



*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 | february 15, 2026

PRELUDE

On Eagle's Wings | arr. John Carter

Wes Kassulke, piano; Doug Friend, percussion

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WELCOME | Pastor Cathy Johns

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

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

Come, let us gather in the presence of the God who is always faithful.

We come rejoicing, for God's love never fails.

When we look around and see the burdens of the world,

We remember that God is not absent.

In every season, in every circumstance, God's goodness surrounds us.

Because God is faithful, we can live with joy and hope.

Let us celebrate the steadfast love of the Lord!

With gladness and joy, we worship the God who is always faithful.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

Joyful, Joyful, we Adore Thee | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 89 (verses 1,2,4)

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;

hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,

stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,

chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;

love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.

Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;

joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

Edward Hodges | Henry Van Dyke | Ludwig van Beethoven | words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

*** OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, thank you for your unfailing love that surrounds us each day and for your faithfulness that never wavers. You are the one who has walked with your people through every generation, never turning away, never letting go. Remind us that you are not distant or absent, but present in every moment of our lives. Quiet our restless thoughts so we may hear your voice. Teach us to rejoice—not because life is perfect, but because your love is constant, your care is sure, and your hope is unshakable. Renew our strength, brighten our spirits, and draw us closer to the joy that comes from living in your light. Amen.

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, whose love continues to transform the world.

I believe in the Holy Spirit who empowers us to change the world with God's incredible love.

I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events around us.

I refuse to believe we are bound by racism, war, and injustice.

I believe those around me are my brother and my sister.

I believe in dignity every day and that our brokenness can be healed.

I believe we can overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to it.

This means I seek to reject revenge and retaliation.

I remember, "Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can."

- adapted from the words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

*** 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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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Richard Frasca and Morgan DeMartini Frasca present their daughters for Christian Baptism.

Effie Blake Frasca and Eloise Olivia Frasca | January 15, 2025

To the parents

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? If so, please say I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? If so, please say I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? If so please say I do.

Will you nurture **Effie and Eloise** in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life? If so please say I will.

To the congregation

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include **Effie and Eloise** now before you in your care?

all With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround them with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

...

To the congregation

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sisters in Christ.

Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you as a member of the family of Christ.

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 faithfully to 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.

God Claims You

(refrain) **Effie, Eloise, God claims you, God helps you, protects you and loves you too.**

1. **We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be.** *(refrain)*

2. **We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way.** *(refrain)*

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MUSIC MINISTRY

And Can it Be? | Dan Forrest

Jerry Gerguson, bass

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SCRIPTURE

Psalms 33:1-7, 20-22 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

¹ Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

Praise befits the upright.

² Praise the Lord with the lyre;

make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

³ Sing to him a new song;

play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

⁴ For the word of the Lord is upright,

and all his work is done in faithfulness.

⁵ He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

⁶ By the word of the Lord the heavens were made
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

⁷ He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;
he put the deeps in storehouses.

...

²⁰ Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and shield.

²¹ Our heart is glad in him
because we trust in his holy name.

²² Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

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

MESSAGE

Wisdom of the Psalms: Joy | Pastor Cathy Johns

OFFERING | Pastor Doug 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

Joyful, Joyful, Sing Praise | Jay Althouse

Chancel Choir

Joyful, joyful, sing praise. Lord, we raise our voice in gladness. We know your love from heaven above. We know your blessings are glorious. In every heart how great thou art, forevermore victorious. Lord, your gifts are never-ending. Beneath the skies creation lies in all its splendor and glory. You make us whole; you fill our soul. We sing your wondrous story. Great is the Lord who reigns above all nations, loving and caring and wise. Great is the Lord, majestic and triumphant. Let us now magnify, honor and glorify: our voices rise. Sing to the Lord a joyful song of praise!

