

Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

A home to all sharing God's unconditional love.



The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025

The Rt. Rev José McLoughlin
Bishop of Western North Carolina

The Rev Karla Woggon
Priest-in-Charge

Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

We are delighted God has brought you to this special place.

What do you need to know about worship? Everything you need for your worship today is in the booklet you are holding. Our service is based on the Book of Common Prayer, using music from sources including the Hymnal 1982 and Taizé.

Are you worshipping with us for the first time? We would love to get to know you! Please email our office at ccepisopal@skybest.com with your name and contact information, and let us know if we can call you, answer questions, or pray for you. And know that wherever you are on your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Church.

Newsletter: Sign-up today to receive our electronic newsletter, the weekly *Good News & Notes*. Email the church office at ccepisopal@skybest.com.

Do you need prayer? We have an active prayer ministry here at Christ Church. If prayer would be helpful to you, please fill out a prayer request card (found in the pew back), making sure you include your name and contact information (email and/or phone). We'll include you in our weekly prayers. Just complete the card & put it in the offering plate during the Offertory or share your request with the greeter.

We extend special thanks today to:

The Rev Karla Woggon for leading us in worship this morning,
Laura Davis for serving as musician and for being so generous with her talents, and
Elizabeth Barr Bryant for providing the beautiful flowers at the altar in honor of
The Rev Karla Woggon, and for providing our coffee hour refreshments.

Please enter the Sanctuary in silence to respect those who are preparing for worship. Save conversations, whispered or out loud, for outside or Coffee Hour.

Please silence your cell phone, too.

Social media:

For more information about Christ Church, please visit our website –
www.christchurchallegghany.org

Christ Episcopal Church

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Online giving link: <https://onrealm.org/CCEpisopal/give/now>

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

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Cover art: *The Parable of the Rich Fool* by Rembrandt

The Gathering

Prelude

Laura Davis

Announcements

Elizabeth Barr Bryant

Please stand, as able.

Processional Hymn #695

By gracious powers

Remain standing, as able.

Opening Acclamation

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

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

All Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria: S280 (*sung by all*)



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray,

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ~ and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has

toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

The Response

Psalm 49:1-11

Hear this, all you peoples;
hearken, all you who dwell in the world, *
 you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
My mouth shall speak of wisdom, *
 and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
I will incline my ear to a proverb *
 and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
Why should I be afraid in evil days, *
 when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, *
 and boast of their great riches?
We can never ransom ourselves, *
 or deliver to God the price of our life;
For the ransom of our life is so great, *
 that we should never have enough to pay it,
In order to live for ever and ever, *
 and never see the grave.
For we see that the wise die also;
like the dull and stupid they perish *
 and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
Their graves shall be their homes for ever,
their dwelling places from generation to generation, *
 though they call the lands after their own names.
Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; *
 they are like the beasts that perish.

The Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-11

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things~ anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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

Please stand, as able.

Gospel Hymn #665

All my hope on God is founded

Please remain standing, as able.

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


The Gospel
Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

Refrain:

Refrain



God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.

All are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev Karla Woggon

A time of silence following the sermon.

Please stand, as able.

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.

Please stand or kneel, as able.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Merciful God, align the desires of our hearts with your will for us and answer our prayers as may be best for us as we say, Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Your holy church is a sacrament, making visible your grace and mercy. Keep it on the narrow path that leads to salvation and let it be a beacon of hope and an advocate for merciful justice throughout the world. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the people and leaders of our nation to see the dignity of all persons, and to work together to ensure that all persons have the opportunity to live into the potential with which they were created by you. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant that this community of faith might be a place where your presence is known and where each of us can fully bring our gifts to bear for the building of the kingdom. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Remind us of the glory of your creation and spur us into action on its behalf that the wonder of the natural world might be preserved and sustained, not only for ourselves but for all future generations. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons... *especially our Presiding Bishop, Sean, our Bishop, José, and our Celebrant, The Rev Karla Woggon.* Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *especially, in our Anglican community, the Episcopal Church of the Philippines; in the Diocese of Western North Carolina, the Church of the Transfiguration in Bat Cave and Saluda, and in our Alleghany Community, New Home Freewill Baptist Church. And please keep Christ Church, the Vestry and Leadership in your prayers...* Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Come swiftly to the aid of all who suffer or are oppressed, for all who are ill, injured, or facing disability. Help them know peace and wholeness. Especially we pray for... **Antje & Bill, Brenda & Kelly, Cara & LJ, Carl & Carol, Carl & Mimi, Cathy Davis and her family, Charles & Christine, Donna & Mike, Elizabeth, Emily, Frank & Ann W, Gary, Helen, Isabel, Jann, Jean, Jeanne, Jonathan, Julia, Kate, Lucy, Lynn, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Mark, Marybeth & Ned, Mr. Whitley, Rita & Angelia, Rod & Louise, Rudy, and Vanita.** *Please add your own petitions silently or aloud...* Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Give strength to those who stand at the threshold of mortal death and those who love and care for them. Grant them a share in your peace and reunite them in the light of your eternal kingdom. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Presider: Hear these prayers which we offer with confident faith in your love and mercy and answer us that your glory may be known; through Christ our Lord and Redeemer who stands with you and the Holy Spirit, overseeing all creation now and always. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

EOW, p 56

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Please stand, as able.

