CHRISTCHURCH
DIVERSE INCLUSIVE UNITED METHODIST

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 | november 15, 2026

WELCOME

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

Do Lord, Amen | arr. Ron Mallory
Handbell Choir

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* CALL TO WORSHIP | Judy O'Donnell, liturgist

Jesus says, "I am the vine; you are the branches."
We come to abide in Christ, the source of our life and strength.
God has loved us with an everlasting love and invites us to remain in that love.
We come seeking deeper roots in God's grace.
Through worship, prayer, scripture, and fellowship, God nourishes our souls.
We come to draw near to the one who sustains us.
Come, let us worship the God who calls us, shapes us, and holds us fast.
With grateful hearts, we come ready to grow in God's grace and remain in Christ's love.

* GATHERING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 384 (verses 1,2,3,4)

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley & John Zundel | words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we are grateful for the love that surrounds us and the grace that sustains us. In the midst of all the demands and distractions of life, remind us that our faith begins and ends with you. You are the source of our strength, the foundation of our hope, and the love in which we are called to remain. Help us remember that doing no harm and doing good are not simply things we do because we are supposed to. They grow out of a life rooted in your love. Keep us connected to Christ, as branches are connected to the vine, so that our lives may bear the fruit of compassion, kindness, generosity, and love. Amen.

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

all **We believe in God, whose love created us, whose grace sustains us, and whose mercy calls us to love one another.**
We believe in Jesus Christ, who shows us the way of compassion, forgiveness, justice, and peace.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us, guides us, and empowers us to put our faith into action.
By God's grace, we commit ourselves to three simple rules:
We will do no harm, choosing words and actions that bring healing rather than hurt.
We will do good, seeking opportunities to serve, love, and stand alongside those in need.
We will stay in love with God, through prayer, worship, fellowship, and lives of faithful discipleship.
Together, we will follow Jesus, love our neighbors, and share God's transforming grace with the world.
Amen.

* 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

Calypso on "He Leadeth Me" | arr. Tammy Waldrop
Handbell Choir

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PASTORAL 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.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Growing Together | Laura Bailey

OFFERING

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 and pledge cards may also be placed with your offering. Christ Church is a congregationally supported ministry. We thank you for your faithfulness, which helps the church reflect the love, hope and joy of Jesus to our community.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Everlasting King! | Mary McDonald
Chancel Choir
Let the heavens rejoice and all the earth join in singing; joyfully, our praise to thee, our father, redeemer and savior! Come before him, praise, adore him; everlasting king! The everlasting king of kings, from age to age the same. Declare his glory, sing his praise. Proclaim his holy name! Holy is the Lord who was and is to come; praise we sing to Christ, our king for all that he has done! Every voice sing with rejoicing; everlasting king! Everlasting, praise the everlasting king! Come rejoicing! Praise the everlasting king!

Mary Elizabeth McDonald | tune: © 1999 Lorenz Publishing Company, assigned to Lorenz Publishing Company (Admin. by Music Services) | text: © 1999 Lorenz Publishing Company, assigned to Lorenz Publishing Company (Admin. by Music Services) | 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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SCRIPTURE

John 15:1-11 | New Revised Standard Version, updated edition
1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. **2** He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. **3** You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. **5** I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. **6** Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. **7** If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. **9** As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. **10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. **11** I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

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

MESSAGE

Three Simple Rules | *Stay in Love with God* | Pastor Jad Denmark

* HYMN OF COMMITMENT

O How I Love Jesus | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 170 (verses 1,2,3)
There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth.

(refrain) **O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,**
O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!

It tells me of a Savior's love, who died to set me free;
it tells me of his precious blood, the sinner's perfect plea. *(refrain)*

It tells of one whose loving heart can feel my deepest woe;
who in each sorrow bears a part that none can bear below. *(refrain)*

Frederick Whitfield | Unknown | words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

* 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

March Solennelle | Rex Koury
Chuck Stanley, organ

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please stand in body or spirit.