Jay Althouse | © 1997 Jubilate Music Group | 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

How Can We Name a Love | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 111 (verses 1,2,4)

**How can we name a love that awakens heart and mind,
indwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?
Within our daily world, in every human face,
Love's echoes sound and God is found, hid in the commonplace.**

**If we awoke to life built on a rock of care
that asked no great reward but firm, assured, was simply there,
we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore,
Love unconfined, a father kind, a mother strong and sure.**

**So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet
a presence, sensed and shown at work, at home, or in the street.
Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun:
In Christ alone is love full grown and life and hope begun.**

Brian Arthur Wren | © 1975 Hope Publishing Company | 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 | CCLI License # 487103

MUSIC FOR CLOSING

A Joyful Ode | Phil Lehenbauer
Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us Wednesday for the Ash Wednesday service at 7pm in the Fort Lauderdale Sanctuary and next Sunday as we begin the new message series, *Greater Than*, with the message, *God > Me*, based on Isaiah 55:6-13.

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.

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.

DENOMINATION-WIDE SURVEY survey ends today | february 15 The Council of Bishops is asking you to fill out a survey designed to listen to United Methodists across our connection about the present and future of The United Methodist Church. The insights gathered will directly inform the 2026 Leadership Gathering as leaders seek to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. This is an important opportunity for clergy and laity to speak faithfully and prayerfully into the life of our church. The survey is expected to take about 10 minutes to complete. Findings from the survey will be shared with the general church in the months leading up to the October gathering. Take the survey at **<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UMCLG2026>**

ASH WEDNESDAY

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP february 18 | 8-8:30am imposition of ashes | 7pm worship with imposition of ashes and communion 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 8-8:30am and a service of music, prayer, imposition of ashes and Holy Communion at 7pm, all in the Fort Lauderdale Sanctuary.

LEGO LENT EVENT wednesday | february 18 | 5:30pm | fellowship halls 1-3 Calling all master builders! Plan to come help build the Old City of Jerusalem on the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday. This family event is for children PreK-4 through 5th grade. Come for dinner of pizza, salad and dessert, only \$7 per person. Sign up at **christchurchfl.org/events**

SERVE

LEARN ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANS As Christ Church and Christ Church School move toward meeting the educational needs of middle schoolers, you can keep up with the plans by picking up a copy of the January 2026 update from the Building Committee on the tables outside of worship. For answers to some frequently asked questions, go to the church website. **christchurchfl.org/FAQ**

BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY Thank you for returning your bags with donations this morning. If you forgot, no problem. We welcome donations 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 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 sunday | april 12 | 12:15pm | fellowship halls 1-3 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 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 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

DENOMINATION-WIDE WEBINARS The United Methodist Council of Bishops encourages you to participate in the following denomination-wide webinars to help discern our Wesleyan identity and new vision:

- **February 21 | 10-11:30am** Wesleyan Mission, "Serve Joyfully"
- **March 21 | 10-11:30am** Wesleyan Leadership, "Lead Courageously"

Those who register in advance will have an opportunity to submit questions. All webinars will be recorded and available for later viewing. **More information and the link to register can be found at**

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/council-of-bishops-leadership-gathering>

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 **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

SPECIAL NOVA SINGERS CONCERT **sunday | march 15 | 4pm | fort lauderdale sanctuary**

The Nova Singers and the Florida Singing Sons, both celebrating their 50th year of singing in South Florida, will join in a concert featuring John Rutter's *Mass of the Children*. Each group will also perform songs from its 50th anniversary repertoire, from Broadway to spirituals to contemporary anthems. The Nova Singers are under the direction of Christ Church Traditional Music Director Chuck Stanley; the Florida Singing Sons, under the direction of Daniel Bates. City of Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis will present proclamations to each organization in honor of their respective 50th anniversary. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Children 12 and younger, plus students any age with school ID, are admitted free. Advance tickets are available online. <https://tinyurl.com/NovaSonsMarch26>

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.

GROW

GREAT READ **sunday | march 15 | 2pm | 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

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 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. 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

CLOSED FOR PRESIDENTS DAY Monday | February 16 The Fort Lauderdale and Parkway campuses, including the Blessings Food Pantry, will be closed Monday, February 16, in observance of Presidents Day. Normal hours will resume on Tuesday, February 17. Morning devotions on Facebook will also take a break for the holiday.

MARCH COUNCIL MEETING The next Church Council meeting will be Monday, March 9, at 6:30pm in Fellowship Halls 1-3.