The Peace

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

Please greet one another in a way that is comfortable as a sign of our participation in Christ's reconciling work in the world.

Please be seated.

Offertory Music

Laura Davis

Please stand, as able.

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Please remain standing, as able.

The Great Thanksgiving

EOW1, pp 57-59

Presider The Lord be with you.
All And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

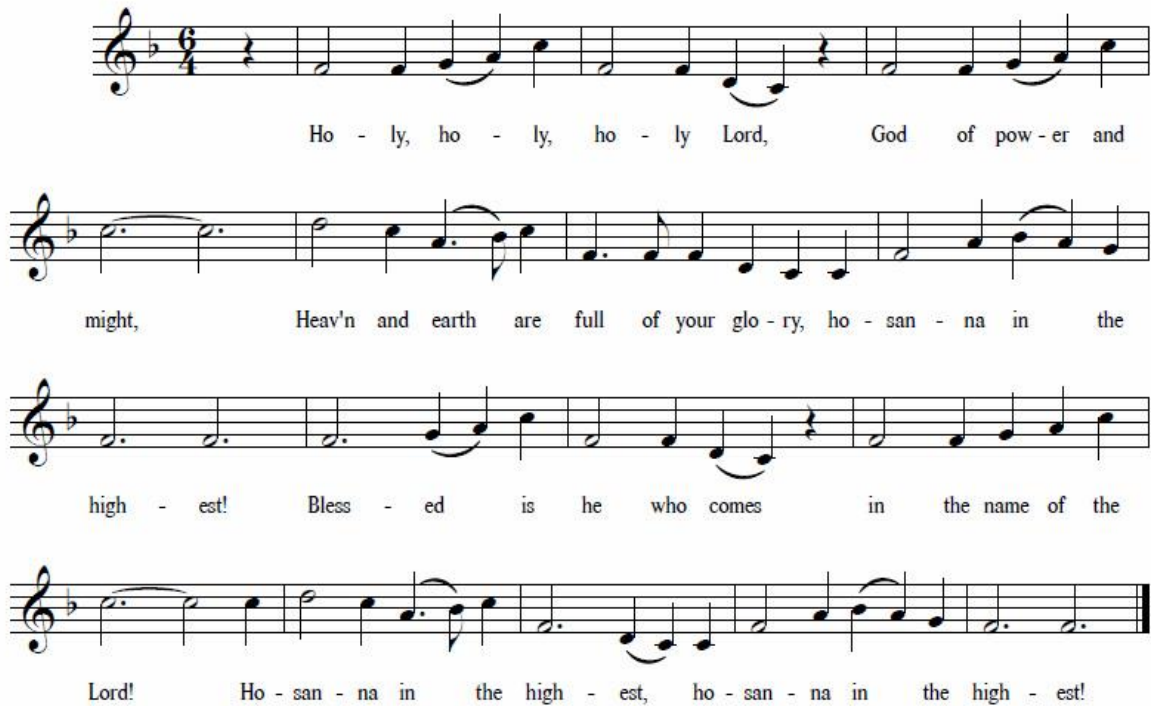
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider It is truly right, and good and joyful,
to give you thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus: *(sung by all)*

Land of Rest tune



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the
high - est! Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord! Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

Stand or kneel, as able, for Prayer of Consecration.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction: *(sung by all)*

Proulx Alleluia



The Invitation to Holy Communion

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance of Christ died for you feed on him in your hearts by faith with Thanksgiving.

Please be seated.

Communion Music

Laura Davis

Surely the Presence of the Lord

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace,
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

Please stand or kneel, as able.

Post Communion Prayer

EOW, p 70

Presider Let us pray,

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Presider Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. Amen.

Please stand, as able.

