



*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 30, 2025

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | arr. Billy Madison

Wes Kassulke, piano; Dr. Bruce Kraemer, bassoon

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WELCOME | Pastor Doug Johns

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 196 (verses 1,2)

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard | © words & music: public domain

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Brian McComb, liturgist**

**We believe in God, who moved across the dark waters at Creation.
God's words "Let there be light" filled the heavens and the earth with abundant light and goodness.
God loves, protects, and nurtures all of Creation.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, God born among us a fragile baby.
His birth was heralded by angels. From shepherds to kings, people
came to worship Jesus, the infant king. His life, death,
and resurrection continue to transform the world with God's love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who gives us eyes to see all people as beloved children of God.
This Spirit call us to live in peace, and with great joy, sing with the angel chorus:
"Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people of earth."**

* 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. Greatorex | public domain | CCLI License # 487103

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE | Dancer Leighton Stone

The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when God's reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God "shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:4)

all Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 230 (verses 1)

**O Little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Lewis Henry Redner | Phillips Brooks | © words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

MUSIC MINISTRY

Where's the Line to See Jesus | Steve Haupt & Chris Loesch

Connie Bookholt, alto

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SCRIPTURE

1 John 1:5-9 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

MESSAGE

A Christmas Carol Revisited | Freedom from the Past | 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

This Child Shall Be Our Peace | Molly Ijames

Chancel Choir

This child shall be our peace. A hush upon the stable, a humble manger bed. A weary mother stroking her sleeping baby's head. An echo in her memory of ancient prophecies: this child of Mary's labor, shall be our peace. A flock of sheep awakened, a flood of glorious light, a band of fearful shepherds illumined in the night. The angel voices swelling, their message to release: the lamb will be our shepherd, this child will be our peace. This earth-born child of heaven, this flesh-bound Son of God, this man who bore our sorrows, this lamb who shed his blood, he stills our raging anger, he heals our hopeless grief, he calms our frantic worry, he helps our unbelief. Beneath his righteous scepter, he makes all war to cease. Come bow the knee before him. This child shall be our peace.

Molly Ijames | Eileen Berry | © 2025 by 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.

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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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 206 (verses 1,3)

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

(refrain) **In him there is no darkness at all.**

The night and the day are both alike.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *(refrain)*

Kathleen Thomerson | © 1970, 1975 Celebration | 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.

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

MUSIC FOR CLOSING

Postlude on "Savior of the Nations, Come" | Robert M. Thompson

Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us next Sunday when we continue the Advent series *A Christmas Carol Revisited* with the message *Untangling the Present*, based on Mark 1:1-8.

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.

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

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**

SHOP FOR A BROWARD FOSTER CHILD bring gifts to the church by 4pm december 4 Join Christ Church School to shop for children in the Broward foster care system. Choose a child to shop for and then bring the gift in a gift bag to the church by 4pm Thursday, December 4. Volunteers are needed to deliver gifts to the Voices for Children of Broward warehouse on December 5. Choose a child to shop for and get details at **christchurchfl.org/toydrive**

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. Please know that your 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 PLANNED **sunday | march 8, 2026 | 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 to 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

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

CHURCH PARSONAGE FOR SALE The parsonage at 2105 NE 63rd St., Fort Lauderdale is being put up for sale. Christ Church and Christ Church School families are being offered the first opportunity to bid on the property. One remaining open house is scheduled for 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.