



*a diverse, inclusive church experiencing and reflecting the love, hope and joy of Jesus Christ
to each other and our community*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP | 11am | sunday | january 11, 2026

PRELUDE

This Little Light of Mine | arr. John Behnke

Wes Kassulke, organ

John Behnke | © Concordia Publishing House | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

WELCOME | Pastor Doug Johns

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** | Jeanne Deinken, liturgist

Come, people of God, and bring your prayers.

We come with gratitude, for God hears every cry.

Sometimes the answers are clear and bring joy.

Sometimes the answers are mysterious and hard to understand.

Yet in all things, God is faithful and good.

We give thanks for every answer, seen and unseen.

Let us worship the One who listens, responds, and loves without end.

With thankful hearts, we praise the Lord!

*** GATHERING HYMN**

How Firm a Foundation | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 529 (verses 1,2,3,5)

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,

is laid for your faith in his excellent word!

What more can he say than to you he hath said,

to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,

for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;

I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand

upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,

the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;

for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless

and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

**"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."**

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*** OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the gift of prayer and for the promise that you hear us—in words spoken clearly and in longings we cannot name. When we are uncertain or unsure how to pray, you send your Spirit to intercede on our behalf. We thank you for answering in ways that reveal your love, even when those answers surprise us, stretch us, or challenge our understanding. Give us faith to trust that you are at work in all things, shaping our lives and forming us more fully into the likeness of Christ. Send us forth as people who pray boldly and give thanks continually. Amen.

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in God, maker of heaven and earth. God shattered the darkness with light, setting in the sky a radiant sun. God transformed the night sky with brilliant stars. God overcomes every darkness with glorious light. God placed a star in the sky to guide people near and far to Jesus, The Christ-Child.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. He brings hope to those filled with grief and sorrow. He brings healing and strength to the weak. He brings direction and purpose to those who have lost their way. Through his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus revealed the depths of God's love for all people.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who activates the light of Christ within us, calling us to be the hands and feet of Jesus. The Spirit shapes all who follow Jesus into the image and likeness of Christ, equipping us to serve one another in his name. We believe that Christ's light still shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

*** GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

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MUSIC MINISTRY

I Believe | Eric Levisalles

Richard Christobal Harris, tenor

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SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:24-30 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

These are the words of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE

Breakthrough Prayer | How God Answers Prayer! | Pastor Doug Johns

OFFERING | Pastor Cathy Johns

worshiping through the offering of our lives and gifts

- Place offerings in the plates or wooden boxes
- Give online at **christchurchfl.org/give**
- Text GIVE to 954.880.3885
- Mail a check to Christ Church, 4845 NE 25th Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Connect cards may also be placed with your offering.

Christ Church is a congregationally supported ministry. We thank you for your faithfulness as we reflect the love, hope and joy of Jesus to our community.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Celtic Prayer | arr. John Purifoy

Chancel Choir; Melvin White, conducting

Hear my voice, most gracious Lord. O hear the prayer within my soul. May the words rise to you with songs of praise. Give me peace, touch my heart to feel your everlasting love. Hear my prayer, holy Lord, in the morning when I rise. Lead my life, most faithful Lord, to see your thoughts and know your will. For my soul longs to dwell within your care. Give me strength, guide my steps to live according to your word. Lead my life, holy Lord, in the beauty of your grace. Search me, O Lord, and know my heart. Try me, O God, and know my thoughts. Find any wrong that swells within my heart. And lead me forevermore in your everlasting love. I will sing with all my heart; I sing of God's unchanging love. For his mercy endures forevermore. May my trust rest in God to know the fullness of his grace. Hear my prayer, holy Lord, in the stillness of this hour.

Mark Cabaniss, John Purifoy | © 1997 by HAL LEONARD CORPORATION | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

* DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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MORNING PRAYER

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* HYMN OF COMMITMENT

Trust and Obey | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 467 (verses 1,2,4)

**When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.**

(refrain) **Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.**

**Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. *(refrain)***

**Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. *(refrain)***

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* SENDING FORTH

* RESPONSE

Spirit Song | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 347

**O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.**

**Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.**

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MUSIC FOR CLOSING

Fanfare | Nicolas Jacques Lemmens

Wes Kassulke, organ

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*** *please stand in body or spirit.***

Join us next Sunday for the message *Nothing Broken Beyond Repair*, based on Isaiah 61:1, Matthew 11:28-29, Luke 4:18.

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

TODAY

CONNECT CARDS We want to know how you're doing. Please fill out a Connect Card, to tell us that you are here, how we can pray for you, and which ministries you're called to. We'd love to hear your ideas also. You'll find paper Connect Cards in the worship space and digital cards at christchurchfl.org/connectcard.

HOLY GROUNDS COFFEE TIME On Sundays, coffee and snacks are available before the 9am and 11am services. Join your friends for coffee and conversation outside the kitchen window in the gym lobby.