Join us next Sunday for the message, *A Kingdom of Gratitude*, based on Colossians 1:11–20.

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 so we can help you get connected. 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 Coffee and snacks are available between 8:45 and 10:45am. Join your friends for coffee and conversation today in the breezeway.

ESTIMATE YOUR GIVING FOR 2027 today | November 15 | both services Please prayerfully consider your financial commitment to Christ Church for the coming year. Your faithful giving makes our shared ministry possible and helps us continue to share the love of Jesus Christ with our congregation, our community, and beyond. Through your faithfulness, we continue *Growing Together* in faith, hope and love. You may place your completed pledge card in the offering today or estimate your giving for 2027 online at christchurchfl.org/pledge

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

FREEWAY FRIENDSGIVING today | 5-7pm – 5th-8th graders | 6-7pm dinner | 6-8pm high schoolers There's room at the table for all 5th through 12th graders every Sunday evening. Tonight, you're invited to bring a friend for a Thanksgiving meal plus bring a canned good for the Blessings Food Pantry. Fifth-graders through middle school students meet 5-7pm; high schoolers, 6-8pm. Both groups come together for dinner at 6pm. Questions? Contact Mr. W, director of student ministry, at **pwoodard@christchurchfl.org**

SERVE

THANKSGIVING MEAL FOR PARKWAY NEIGHBORS saturday | november 21 | parkway campus On Saturday, November 21, we're inviting the neighborhood around the Parkway Campus for a Thanksgiving meal, after which attendees will be given groceries to make their own holiday meal. There are many ways you can help with this community event -- from providing paper goods to bringing desserts to helping serve and praying with guests. We've invited the children and families of Tedder Elementary School, and we're planning for 300 guests. If you would like to help, please sign up. Volunteer shifts start at 8am. Meal is 11am - 1pm. Sign up to serve at **christchurchfl.org/thanksgiving**

GIVE BLOOD sunday | november 22 | 9:30am-12:30pm | christ church parking lot Step aboard the Big Reg Bus and give blood. One donation has the potential to save three lives. To schedule a time to give, go to christchurchfl.org/events

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PANTRY DONATIONS Thank you for bringing donations for the Blessings Food Pantry today. If you forgot to bring your donations, you can bring them any time.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH sunday | november 22 | 1-4pm | sanctuary Deck the halls of the Fort Lauderdale Sanctuary after the 11am worship service on Sunday, November 22. No experience necessary, just willing hands and heart.

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS by sunday | December 6 You are invited to make a donation, $10 per plant, and have a poinsettia dedicated in memory or in honor of someone special in your life. The lists will appear on the screens on Sunday, December 13, and in the Midweek Update that week. Please make your donation and dedication online at **christchurchfl.org/events**.

CALLING ALL BAKERS! Christ Church's hospitality team will host a reception after the Christmas Concert on December 13. Thanks in advance for donations of homemade cookies; we expect a few hundred people will attend the concert. Please bring your cookie donations starting Sunday, November 22. Thank you for helping us extend amazing hospitality to our guests!

ZOE EMPOWERS We support the Arise and Shine Kironya Empowerment Group of 24 orphaned and abandoned teens and young adults as they learn skills to be self-supporting 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**

SERVE A MEAL AT PARKWAY sundays 8:30-10:30am | wednesdays 4-6pm You are invited to share the joy of serving a hot meal to our neighbors and friends on the Parkway Campus. You'll serve alongside more experienced volunteers, serving food, welcoming guests, and helping to clean up after the meal. Students who serve can receive service hours. If you are interested, please send an email to **info@christchurchfl.org**

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. Students can earn service hours. Send an email to **info@christchurchfl.org** if your family or group can help.