Recessional Hymn #390

Praise to the Lord

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Laura Davis

Coming Lessons

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalm 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

The following people are assisting with the services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Nancy Wilson	Louise Law
Crucifer	Nancy Wilson	Patti Phelps
Lector I	Cliff Hudgins	Nancy Wilson
Lector II	Cliff Hudgins	Nancy Wilson
Prayers of the People	Cliff Hudgins	Nancy Wilson
Sanctus Bell	Nancy Wilson	Patti Phelps
Greeter(s)/Usher(s)	Barbara Halsey	Jann Boggs & Les Colvard

Prayer List

Intercessions:

Antje & Bill, Brenda & Kelly Weems, Cara & LJ Todd, Carl & Carol Greer, Carl & Mimi, Cathy Davis (Rev Dr) & her family, Charles & Christine McKelvy, Ditinyak family, Donna & Mike Hohnstine, Elizabeth (Rev Martha's friend), Emily Buck, Frank & Ann W, Gary Medley, Helen Tester (The Rev – Interim Priest at St Luke's in Boone), Isabel Tomé, Jann Boggs, Jean Callison, Jeanne Green, Jonathan, Julia (Allan's cousin), Kate Vermilyea, Lucy, Lynn Ellis, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Mark, Marybeth & Ned Lentz, Mr. Whitley, Rita Woodruff & Angelia Miller, Rod Pace & Louise Law, Rudy McKnight, and Vanita (Ruthie's sister). And we pray for Christ Church, its leaders & ministry teams.

Departed:

Birthdays: John Ferguson (Aug 7)

Wedding Anniversaries & Thanksgivings: John & Pat Bassett (Aug 3), Libba Evans & Jim Lambie (Aug 6)

Schedule

Sunday, August 3 – The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost/Welcome Karla Woggon!

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

Tuesday, August 5

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group will be reading/discussing *Falling Upward*

Wednesday, August 6

10:00 am – Yoga with Julie in the Parish Hall

Sunday, August 10 – The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Potluck lunch follows the service

Monday, August 11

10:00 am – Vestry meeting

Tuesday, August 12

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group will be reading/discussing *Falling Upward*

Wednesday, August 13

10:00 am – Yoga with Julie in the Parish Hall

Friday, August 15

11:45 am – Ladies Lunch Out meets at Christ Church to carpool to The Bluffs

Announcements

The Vestry is thrilled to announce we have a new Priest-in-Charge, The Rev Karla Woggon who starts TODAY, August 3rd! The Vestry will continue the search for a permanent part-time priest but are excited about having a steady pulpit presence among other things. If you have questions, please ask!

TODAY: First Sunday Donation Day benefits the Solid Rock Food Closet If you're donating cash or check, please make sure you write "food closet" or SRFC so we know that's where you want your gift to go. There are envelopes in each pew back that can be used if you want to give cash. We'll collect donations the first Sunday of the month and then send one check to the Solid Rock Food Closet, our local food closet. We also welcome non-perishable food and personal care items. If you brought items, please put them in the red wagon located in our narthex.

Welcoming The Rev Karla Woggon! We will be having a **potluck lunch** after our worship service **NEXT Sunday, August 10th** to officially welcome Karla. The Vestry is

handling the main dish/meat but asks that you **please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert**. The sign-up sheet is on the information table in the Parish Hall. We hope you'll all join us to welcome Karla and enjoy a time of fellowship with her & each other!

Solid Rock Food Closet Volunteers begin next week! Questions? Contact Jann Boggs at 727.641.4925.

Revised Ministry Teams are being introduced in the *Good News & Notes*.

Ladies Lunch Out meets on Friday, August 15th at 11:45 am. Please sign up so we know how big a table to request. We'll meet in the Christ Church parking lot and carpool to The Bluffs for lunch.

Yoga class with Julie meets on Wednesday mornings. Classes are held on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in July & August. If you haven't completed a form, please do asap so Julie will know what arrangements need to be made. Blank forms are on the information table in the Parish Hall. Completed forms can be given to Julie on Wednesdays. This class is open to both males & females and at whatever level you need.

The Spiritual Formation/Centering Prayer group continues to meet for prayer on Tuesdays at 1:00. Book Discussion begins at 2:00. The book discussion group will be starting a new book this week, Richard Rohr's *Falling Upward*. If you're interested in taking part, let Patti Phelps know so she can order you a book. All are invited to attend one or both groups!

A reminder that all are invited to attend Vestry meetings to learn more about what's happening here at Christ Church. Vestry meetings are the second Monday of each month in the Parish Hall, beginning at 10:00 am. If you plan to attend and want to be on the agenda, please let Cliff or Mary Lee know the week before so you can be added. If you don't have time to attend the Vestry meeting but want to see what the Vestry is working on, the minutes are available in a binder on the information table.

The prayer shawls & lap quilts, now located in the Community Resource Room downstairs, are available for you to give someone who needs our Christ Church love and support. *For more information, read the GNN.*

Monthly Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour sign-ups:

Date	Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour
Aug 3	Elizabeth Barr Bryant	Elizabeth Barr Bryant
Aug 10	Nancy Wilson	Welcome Karla Lunch!
Aug 17	Ella Wren	Elizabeth Barr Bryant
Aug 24		Elizabeth Barr Bryant