TAKE A BAG FOR BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY As you leave worship today, you can take a bag with a shopping list to make it easier to donate to the Blessings Food Pantry. The pantry is serving about 800 families a month, making all donations extremely valuable. The following items would be greatly appreciated: canned tuna or chicken, canned or boxed soups, cereals, instant potatoes, tomato sauce, rice, pasta, mac-and-cheese, canned beans, canned vegetables, jelly, peanut butter, coffee/tea, canned fruit, canned ravioli, canned meat such as Spam, and cereal bars. If you'd like us to do the shopping, donations can be made at christchurchfl.org/give, with Blessings Pantry in the notes field, or make out a check to Christ Church and write Blessings Pantry on the memo line. Learn more at christchurchfl.org/blessings

ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE today | january 11 | 12:15pm | fellowship halls The mission of the Anti-Racism Task Force is to confront the sin of racism in ourselves, our church, and in the world. Join us as we work toward a church community that reflects the beautiful diversity of the Kingdom of God. ARTF meets quarterly on the first Sunday after the 11am Traditional Worship Service, around 12:15pm. Questions? Contact Susan Spragg, leader of the Anti-Racism Task Force, artf@christchurchfl.org

SERVE

MARCH IN THE MLK DAY PARADE monday | january 19 Join Christ Church and walk in the King Holiday Parade in Fort Lauderdale. It's an opportunity to honor the legacy of civil rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by promoting unity, celebrating diversity, and showing commitment to justice, equality and civil rights. The parade route is about one mile. Details are yet to come. If you are interested, contact Paige Darnell, pdarnell@christchurchfl.org

TOWN HALL MEETING ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL january 21 | 8:30am As Christ Church and Christ Church School move toward meeting the educational needs of middle schoolers, a town hall is planned for interested persons to learn more and to ask questions: Wednesday, January 21, at 8:30am in the Fellowship Halls. For answers to some frequently asked questions, go to the church website. christchurchfl.org/FAQ

ZOE EMPOWERS Please pick up a prayer card for a family that's part of the Arise and Shine Kironya Empowerment Group, our Zoe Empowers group. We will be supporting this group of 24 orphaned and abandoned teens and young adults as they learn the skills to be self-supporting and join in community through Zoe Empowers. Our partnership with them runs through December 2027. The skills taught by Zoe will help each young adult support themselves and their families in their context. You can learn more at christchurchfl.org/zoe

PREPARE BREAKFAST FOR PARKWAY The Parkway community breakfast is prepared in the Fort Lauderdale kitchen early Sunday morning. This is a great opportunity for families to serve together, wrapping and heating breakfast sandwiches. Students can earn service hours. Send an email to Outreach Coordinator Paige Darnell, pdarnell@christchurchfl.org if you, your family or group can help.

HEAT DINNERS FOR PARKWAY On Wednesdays, we're preparing Christ Church's famous and tasty meatloaf and side dishes in the Fort Lauderdale kitchen for our guests on the Parkway Campus. Flex volunteer time 2-4pm. This is a great opportunity for families to serve together after school. Students can earn service hours. If you are interested, please send an email to Outreach Coordinator Paige Darnell, pdarnell@christchurchfl.org.

JOIN THE WELCOME TEAM Do you enjoy greeting your church family and welcoming guests? The Welcome Team would be a great place for you to serve. Welcome Team members also help serve communion and collect the offering. Some welcome team members serve as ushers and greeters for memorial services and other special events. Michele Apple and Jeanne Deinken lead this team. Serving with the Welcome Team is a great way to get to know your church family. Sign up at christchurchfl.org/serve

BE PART OF THE WORSHIP TECH TEAM Put your tech skills to work for God. If you would like to be part of the team that helps run the cameras and visuals for worship, send an email to info@christchurchfl.org

CONNECT

AT THE TABLE next sunday | 10:05am | fellowship hall 1 *At the Table* is a time to explore the scripture of the day and meet new people as you do. Invite friends and newcomers to join you. Plan to stay after the 9am service or come early for the 11am service; you don't need to hear the day's message to participate in the conversation. Holy Grounds will be open, so plan to grab a snack and coffee, and join us.

CREATIVE SPIRIT PAINTING CLASS FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN sunday | january 25 | 4-7pm

Join Pastor Monique for the next Creative Spirit painting class and time of devotion. Open to women and children kindergarten and up, this class will be a time of painting a beautiful positive and negative space art using shapes that bring joy and positivity for the new year. This class will be Sunday, January 25, 4-7pm. Cost is \$15 per person and includes one canvas and all materials needed. A-L last names, bring something savory to share. M-Z last names, bring something sweet to share. RSVP by Wednesday, January 21, to Pastor Monique, mmcbride@ccsfl.org. Limit 50 people.

