Study, Library and Live on Zoom
5:00 PM Holy Eucharist, In person and live on Zoom

Worship Leaders

Usher

Jeff Taylor

Lector

Anne Meyers

Clergy

Rector

The Rev. Emily Guthrie

Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Christensen

Deacon

The Rev. Sara Thorne

Office Information

Normal Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

4001 Franklin St.

Kensington, MD 20895

301.942.4673

administrator@ccpk.org

www.ChristChurchKensington.org