



# CHRIST CHURCH

in SHORT HILLS

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Welcome to Christ Church. We are glad you are here today, affirming our shared faith in Christ, and worshiping in the Episcopal tradition. If you are new to Christ Church, be at peace here, find God at work here, and know that we are grateful to pray with you today.

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JULY 26, 2026: THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
HOLY EUCHARIST  
8:00AM

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*The people stand, as able.*

## ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *The collect is said in unison*

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.

## A SONG OF PRAISE

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 OF THE DAY

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 119:129-136

Mirabilia

**Your decrees are wonderful;  
therefore I obey them with all my heart.**

**When your word goes forth it gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple.**

**I open my mouth and pant;  
I long for your commandments.**

Turn to me in mercy,  
as you always do to those who love your Name.

Steady my footsteps in your word;  
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Rescue me from those who oppress me,  
and I will keep your commandments.

Let your countenance shine upon your servant  
and teach me your statutes.

My eyes shed streams of tears,  
because people do not keep your law.

*The people stand.*

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people are seated.*

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. R. Kevin Johnson

*A moment of silence is kept following the sermon.*

*The people stand.*

## 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

Form I

*The leader and people pray responsively.*

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our Bishop, for all the clergy and people, and especially Grace Church, Newark; House of Prayer, Newark; and The Anglican Church of Tanzania, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this township, Millburn/Short Hills, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel on land, on water, in the air, or through outer space, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us

pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Kim, Sarah, Sophia, Thomas, Veronica, Amy, David, Helen, Butch, Tammy, Dana, Richard, Katie, Melissa, Monte, Tyler, Bill, Jane, Lily, Margot, Peggy, Sara and Brian, Rodean, Alice, Daniel, Natalie, and all those on our ongoing prayer list, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**To you, O Lord our God.**

*Silence. The Presider concludes the Prayers with a suitable collect.*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins to God.

*A moment of silence is kept.*

**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.**

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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To make a donation or pay your pledge online,  
visit: [www.christchurchshorthills.org/give-online](http://www.christchurchshorthills.org/give-online)

Scan the QR Code with your phone and  
you will be directed to our online giving page.

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## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The people stand.*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Enriching our Worship, Form I

The Lord be with you.

**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 our thanks and praise.**

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

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (CONT.)

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.

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.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

## FRACTION

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

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*All members of God's household are welcome to receive Communion.*

*Come forward and extend your hands, palms up to receive the bread.  
If you wish to receive a blessing, but not communion, please approach with your arms  
across your chest.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.  
If you would like a Eucharistic visitation, please contact the Parish Office.*

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*The people stand.*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING

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.**

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**



## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

|           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Celebrant | The Rev. Bowie Snodgrass      |
| Preacher  | The Rev. Dr. R. Kevin Johnson |
| Usher     | Diane Tso                     |

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Please join us for our Coffee Hour in the St. Mark's Room  
immediately after the 8am service.  
All are welcome!

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## PRAYER LIST

Each week, we continue to remember those in need of prayer.

**Special Prayers:** Kim, Sarah, Sophia, Thomas B., Veronica B., Amy C., David C., Helen D., Butch G., Tammy G., Dana K., Richard L., Katie M., Melissa P., Monte P., Tyler P., Bill R., Jane R., Lily S., Margot S., Peggy S., Sara and Brian S., Rodean W., Alice Z., Daniel Z., and Natalie Z.

**Ongoing Prayers:** Celine, Grady, Lovenia, River, Tom, Nathan, Jack A., Amanda B., Andree B., Elena B., Joy B., Lynn B., Cindy D., Delois D., Dione D., Liz D., Sofia D., Claire H., Inese H., Gregg L., Helen M., Miller M., Andy O., Graham P., and Gary S.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Grace Church, Newark, and House of Prayer, Newark

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

**We pray for:** For peace in the world and an end to war, especially in Iran, Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, and Yemen; for Haiti; for Sudan; for the Democratic Republic of Congo. For immigrant communities. For the LGBTQ+ community, and especially transgender people.

Please contact Catherine Flynn, Pastoral Assistant, if you have any prayer requests or would like a pastoral visitation. Email: [pastoral@christchurchshorthills.org](mailto:pastoral@christchurchshorthills.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SUMMER AT CHRIST CHURCH



### ***The Saint John's Bible is here!***

*The Saint John's Bible* Heritage Edition has arrived at Christ Church. On Sundays in July and August, one volume of *The Saint John's Bible* will be on display in the church from 7:30am–12pm. Stop by to see it before or after worship.

Interested in viewing the volumes during the week? Contact the parish office to arrange a visit.



### **Where in the world is Christ Church this summer?**

Let us know what you are up to this summer! Send a photo to the Parish Office ([office@christchurchshorthills.org](mailto:office@christchurchshorthills.org)) and share your summer adventures with us. You don't have to travel far to share. We will post your travels in the Info Center throughout the summer months. Hope to hear from you!