SHARED MEALS You are invited to share a meal and community twice each week on the Parkway Campus. On Wednesday, 4:30-6pm, dinner is served to all who come. On Sunday, breakfast is shared 9-10am. This is a great way to build community with our neighbors. The Parkway Campus is located at 100 NE 44th Street, Deerfield Beach.

CHRIST CHURCH AT TRIVIA NIGHT mondays | 7:30pm | Funky Buddha Brewery Join us as we play trivia. It's an informal gathering of folks who have fun trying to answer the questions and catching up on one another's lives. Look for the Christ Church team at the Funky Buddha, 1201 NE 38th Street, Oakland Park, on Monday nights.

WELCOME BRUNCH sunday | february 22 | 10am | fellowship hall 1 If you are new to Christ Church, we'd love to get acquainted at the next Welcome brunch. If you sit next to someone new, please walk with them to the brunch. This is an opportunity to learn more about the church and meet others. If you're interested or have questions, please send an email to welcome@christchurchfl.org

MEMBERSHIP CLASS PLANNED sunday | march 8 | 2pm | fellowship hall 1 Everyone is welcome to participate in the life of the church, as servants, musicians, in bible studies and more. If you are interested in deepening your participation through church membership, Pastor Cathy Johns will offer the class, United Methodist 101, on Sunday, March 8, at 2pm. Email Pastor Cathy Johns to let her know you're interested, cjohns@christchurchfl.org

GROW

ASH WEDNESDAY february 18 | 8am imposition of ashes | 7pm worship with imposition of ashes Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season of introspection and preparation. It is a time for repentance and reflection. And it is, ultimately, a journey that leads us to Holy Week, preparing us for the death and resurrection of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. We will start the Lenten journey together with imposition of ashes at 8am and a service of music, prayer, reflection and imposition of ashes at 7pm, all in the Fort Lauderdale Sanctuary.

GREAT READ sunday | march 15 | 4pm | fellowship halls & tuesday | march 17 | 1:30pm | John Knox Village You are invited to join Pastor Cathy for a discussion of the book *The Celtic Way of Prayer: The Recovery of Religious Imagination*. Readers will discover the history, folklore, and liturgy of the Celtic people. The author, Esther deWaal, a world-renowned Celtic scholar, leads readers on a journey of monastic prayer and praise -- the foundation stone of Celtic Christianity -- early Irish litanies, medieval Welsh praise poems, and the wealth of blessings derived from an oral tradition that made prayer a part of daily life. Secure your own book and read before the discussion; audio versions are available online. Child care for the Sunday discussion is available by advance reservation to Lisa Jones, ljones@christchurchfl.org.

MORNING PRAYERS Join your church family for morning prayers Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30am. Begin the day praying with your church family on the Christ Church Facebook page, [@christchurchfl](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchfl). If you can't be online at 7:30, a recording of morning prayers is available on Facebook. Morning prayers take a break on church and federal holidays.

HEALING

FAITH CARING GROUP mondays | 1pm The Faith Caring Group reflects and addresses the need for caring and assistance as well as grief support. The group meets on Zoom every Monday of the month, except the second Monday when members have lunch at H2Ocean, 5975 N Federal Hwy #103, Fort Lauderdale. For more information, send an email to info@christchurchfl.org with your contact information. A Faith Caring Group leader will get back to you.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

LEGO LENT EVENT wednesday | february 18 | 5:30pm Calling all master builders! Plan to come help build the Old City of Jerusalem on the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday. Stay tuned for details.

ADHD & ME sunday | march 1 | 10am | walkway room Pastor Monique McBride, pastor of school & families, leads this free seminar, ADHD & ME: Our Family Journey with Learning & Behavioral Differences, on Sunday, March 1, at 10am in the Walkway Room. As the parent of a young person with ADHD, Pastor Monique says she most certainly doesn't have all the answers. Yet, she believes her family adventures with ADHD are common and worth sharing with others. Come and hear her story as she shares a little bit of what she has learned along the way while parenting a child with learning and behavioral differences. Child care is available in the nursery. RSVP by Thursday, February 26, with the number of adults and children attending at christchurchfl.org/events

LEAD THE LORD'S PRAYER & APOSTLES CREED first sundays Children are invited to lead the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles Creed in the 9am and 11am services on the first Sunday of each month. Email Pastor Monique to volunteer, mmcbride@ccsfl.org

i9 SPORTS AT CHRIST CHURCH Soccer, flag football, basketball and multi-sport programs are open for children age 3 and up. January sessions are now open. i9 is a community-based program devoted to helping children succeed. Learn about all of the opportunities on the i9 website. **i9sports.com**

CHURCH BUSINESS

FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING The next Church Council meeting will be Monday, February 2, at 6:30pm in Fellowship Halls 1-3.