



CHRIST CHURCH

in SHORT HILLS

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.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026: THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY EUCHARIST
8:00AM

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, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:8-13

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children,
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

The people stand.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Bowie Snodgrass

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

Creationtide Form

The leader and people pray responsively.

Eternal God:

We thank you for the beauty of the World:

for the teeming life of the seas,

the flight of birds,

and the diversity of animal life.

Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care;

to protect endangered species,

to preserve the variety of habitats,

and to honor the delicate balance of nature.

God of life:

hear our prayer.

We thank you for the wealth

of blessings from land and sea;

for the power of wind, and the warmth of sun.

We pray for the nations of the earth,

give us the will to cherish this planet

and to use its resources sustainably for the welfare of all.

God of justice:

hear our prayer.

We pray for the faithful witness of the Church,

called to reconcile and heal:

For this parish and our clergy: Bowie, George, and Tim.

We pray for St. John's, Passaic; and St. Paul's, Paterson; and The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

God of grace:

hear our prayer.

We pray for the human family.

We exult in our diversity and giftedness,
we repent of our sins, divisions and violence.

By the power of your Spirit, restore your image within us.

As every human being is known and loved by you,
may we care for one another with love and respect.

We pray for those you have commended to our care: Joy, Lynn, Veronica, David, Helen, Butch, Katie, and all those on our prayer list.

God of compassion:

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died,
and for all whom we entrust to your eternal love;
help us to support and comfort those who mourn.

God of peace:

hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding 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

*To make a donation or pay your pledge online,
visit: www.christchurchshorthills.org/give-online*

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



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The people stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

God 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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of Christ's incarnation you have gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, calling your people to be ministers of reconciliation and to proclaim the Good News to all creation.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

**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.)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

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

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.*

The people stand.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

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

PRAYER LIST

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

Special Prayers: Joy B., Lynn B., Veronica B., David C., Helen D., Butch G., Katie M.

Prayer List: Sandra T., Sarah R., Margot S., Lily S., River, Alice Z., Amy C., Tyler P., Tammy G., Sarah, Sara and Brian S., Rodean W., Robert O., Monte P., Natalie Z., Daniel Z., Dana K., Celine, Grady, Lovenia, Tom, Nathan, Elena B., Thomas B., Cindy D., Delois D., Liz D., Sofia D., Gregg L., Helen M., Andy O., Claire P., Graham P., Gary S., and Peggy S.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. John's Passaic and St. Paul's, Paterson.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

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 the Rev. George Dredde if you have any prayer requests or would like a pastoral visitation. Email: gdredde@christchurchshorthills.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

2026

SEPTEMBER 13

Blessing of the Backpacks | 10am
Parish Picnic | 11am

SEPTEMBER 20

Forum: Summer Adventres from
Taize & Cross Roads | 11am

SEPTEMBER 25

Children's Talent Show | 6:30pm



OCTOBER 4

The Saint John's Bible Dedication

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Paul
Keene

OCTOBER 4

Blessing of the Animals
St. Stephen's, Millburn | 4pm



OCTOBER 24-25

Rev. Bowie Celebration Weekend

24 - 10th Anniversary Celebration
for Rev. Bowie

25 - Anniversary worship with guest
preacher, Canon Margo Clarke

NOVEMBER 1

Feast of All Saints

NOVEMBER 8

Cooper Memorial Evensong for
All Saints | 4pm

NOVEMBER 12-14

Youth Convocation
at Diocesan Convention



NOVEMBER 22

Bishop Visitation

with the Rt. Rev. Carlye J.
Hughes, Bishop of Newark

ThankServing Sunday | 11am

NOVEMBER 29

Advent Lessons & Carols | 10am
Advent Wreath Making | 5pm

DECEMBER 12

Advent Retreat

DECEMBER 24

Christmas Pageant | 4pm
Candlelight Service | 8pm

DECEMBER 25

Christmas Eucharist | 10am

DECEMBER 27

Christmas Lessons & Carols | 10am

2027

JANUARY 24

The Pingry School Choir | 10am

FEBRUARY 7

Kitchen Fundraiser Party | 6pm

FEBRUARY 9

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
5:30pm

FEBRUARY 10

Ash Wednesday
8:30am, 12pm, & 7pm

MARCH 21-28

Holy Week and Easter

MAY 2

Annual Meeting & Brunch
11am

MAY 16

Feast of Pentecost

JUNE 13

Youth Sunday | 10am

ONGOING FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

Holy Grounds

Sunday | 9am

Family Outings

Various Sundays | 11:15am

Education for Ministry (EfM)

Monday | 7:30pm

Rector's Bible Study

2nd & 4th Tuesday | 12pm
In-person and Zoom

Morning Meditation

1st & 3rd Wednesday | 10am

Evening Book Group

4th Thursday | 7:30pm

Create & Connect

1st Friday | 9am

Martha & Mary

Various Tues. & Thur. | 7:15pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING AT CHRIST CHURCH



Parish Picnic

You're invited! After the 10am service today, we'll have our annual parish picnic on the field behind the church with food, drinks, live music, face painting, and activities for all ages. Whether you're new to the community or have been with CCSH for years, this is a great chance to reconnect with friends and meet new people. See you there!

