



*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 23, 2025

PRELUDE

Sing to the Lord of Harvest | arr. John Leavitt

Wes Kassulke, piano; Doug Friend, percussion

John Leavitt | © 2014 by John Leavitt | 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, with hearts ready to give thanks.

We gather to remember God's goodness in every season.

In moments of joy, God celebrates with us.

In moments of fear or uncertainty, God holds us fast.

Though the world may shake and circumstances may tremble,

God remains our steady refuge and our sure foundation.

Come, let us worship the God who never fails us.

With thankful hearts, we praise the Lord.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

Now Thank We all our God | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 102 (verses 1,2,3)

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

Catherine Winkworth, Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Johann Crüger & Martin Rinkart | © words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

* OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and faithful God, on this day of thanksgiving we pause to remember the many ways you have blessed our lives. We thank you for blessings seen and unseen—for daily provisions, for moments of joy, for the love of family and friends, and for the gift of living in this community. Even in seasons of uncertainty or trouble, you remain near, guiding us, holding us, and giving us courage to face each new day. Open our eyes to see your goodness in every corner of our lives and the many ways you have provided for our needs. Open our hearts to receive your love more fully. And open our hands to share generously with others from the abundance you have given us. 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.

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MUSIC MINISTRY

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring | J.S. Bach

Mel White, bass

J.S. Bach, David N. Johnson | © 1970 by Augsburg Fortress | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 46:1-3 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Selah*

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

MESSAGE

Things Jesus Never Said | *God Won't Give you More Than you can Handle* | Pastor Doug Johns

OFFERING | Pastor Cathy Johns
worshipping 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

This is the Day the Lord Has Made | Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir

This is the day that the Lord has made, and I will be exceeding glad! This is the day that the Lord has made, and I will sing my maker's praise! This is the day the Lord has made; I will rejoice and give God praise! Who is like unto our God the Lord, strong and mighty? Who is like unto our God who reigns above in glorious splendor? You are the Rose of Sharon, the lover of my soul. You are my heart's desire; my soul implores me to exalt your holy name. Your name is music unto my ears; and I must sing of the great love you've shown to me because my heart will not be still. This is the day the Lord has made, and I will be exceeding glad! I will be glad!

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*** 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**

A Mighty Fortress is Our God | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 110 (verses 1,2,3,4)

**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.**

**The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.**

**That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours, through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.**

Frederick Henry Hedge & Martin Luther | © words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

*** 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

Go Out with Joy | Mary McDonald

Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us next Sunday when we begin the new Advent series *A Christmas Carol Revisited* with the message *Freedom from the Past*, based on 1 John 1:5-9.

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 outside the kitchen window in the gym lobby 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.

BLOOD DRIVE today | 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 today | 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 today | 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

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

CALLING ALL BAKERS! Christ Church's hospitality team will host a reception after the Christmas Concert on December 14. Thanks in advance for donations of homemade cookies; we expect a few hundred people will attend the concert. Please bring your cookie donations by 12:30pm to the church kitchen that day. Thank you for helping us extend amazing hospitality to our guests!

BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY The pantry is serving an increasing number of people each week. Please know that donations 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

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 **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. A cookie reception will follow in the Fellowship Halls.

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 | 9am & 11am 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)

ENCHANTED TREE sunday | december 21 | all services This Christmas let us give our best gift to Jesus by taking the amount we spend on the most expensive gift we purchased, add \$1 to that amount and on Sunday morning, December 21, place that amount in a gift bag (that will be provided that morning) and hang it on the bare trees in worship. Giving our best gift to Jesus, we take bare trees and turn them into Enchanted Trees! Our perfect gift to Jesus Christ will be a blessing to us and to our community. christchurchfl.org/enchanted

CHRISTMAS EVE | wednesday | december 24

5pm child-led worship

7pm traditional worship with lessons & carols

11pm traditional worship with holy communion

CHURCH BUSINESS

CHURCH PARSONAGE FOR SALE The Church Council voted at the November 17 Charge Conference to sell the parsonage at 2105 NE 63rd St., Fort Lauderdale. Christ Church and Christ Church School families are being offered the first opportunity to bid on the property. Open houses are scheduled for Saturday, November 29, 12noon-2pm; and Sunday, December 7, 1-3pm. Serious bids should be sent to trustees@christchurchfl.org by 5pm December 16, 2025. A datasheet about the house is available in the lobby and in the Midweek Update.

DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING monday | december 8 | 6:30pm The next Church Council meeting will be Monday, December 8, at 6:30pm on Zoom. Please contact Pastor Doug, djohns@christchurchfl.org, or Nathan Hickman, chair of council, to get connected.