HEAT DINNERS FOR PARKWAY On Wednesdays, we prepare 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 **info@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

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE thursday | november 19 | 7pm | united church of christ Pastor Jad Denmark will participate in an interfaith Thanksgiving service hosted by the United Church of Christ, 2501 NE 30th St., Fort Lauderdale. All are invited to worship with other persons of faith in our community.

SHARED MEALS You are invited to share a meal and community twice each week on the Parkway Campus. On Wednesday, 4:30-5:30pm, 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.

GROW

BROTHERHOOD: SEE & DISCUSS Tuesday | November 24 | 6pm | savor cinema ***B****rotherhood* is a cinematic musical about two neighbors, one white lifelong American citizen, the other a Mexican who has been waiting ten years for processing of his asylum application. Come watch the film with others in our community and participate in a meaningful conversation. The Anti-Racism Task Force of Christ Church is hosting the movie at the Savor Cinema, 503 SE Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale. Free parking is available at the county courthouse parking garage, just west of the theater. Fliers to share with friends and co-workers will be available on tables as you leave worship. Tickets are free, but advance registration is requested so we can accommodate everyone. Sign up using the QR code on the flier or go to **christchurchfl.org/events**

WOMEN OF FAITH noon wednesdays on zoom Women of all ages are invited to join Women of Faith. This lunch hour group welcomes all who want to learn and pray together. If you're interested, contact group leader Cynthia Metzger Phipps, **cmetzgerphipps@christchurchfl.org**

MORNING PRAYERS Join your church family for morning prayers Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30am on the Christ Church Facebook page, **@christchurchfl**. If you can't be online at 7:30, a recording of morning prayers is available on Facebook.

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.

STUDENTS

FREEWAY EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT every sunday | 5-7pm – 5th-8th graders | 6-7pm dinner | 6-8pm high schoolers There's room at the table for all 5th through 12th graders every Sunday evening. Fifth-graders through middle school students meet 5-7pm; high schoolers, 6-8pm. Both groups come together for dinner at 6pm. Bring a friend or two. Questions? Contact Mr. W, director of student ministry, at **pwoodard@christchurchfl.org**

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

DANCE THE CANDLES OF ADVENT INTO WORSHIP Girls are invited to dance in the candles of Advent into worship services at 9am and 11am on the four Sundays of Advent and at the 5pm service on Christmas Eve. Dresses are provided for this special opportunity. Dancers are welcome to sign up for one or more dates and times. Sign up at christchurchfl.org/events

PAINT YOUR NATIVITY SET sunday | December 6 | 4:30-6:30pm Bring 3 dozen of your favorite nut-free Christmas cookies to share (store bought or homemade), plus a tray or container to take home your cookies. The event costs $25 per family for the paintable wooden nativity, with a limit of 20 families. Sign up at christchurchfl.org/events

BE PART OF THE FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT sunday | december 13 | 4pm All children of Christ Church and Christ Church School are invited to participate in this holiday tradition. Children PK4- first grade are invited to dress as the people of the Christmas story and stand on the altar steps as the story of Christmas is read. Costumes are provided. Children second through eighth grades are invited to be readers and introduce the musical performances and tell the Christmas story in rhyme. Christmas best attire is requested for readers. All children are also invited to sing a Christmas song they've been learning with Mr. Woodard and join in as *Joy to the World* is sung by all. Sign up 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. 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

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A service for Barbara Fossa will be held at 1pm Sunday, November 15, in the sanctuary.

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION Christ Church is seeking a collaborative, relational, and highly organized Director of Administration to provide leadership for the administrative and operational life of our church. Learn more about the position and benefits, including Christ Church tuition remission, and how to apply, go to **christchurchfl.org/jobs**

PART-TIME CUSTODIAN Christ Church is seeking a dependable, flexible, and conscientious part-time custodian to help maintain clean, safe, welcoming, and well-prepared spaces at Christ Church & Christ Church School in Fort Lauderdale and the Parkway Campus, home of our food pantry, in Deerfield Beach. Learn more about the position and how to apply at **christchurchfl.org/jobs**