

Celebration of Holy Eucharist
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany



Christ Episcopal Church
Kensington, Maryland
February 8, 2026
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 Gloria

Glory be to God on high,

and on earth peace, good will towards all.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee,

we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ,

with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God of light, your searching Spirit reveals and illumines your presence in creation.

Shine your radiant holiness into our lives, that we may offer our hands and hearts to your

work: to heal and shelter, to feed and clothe, to break every yoke; to become repairers of

the breach, with your help. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 58: 1-9s

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you

do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 112:1-9 *Beatus vir* *read responsively by half verse*

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *

and have great delight in the divine commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *

the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *

and their righteousness will last forever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *

the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *

and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *

the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *

their heart is right;

they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *

until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him” –

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

The Gospel *Matthew 5:13-20*

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

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great

in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

Shine in your church, O God; embolden us, in a dark world, to speak truthfully and to act with the courage of love. This day and always,
Christ be our Light.

Shine on your world, O God; heal the warring of nations and peoples, and the wounding of the earth to give us peace at last. We pray especially for peace in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and everywhere there is violent conflict; and for peace and unity in this nation.

This day and always,
Christ be our Light.

Shine for your people, O God; make us one human family who clothe each other with mercy and feed each other with justice. This day and always,
Christ be our Light.

Shine in our hearts, O God; help us to reach to the heavens and deep in our souls to seek you, to find you, and to know you. This day and always,
Christ be our Light.

Shine for the afflicted, O God; for all who are hungry, unhoused, or in danger; for refugees, prisoners, and their families. For immigrants and all who live in fear, that they may be comforted and protected; especially the families supported by the Christ Church care pods, and all impacted by a loved one's detention or deportation.

We pray for the sick of our parish, including Helen Paige Buck, Bonnie Douglas, Maggie Elgin, Anne Fox, Carl Keith, Phyllis Knight, Jon Martineau, America Perez, Lissa Ramsepaul, Calvin Smith, Ellen Thomas, Sara Thorne, Helen Urquhart, and William West; all caregivers; and for all who are on our hearts this day.

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

Remind them of your deep compassion and how you tenderly bear all our sorrows. This day and always,
Christ be our Light.

Shine on those who have died and those who mourn. We remember especially Jim Tavares; Jay Douglas; David Brittle; all those tragically killed as a result of gun violence and war; and all those we now name.

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

This day and always,
Christ be our Light.

Shine on the joyous, O God, especially those who celebrate their birthdays this week, including Emily Guthrie, Samuel Weston, Maeve O'Sullivan, Katharin Gagarin, and Pam Stanziani. Help us to remember the blessings in our lives.

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

This day and always,
Christ be our Light.

Shine, O God, as the Light that creates, the Light that calls, the Light that comes again with every dawn. Shine as the Light that scatters every shadow, and the Light in which we promise to walk, with your help. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

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

Deacon Go in peace bearing God's love and light to the world. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

—

*The altar flowers today are given by Barbara Swartz to the glory of God
and in loving memory of her brother, David Field Brittle.*

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)
Bruce Beamer (uncle of Nina Upshaw)
Betty
Charles
Coley Beggy (friend of the Hoffeditz Family)
Susan Best (sister-in-law of Jeff Taylor)
Moises Carera and the Carera family
Susan Catlette
Cecelia
Cindy
Eric Cozzens (son of Peter Cozzens)
Yvonne Dean (friend of Bonnie Douglas)
Kelly Doig (friend of Katie, Jackie & Katherine)
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)
Neal Klasky (friend of Lori Pujol)
Nancy & Pete Lane (sister & brother in law of Joan Centrella)
Abbi Livay (granddaughter of Ann Hagan)
Ray Martens (uncle of Roma Hart)
Martha (prayers for healing)
Maureen (friend of Donna Berkowitz)
Chris McCann (cousin of Katie Wallace)
Nick McGray (father of Craig McGray)
Meaghan Morin (Kensington neighbor)
Melanie Moxness (niece of Dwight Allen & Joan Centrella)
Miriam
Nicole
Dave Olson (father of Jenay Olson)
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)
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)
Rick V. (friend of Lori Pujol)
Mia Van Bee (sibling-in-law of Madison Chase)
Ronald Young (cousin of Patrice Whiting)

Those in our community in need of healing prayers:

Helen Paige Buck, Bonnie Douglas, Maggie Elgin, Anne Fox, Carl Keith, Phyllis Knight, Jon Martineau, America Perez, Lissa Ramsepaal, Calvin Smith, Ellen Thomas, Sara Thorne, Helen Urquhart, and William West; all caregivers; all federal civil servants.

Those in need of continued prayer: Nora Buckley, 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 Jim Tavares (brother of Phyllis Knight); Jay Douglas (brother of Bonnie Douglas).

We give thanks: for all in our parish who celebrate their birthdays this week, including Emily Guthrie (2/8), Samuel Weston (2/12), Maeve O'Sullivan (2/13), Katharin Gagarin (2/14), and Pam Stanziani (2/14). 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, February 8 – Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I, In person only
9:30 AM Children's Faith Formation, Parish Hall & Classrooms
10:00 AM Children's Chapel, Parish Hall
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, In Person and Live Streaming on YouTube
11:30 AM Faith & Science Panel Discussion, Parish Hall
11:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
4:00 PM Bible Study, Church Library and Live on Zoom
5:00 PM Holy Eucharist, In person and Live on Zoom

Monday, February 9 – Office Closed

8:30 PM Compline, Live on Zoom

Tuesday, February 10

7:30 PM Holy Handcrafters, church library

Wednesday, February 11

6:30 PM Evening Prayer, Live on Zoom

Thursday, February 12

12:15 PM Prayers for Peace, Live on Zoom
7:00 PM Lectio Divina, Live on Zoom
8:00 PM Compline, Live on Zoom

Sunday, February 15 – Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany/Transfiguration

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I, In person only
9:30 AM Children's Faith Formation, Parish Hall & Classrooms
10:00 AM Children's Chapel, Parish Hall
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist, In Person and Live Streaming on YouTube
11:30 AM Migrant Support Forum, Parish Hall
11:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
4:00 PM Bible Study, Church Library and Live on Zoom
5:00 PM Holy Eucharist, In person and Live on Zoom

Worship Leaders

Usher

Jeff Taylor

Lector

Ted Seale

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