



*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 | march 1, 2026**

**WELCOME** | Pastor Cathy Johns

## **WELCOME ONE ANOTHER**

## **WAYS TO CONNECT | [christchurchfl.org/ways2connect](http://christchurchfl.org/ways2connect)**

Please see below.

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

*Come Jesus Come* | Anthony Brown & Pat Barrett

Connie Bookholt, alto

WORSHIPcast | Bryan Fowler, Hank Bentley, Stephen McWhirter, Tara McWhirter | © 2020 God is Real Worldwide Publishing  
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### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP** | Brian McComb, liturgist

Come, gather in the presence of the one who formed us for connection and placed us within one another's care.

**We come grateful for those who stand beside us in life's journey.**

Here, no one stands alone. Here, burdens are shared and joys are multiplied.

**We come to be renewed, upheld, and joined in purpose.**

In seasons of strength and in moments of weakness, we are not meant to walk alone.

**We come, grateful for the strength that grows when lives are woven together.**

Let us lift our voices and open our spirits to the God who binds us in love.

**We celebrate the ties that bind us and worship the one who fashioned us to belong to one another.**

### **\* GATHERING HYMN**

*Where Charity and Love Prevail* | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 549 (verses 1,2,3,4)

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found**

**brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.**

**With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn;**

**let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.**

**Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;**

**and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.**

**Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease,**

**be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.**

Dom Paul Benoit & Omer Westendorf | words: © 1962 World Library Publications | tune: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

## \* OPENING PRAYER

Faithful and gracious God, you have created us for relationship — with you and with one another. From the beginning, you saw that we flourish best when our lives are intertwined, when hands reach out in support, and when voices join together in hope and praise. Thank you for the quiet presence of friends, family, and fellow believers who remind us that we are never truly alone. Teach us to offer encouragement freely, to carry one another's burdens with compassion, and to stand firm together when challenges arise. May our life as a community reflect your love and bear witness to your faithfulness. Amen.

## \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *A Lenten Affirmation of Faith*

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that God has a purpose for our lives and walks with us daily. We believe that Christ is the divine child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted. We believe that Jesus, The Word made flesh, is the ultimate expression of the depth of God's love for humanity. We believe that Christ frees us for joyful obedience and that we are called to love one another, for love is of God. We believe in the renewing, enabling Spirit of God who sets us free, allowing us to accept ourselves and love God and neighbor. We believe the Holy Spirit binds us together with all believers into one Body of Christ, The Church. We are called to transform the world with God's love. This we believe.

## \* 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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## 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](http://christchurchfl.org/give)
- Text GIVE to 954.880.3885
- Mail a check to Christ Church, 4845 NE 25<sup>th</sup> 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

*Trust in the Lord* | Mary McDonald

Chancel Choir

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your path. In all you do, may Christ's love flow through you. He's faithful and righteous, he is holy God. Have faith in him, cast your cares all on him. He will lead, he will love, he is God! Trust in the Lord, your God.*

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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

### SCRIPTURE

**Ecclesiastes 4:9-12** | New Revised Standard Version, updated edition

<sup>9</sup>Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. <sup>10</sup>For if they fall, one will lift up the other, but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. <sup>11</sup>Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? <sup>12</sup>And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

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

### MESSAGE

*Greater Than | Community > Self* | Pastor Cathy Johns

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You brought all things into being and called them good. From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. During these forty days of Lent, when we remember the depth of God's love for us through Jesus, our Savior, we proclaim Christ's death on the cross for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. Gracious God, draw us close to you, united with Christ Jesus, who through his sacrifice delivered us from slavery to sin and death.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died;  
Christ is risen;  
Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*And now with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray together:*

## **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.**

*You do not need to be a member of Christ Church or a United Methodist to come to the table. Christ himself is host and welcomes all. If you cannot come forward, please know that someone will bring the bread and cup to you.*

## **GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**all Faithful, generous God, we give you thanks for the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation. May the taste of this meal linger so that we will be strengthened in our Lenten journey. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **\* HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

*Together We Serve | LYONS*

**Together we serve, united by love,  
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.  
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
extending your love to the last and the least.**

**We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
until we see Christ in each person we meet.**

**We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,  
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.  
We offer a home to those who will come,  
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.**

**Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,  
remembering love is the strength of our song.**

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## **\* 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**

*Fanfare in C minor* | Michael Helman

Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us next Sunday as we continue the series, *Greater Than*, with the message, *Generosity > Greed*, based on 1 Timothy 6:17-19.

**WAYS TO CONNECT | [christchurchfl.org/ways2connect](http://christchurchfl.org/ways2connect)**

## **TODAY**

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** The flowers on the altar today are placed in memory of Neal Harrison by Lynn Harrison and their family. Neal Harrison passed January 2, 2026.

