



*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 16, 2025

PRELUDE

Ancient Words | arr. Craig Courtney

Ensemble

Lynn DeShazo & Craig Courtney | © 2001 Integrity's Hosanna! House | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

WELCOME | Pastor Cathy Johns

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

*** CALL TO WORSHIP | Connie Bookholt, liturgist**

Come, people of God, and give thanks for the one who never leaves our side.

We give thanks for God's constant care and never-ending love.

When life is full of joy, God celebrates with us.

When the path is hard, God carries us through.

In every season, we trust the plans God is shaping for our good.

In times of peace and times of struggle, God's love remains our strength.

Come and worship the God who listens, who loves, and who walks beside us always.

With grateful hearts, we lift our praise to the one who is faithful forever.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 66 (verses 1,2,3,4)

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring;

ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting king.

Praise the Lord for grace and favor to all people in distress;

praise God, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious now God's faithfulness.

Father-like, God tends and spares us; well our feeble frame God knows;

mother-like, God gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet God's mercy flows.

Angels in the heights, adoring, you behold God face to face;

saints triumphant, now adoring, gathered in from every race.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Henry Francis Lyte | music & words: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

*** OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, we thank you for a love that never ends—a love from which we can never be separated. You are the God who walks beside us— leading us through green pastures and guiding us through the darkest valleys. You listen when we cry out, and you rejoice with us when our hearts are glad. In the midst of any trial, any moment of need, you are our refuge and strength, our comfort when the way is difficult. When storms rage around us, you provide calm and peace. Teach us to lean on your provision, to rest on your promises, and to remember that we are never alone. Amen.

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in God the Creator,
who created and is creating everything.
God loves and cares for all creatures great and small,
and provides food to sustain all Creation.

We believe in Jesus, The Christ,
who redeemed and is redeeming all things:
The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus reveals the depth of God’s love for the world.
We are all unique, individual and beloved.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who guided and is guiding everything:
the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us.
The Holy Spirit flows through the Church, the Body of Christ,
to bring hope, peace, joy, and love to the world.

We believe that God is present among us, working in and through our lives.
God is continuing to restore all of Creation and make all things new.

*** 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.

Henry W. Greathouse | public domain | CCLI License # 487103

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS | Mel White

pastor Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care.
Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

all We give thanks for all that God has already given you, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant to faithfully participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Now I'm Found | Tim Osiek
Ensemble

Tim Osiek | © 2025 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

SCRIPTURE

John 9:1-11 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

¹ As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming,

when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.”

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

MESSAGE

Things Jesus Never Said | Everything Happens for a Reason | Pastor Cathy Johns

OFFERING | Pastor Doug 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

Psalms 100 | Caleb French

Chancel Choir

Make a joyful noise to God all ye nations! Serve the Lord with gladness, come before his presence with singing! Come before his presence with a song. Know ye that the Lord, he is God. It is he that has made us, and not we ourselves. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter ye his gates with thanks, enter ye his course with praise. For the Lord is good, and his mercy is everlasting! And his truth endures from generation to generation. Make a joyful noise to God!

Caleb French | © 2017 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. | 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.

Bourgeois & Ken | public domain | CCLI License # 487103

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

Standing on the Promises | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 374 (verses 1,2,4)

**Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.**

(refrain) **Standing, standing, standing on the promises
of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.**

**Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God. *(refrain)***

**Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God. *(refrain)***

Russell Kelso Carter | © words & music: public domain

* 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.**

John Wimber | © 1979 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing Co. | CCLI License # 487103

MUSIC FOR CLOSING

Go Out with Joy | Mary McDonald
Chuck Stanley, organ

Mary McDonald | © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co. | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

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

Join us next Sunday when we continue the series *Things Jesus Never Said* with the message *God Won't Give you More than you can Handle*, based on Psalm 46:1-3.

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 this week in the breezeway for coffee and conversation.

AT THE TABLE today | 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.

SERVE

BLOOD DRIVE sunday | november 23 | 9:30am-12:30pm | fort lauderdale campus Plan to serve and worship on the same morning, November 2. The Big Red Bus for blood donations will be on the Fort Lauderdale Campus, 9:30am-12:30pm. Did you know a single blood donation can save three lives? Sign up opportunities will be open soon.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH sunday | november 23 | 1-4pm | sanctuary Deck the halls of the Fort Lauderdale Sanctuary after the 11am worship service on Sunday, November 23. No experience necessary, just willing hands and heart.

INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL sunday | november 23 | 4-5pm Join us on the Fort Lauderdale Campus for an interfaith prayer vigil in solidarity with the vigil held at the Everglades Detention Center. Persons of faith and conscience lift their voices for justice and care of our immigrant neighbors. Sponsored by the Anti-Racism Task Force. Questions? Email Susan Spragg, sspragg@christchurchfl.org.

