



*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 8, 2026

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth | Ron Mallory

Handbell Choir

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WELCOME | Pastor Doug Johns

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** | Leigh Neeley, liturgist

Come, people of God, and lift your hearts in gratitude.

We come to give thanks, for God's love never lets us go.

From the first light of creation to this very moment, God has been faithful.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

In times of strength and in moments of need, God has remembered us.

God's love reaches us again and again.

The one who made the heavens, the earth, and all living things calls us to praise.

With thankful hearts, we worship God, whose love endures forever.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

For the Beauty of the Earth | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 92 (verses 1,2,4,6)

**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;**

(refrain) Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

**For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light; (refrain)**

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild; (refrain)**

**For thyself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven: (refrain)**

Conrad Kocher | Folliott Sandford Pierpoint | © words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

* OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we gather with hearts full of gratitude, mindful that every breath and every blessing is a gift from you. We thank you for a love that is constant and unending—steady when we falter and strong when we feel weak. You remember us when others overlook us, you notice us when we feel unseen, and you lift us up when life becomes too heavy to bear. As we enter this time of worship, deepen our awareness of your abiding love. Let our gratitude shape how we see the world, how we treat others, and how we walk through each day. 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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MUSIC MINISTRY

Gospel Roundup | Joel Raney

Handbell Choir

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SCRIPTURE

Psalm 136:1-9; 23-26 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

² O give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

³ O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁴ who alone does great wonders,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁵ who by understanding made the heavens,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁶ who spread out the earth on the waters,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁷ who made the great lights,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁸ the sun to rule over the day,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁹the moon and stars to rule over the night,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

...

²³It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

²⁴and rescued us from our foes,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

²⁵who gives food to all flesh,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

²⁶O give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

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

MESSAGE

Wisdom of the Psalms: Thankfulness | Pastor Doug Johns

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 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

Silence the Stones | Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir

We must silence the stones with our praise. We must sing to the Ancient of Days. Stones are ready to shout if we fail to cry out. We must silence the stones with our praise. Mountains quake at the sound of God's voice. Let his people before him rejoice. Those he chose to redeem come and join in the theme. We must silence the stones with our praise. Lift his name! Give him praise! Every hand to him raise! With one voice to him sing: Mighty God, the Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer and King! Hallelujah, now sing the amen! Hallelujah! All glory! Amen! From his throne God reigns. Sing out loud the refrain. We will silence the stones with our praise. We will silence the stones! Amen!

Craig Courtney | © 2007 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

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 Cruger & Martin Rinkart | © 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

Ceremonial March | Mark L. Williams

Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us next Sunday for the message *Wisdom of the Psalms: Joy* based on Psalm 33:1-22.

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

TODAY

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The flowers on the altar today are placed by Debbie Martin in honor of her parents, Charles and Suzanne Martin, as they celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary.

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.

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

EXPLORE WAYS TO HELP JAMAICA AFTER HURRICANE MELISSA **sunday | february 15 | 10am | fellowship hall 4**

When Hurricane Melissa struck Jamaica in September, it was the strongest storm to hit the island in modern history, leaving dozens dead and many areas devastated by high waters and strong winds. Join Pastor Doug Johns and Alecia Folkes for a conversation about how Christ Church can help our island neighbors recover from this disastrous hurricane.

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

DONATE TO THE BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY Take a bag and a list today and return the bag with donations next Sunday. All donations are gratefully accepted. 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 SURVEY survey ends 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>

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 PLANNED 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

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

DISTRICT TRAINING EVENT **sunday | february 15 | 4-6pm | umc of the palm beaches** *Change with Conviction* is the focus of this year's leadership training in the South East District of the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Goals for the gathering are leading for transformation, aligning values and action, and turning pushback into progress. All clergy and laity in leadership roles -- lay leaders, lay ministers/speakers, council chairs, chairs of Staff Parish Relations Committees, trustees, finance, children's ministry, youth ministry, missions, congregational care, nominations, worship and all other ministries. If you did not register for the February 1 event at New Horizons UMC, please plan to attend and register for the training at the United Methodist Church of the Palm Beaches, 900 Brandywine Road, West Palm Beach FL 33409. Sign up for the training at christchurchfl.org/events

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

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