## LIBRARY UPDATE

### **The Christ Church Library**

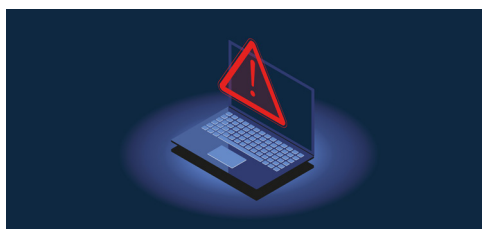
Exciting things are happening in the church library! Over the past several months, the St. Mark's Room has been reorganized, bookshelves have been designed and built by Alan Walters, and we are now preparing the collection for its official opening. Books are being sorted, organized, and catalogued so that, in the coming

months, parishioners will be able to browse and borrow materials that support learning and spiritual growth.

### **Become a Library Volunteer**

We are looking for a few volunteers who are able to give a little time each week to help develop and maintain the collection and assist with library circulation. Interested? Contact the Parish Office.

## PHISHING REMINDER



### **Be Vigilant Against Email & Text Scams**

Many churches across the country, including Christ Church, continue to be targeted by phishing scams that impersonate clergy, church staff, and lay leaders. These scams rely on the trust that exists within a parish community and often use familiar names, email addresses that look convincing, or urgent requests to catch people off guard.

#### **Please remember:**

- Clergy and staff will never ask you to purchase gift cards, send money, or provide financial assistance by email or text message.
- Be cautious of anyone requesting copies of our parish directory or asking for parishioners' contact information.
- Always double-check the sender's email address. Scam emails often use addresses that closely resemble legitimate ones but contain subtle differences.
- If a message seems unusual, urgent, or out of character, pause before responding or clicking any links.

If you ever have questions about whether an email or text message is authentic, please contact the parish office before taking any action.

# Get Connected

## Our Website

[www.christchurchshorthills.org](http://www.christchurchshorthills.org)

Visit our website to view:

- Our Parish Calendar
- The weekly Messenger
- Worship Information
- Outreach and Ministry Details
- And much more!



CHRIST CHURCH  
in SHORT HILLS

## Live Stream

10am Worship Streamed  
Live every Sunday



Subscribe on Youtube:

[youtube.com/ChristChurchInShortHills](https://youtube.com/ChristChurchInShortHills)



8am Sunday Service & 8:30am  
Morning Prayers (M-Th) on Zoom

## Podcasts

Listen Wherever You  
Get Podcasts

You can now listen to sermons from  
Christ Church on Spotify, Amazon Music,  
Apple Podcasts, and more



You can also listen at:

[www.christchurchshorthills.org/sermons](http://www.christchurchshorthills.org/sermons)

## Weekly Messenger

Subscribe to our Weekly  
E-Newsletter for important news

Subscribe by signing up on our website,  
calling the parish office, or emailing:  
[office@christchurchshorthills.org](mailto:office@christchurchshorthills.org)

## Social Media

Like, Share, Follow, Comment



Facebook - Main

[facebook.com/christchurchshorthills](https://facebook.com/christchurchshorthills)



Facebook - Friends of CC Choir

[facebook.com/ChristChurchChoir](https://facebook.com/ChristChurchChoir)



Instagram

[instagram.com/ChristChurch\\_SH](https://instagram.com/ChristChurch_SH)



LinkedIn

[linkedin.com/christ-church-in-short-hills](https://linkedin.com/christ-church-in-short-hills)



Rev. Bowie's Poetry

[bowiesnodgrass.substack.com](https://bowiesnodgrass.substack.com)

## Online Giving

Online Giving  
is Easy and Convenient

Give Online or set-up monthly  
contributions by visiting:

[www.christchurchshorthills.org/give-online](http://www.christchurchshorthills.org/give-online)



Download the MyVanco Mobile App  
to view your pledge and contributions  
from your phone



### WARDENS AND VESTRY

Dara Near, Senior Warden  
Chuck Nwachuku, Junior Warden  
Danny Jacobs, Clerk

Sue Bovan, Michael Cerino, Libby Clarke,  
Todd Corbin, Brandon Edling, Heather Finan,  
Jean Funk, Deborah Purdon, Charmaine Taylor,  
Jennifer Vinsonhaler, Kevin Walsh

- - -

Richard Appelgren, Treasurer  
Bonnie Rountree, Assistant Parish Treasurer  
Lise Davis, Parish Counsel

### CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Bowie Snodgrass, Rector  
The Rev. George Dredde, Community Engagement  
The Rev. Dr. Timothy Mulder, Priest Affiliate  
Dr. Andrew Paul Moore, Organist & Choirmaster  
Chris Whitaker, Communications, Outreach, & Youth  
The Rev. Dr. R. Kevin Johnson, Children's Ministry  
Georgeann duChossois, Parish Administrator  
James Johnson, Plant Supervisor  
Lydia Zapico, Finance Manager  
Catherine Flynn, Pastoral Assistant  
Jennifer McGregor, Director of CCNS  
Janet Aulet Maulbeck, Director of Interweave

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