SERVE AT THE TEDDER BOOK FAIR december 1-5 | 9:30am-1:50pm | Tedder Elementary | 4157 NE 1st Terrace | Deerfield Beach Tedder Elementary plans a Scholastic Book Fair December 1-5, at Tedder Elementary. It's an event that children get excited about, and we've been asked to provide volunteers for those days. **Email Val Proffer to sign up**

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS by sunday | december 7 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 14, and in the Midweek Update on December 17. Please make your donation and dedication online at christchurchfl.org/events.

GAMES FOR TEDDER by december 14 We're collecting new games for the children of Tedder Elementary, the neighborhood school of the Parkway Campus. Our mission is to collect 600 games, one for each child, so they can choose a board game to take home and play with their family over the Christmas holiday. If you need ideas of what to shop for, you'll find a list of games to print out and take to the store and an Amazon shopping list at christchurchfl.org/games

BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY The pantry is serving an increasing number of people each week. Thank you for donations that you brought today in response to last Sunday's grocery bag hand out. If you forgot your donations, please know that they will be accepted any time. 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 comment field, or make out a check to Christ Church and write Blessings Pantry on the memo line. Learn more at christchurchfl.org/blessings

COMMIT FOR 2026 We are still in our season of commitment to Christ Church for 2026. On the seats next you, you will see commitment cards. Please prayerfully fill one out and place it in the offering plate later in the service. Please print your name next to your signature. If you need additional time, you may pledge online at christchurchfl.org/pledge

ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE sunday | january 11, 2026 | 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

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 will run 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. Linda Bajkowsky coordinates the team and would love your help. 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

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, 2026 | 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, 2026 | 2pm | 2nd floor conference room 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 to church membership, Pastor Cathy Johns will offer the class, United Methodist 101, on Sunday, November 2, at 2pm. Email Pastor Cathy Johns to let her know you're interested, cjohns@christchurchfl.org

GROW

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION | *Joy to the World: How Christ's Coming Changed Everything and Still Does* thursday | december 4 | 1:30pm & 5:30pm You are invited to join Pastor Cathy for a book discussion on the impact of Christ's birth in the world, then and now. Take a deep dive into a story that is both familiar and extraordinary. Explore the biblical and historical context of the birth of Christ as best-selling author Scott Hann unpacks how a baby born in Bethlehem, surrounded by a star, shepherds, angels, an emperor, and animals changed the world forever. We'll discuss the book at 1:30pm at a location to be named and 5:30pm at Christ Church. Participants will acquire their own books; it is also available online with Kindle and audiobook options. Child care is available with advance reservation for the evening option; email 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

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

ADVENT DANCING 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

CROSSWALK COOKIE EXCHANGE & FAMILY PARTY sunday | december 7 | 10am Families are invited to gather at 10am Sunday, December 7. Bring 4 dozen of one kind of Christmas cookies to trade and a container to bring your cookies home. RSVP to Lisa Jones. ljones@christchurchfl.org

HAVE A ROLE IN THE FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE wednesday | december 24 | 5pm Children and students are invited to be readers, greeters and ushers at the 5pm Christmas Eve service. Email Pastor Monique if you would like to take a role. 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

CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH | christchurchfl.org/christmas

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT **sunday | december 14 | 4pm** Sing carols and enjoy the harmonies of the musicians of the church and Christ Church School. Children introduce each song, and read the Christmas story as a live nativity forms. It's a special Christmas tradition bringing together Christ Church, Christ Church School and all of our friends and neighbors.

CCS ART SHOW **tuesday | december 16 | 5-7pm** Artwork by the children of Christ Church School will be on display in the Fellowship Halls during this festive holiday showing. Add some light and color to your holiday season with this free show.

GLORIA CHRISTMAS ANGELS **sunday | december 21 | 11pm** Learn about the significance of angels through readings by lay readers and Christmas carols accompanied by a brass ensemble in this unique service. The nursery will be open to children 3 and younger. Live-streamed at christchurchfl.org/live, Facebook @[@christchurchfl](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchfl) and YouTube @[@christchurchfl](https://www.youtube.com/christchurchfl)

CHRISTMAS EVE | wednesday | december 24

5pm child-led worship

7pm traditional worship with lessons & carols

11pm traditional worship with holy communion

CHURCH BUSINESS

CHARGE CONFERENCE **monday | november 17 | 6:30pm | fellowship halls 1-3** A charge conference will be held to vote on the sale of the parsonage at 2105 NE 63rd St., Fort Lauderdale All church members have a voice at a charge conference; the church council has a voice and vote.

CHURCH COUNCIL FOR 2026 The following members were elected for 2026 at the annual Charge Conference on Sunday, November 2.

Staff Parish Relations Committee: Holly Aragon Jones, chair; Linda Bajkowsky; Malia Goodwin; Matt Till

Finance: Laura Bailey, chair; Mark Harris; Lucas Styron

Trustees: Connie Booth, chair; Dick Behn; Norliza Batts

Treasurer: Connie Bookholt

Chair of Council: Nathan Hickman

Church Lay Leader: Patty Goff