Hello, My Name Is...

As we welcome visitors and new members this fall, we encourage everyone to wear a name tag. It's a simple way to help us learn one another's names and make Christ Church feel even more warm and welcoming. Name tags are organized alphabetically in the cabinets in the Narthex. Please arrive a few minutes early to find yours, or ask an usher for assistance.

Blank name tags are also available in the narthex. To request a permanent name tag, email the parish office (office@christchurchshorthills.org).



Acolyte Training & Photo

Sunday, September 20, 9:00am

All new and returning acolytes are invited to an acolyte training and refresher led by our acolyte coordinators, Haddon, Jude, and Noah. Whether you are serving for the first time or brushing up on your skills, please join us. Our annual acolyte photo will be taken at 9:40am.



Summer Update Forum: Taize & Cross Roads Camp

Sunday, September 20 | 11:30am

After the 10am service, gather with the youth of the parish to hear about their summer adventures to Taize, France and Cross Roads Camp.



Canterbury Choir Orientation

Sunday, September 20 | 11:15am

The Canterbury Choir is open to all elementary age children with rehearsals most Sundays at 11:15am from September through early June. Our energetic children's choir sings on special Sundays throughout the year. Members of the Canterbury Choir receive musical training in preparation from Sue Bovan and Andrew Moore.

Rector's Bible Study

Second and Fourth Tuesdays | 12pm

Beginning September 22

This fall, join with Rev. Bowie to read the Gospel According to Mark—the earliest, shortest, and most direct gospel. We gather in the St. Mark's Room and via Zoom. There are no quizzes or final papers—just an invitation to engage scripture in community!

Student Talent Show

Friday, September 25 | 6:30pm

Christ Church children and youth are invited to take part in a Talent Show on Friday, September 25. Musical, dramatic, dance, comedy, and other acts are welcome.

Students interested in participating should plan to share their act for a brief review on Sunday, September 13. To participate, please contact Sue Bovan (suebovan@yahoo.com).

Confirmation Orientation

Sunday, September 27 | 9am

Ready to take the next step in your faith journey? Confirmation is open to everyone in eighth grade and above. Join us for an orientation on Sunday, September 27 at 9am in the Parish Hall to learn more about this year's program. Adults are also invited to explore confirmation, reaffirmation, or reception into the Episcopal Church. Contact Chris Whitaker with any questions.



The Saint John's Bible Dedication

Sunday, October 4

Mark your calendar for the dedication of the newly acquired Saint John's Bible. The Rev. Paul Keene will join us as our guest preacher. More details to follow.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Sacred Ground program year launch with Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe

Tuesday, September 15 | 1-2:30 pm

Episcopalians are invited to join a fall program year launch event for Sacred Ground, the church's 11-part film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Join on Zoom for a virtual conversation with Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe about what makes Sacred Ground compelling and why the series continues to challenge participants to do the deep work of racial healing, reconciliation, and justice. Registration link available in the Messenger or email the Parish Office.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

Sundays available September through December

Each Sunday after worship, we gather in Parish Hall to meet and greet our fellow parishioners. This ministry depends on volunteers to provide some light refreshments and to help with set up. Won't you please consider being a part of this fellowship by signing up for a Sunday to help out? Sign-up available in the Parish Hall.

GUEST PREACHERS THIS FALL

We look forward to welcoming old friends and new voices from across the Diocese of Newark and the wider Episcopal Church to our pulpit this fall.



October 4 | The Rev. Cn. Paul Keene
Canon for Parish Life at St. John's Cathedral in Denver, Paul returns to Christ Church for the dedication of *The Saint John's Bible*.



Oct 25 | The Rev. Cn. Margo Clark
Canon for Congregational Life in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, Margo will preach as we celebrate Rev. Bowie's tenth anniversary at Christ Church.



Nov 8 | The Rev. Aissa Hillebrand
Assistant Rector at St. Mark's in Islip, New York, Aissa comes to us through the Episcopal Preaching Foundation's Preaching Excellence Program (PEP).



Nov 22 | Bishop Carlye J. Hughes
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, Bishop Hughes returns to Christ Church for her official biannual visitation.

OUTREACH



Volunteer Delivery Drivers Needed

The Interfaith Food Pantry of the Oranges urgently needs volunteers to deliver groceries to clients in Orange, East Orange, and West Orange, particularly vulnerable Haitian Creole- and Spanish-speaking families.

Deliveries take place Wednesday mornings, except the first Wednesday of each month, and last about two hours. Drivers need a vehicle and must be able to lift 15–20 pounds. Individuals, two-person teams, and substitute drivers are welcome. To volunteer, email IFPOranges@gmail.com.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Celebrant and Preacher The Rev. Bowie Snodgrass
Usher Brandon Edling



WARDENS AND VESTRY

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

Sue Bovan, Michael Cerino, 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, Associate Rector
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

CHRIST CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL (CCNS) – Established 1962 | christchurchnurseryschool.org

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