**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](http://christchurchfl.org/connectcard).

**HOLY GROUNDS COFFEE TIME** 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.

**YOUTH FOOD, FUN, FRIENDS every sunday in march | 10am | fellowship hall 4** All sixth-12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join Mr. W for snacks, games and conversation starting in Fellowship Hall 4 and spreading into the breezeway for lots of room. CCS fifth graders and Christ Church fifth-graders are invited to come see what youth group is about. Parents are invited to meet Mr. W, who is also the CCS music teacher, Phil Woodard. Questions? Email Mr. W at [pwoodard@christchurchfl.org](mailto:pwoodard@christchurchfl.org)

## SERVE

**LEARN ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANS** As you leave worship today, pick up a copy of the **Building Committee's February Newsletter** describing the exciting progress toward serving middle schoolers and their families. You'll find previous updates on tables as you leave worship and online. For answers to some frequently asked questions, go to the church website. [christchurchfl.org/FAQ](http://christchurchfl.org/FAQ)

**PARKWAY INFORMATION MEETINGS sunday | march 15 | 10am & 12:15pm | fellowship halls** The Parkway Study Group will update you on the exciting proposed future of our Parkway Campus. The group will share the vision and strategic goals for long-term sustainability of our outreach ministry there. Save the date and plan to stay after worship to learn more!

**BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY** 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:info@christchurchfl.org)

## CONNECT

**MEMBERSHIP CLASSES** **sunday | march 8 | 2pm & thursday | march 19 | 8:30am | fellowship hall 1** We are glad you are connected to Christ Church. 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, with child care available by reservation. On Thursday, March 19, she will offer the class at 8:30am, with child care available. This 90-minute class will include the history, beliefs, and structure of the United Methodist Church. Members of Christ Church serve Christ and our community in significant ways including: voting at Church Conferences (where all members have voice and vote); helping to advance the priorities of Christ Church (ministry to children and families, welcoming new people to become disciples of Jesus, and outreach (serving our neighbors); serving on administrative committees. Email Pastor Cathy Johns to let her know you're interested, [cjohns@christchurchfl.org](mailto:cjohns@christchurchfl.org)

**CREATIVE SPIRIT** **sunday | march 8 | 4-6:30pm | walkway room** A Creative Spirit Devotional Painting Class with Pastor Monique McBride is open to women and children/youth from kindergarten and up. You are invited to join Pastor Monique to make wooden signs to greet the spring season. She will offer a guided painting lesson to help you create your own spring door sign. Last names A-L- bring a savory treat to share. M-Z bring a sweet treat to share. Cost is \$15 per person and includes all materials. Reserve your spot in this class by sending an email to Pastor Monique, [mmcbride@ccsfl.org](mailto:mmcbride@ccsfl.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 50<sup>th</sup> 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>

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

- **March 21 | 10–11:30am** Wesleyan Leadership, "Lead Courageously"

Those who register in advance will have an opportunity to submit questions. All webinars are recorded and available for later viewing. **More information, previous videos, and the link to register for the upcoming webinar can be found at <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/council-of-bishops-leadership-gathering>**

**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 44<sup>th</sup> 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 38<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://i9sports.com)**

## **SERVE HOLY WEEK & EASTER**

**HELP WITH MAUNDY THURSDAY EXPERIENTIAL SEDER** Maundy Thursday, which is April 2, is observed with worship in the sanctuary and an experiential seder in the gym. Pastor Monique is seeking help in the following areas:

**Table Hosts** Part of the Passover Seder is welcoming guests into your home to enjoy hospitality. To symbolize this beauty, 10 table hosts are needed, each host bringing 8 ceramic dinner plates, 8 cloth napkins, and 8 sets of silverware. Items need to be at the church by 4pm Wednesday, April 1. All items will be returned.

**Setup Shift 1: Thursday, April 2, 9:30am-12noon** Volunteers prepare food and help set tables.

**Setup Shift 2: Thursday, April 2, 5-7pm** Volunteers set out food.

**Cleanup: Thursday, April 2, 8:30pm** Volunteers clean up.

If you can help in any of these areas, please contact Pastor Monique, **[mmcbride@ccsfl.org](mailto:mmcbride@ccsfl.org)**

**EASTER EGGS AVAILABLE FOR FILLING** More than 2600 Easter eggs will be filled with individually wrapped treats and prizes for Easter Sunday's egg hunt. If you can help, pick up a bag of eggs from outside worship. No chocolate, please; it melts. Return filled eggs by March 29.

**EASTER PLANTS** You are invited to purchase an Easter plant for worship on Easter Sunday. Several types of spring plants will be ordered. You may designate your gift in honor or in memory of a loved one. Easter plants may be taken home after 12noon on Easter Sunday. The deadline is March 22. Plants are \$15. Make your dedication online at **[christchurchfl.org/easter-plants](http://christchurchfl.org/easter-plants)**

**BRING MUFFINS AND COOKIES FOR EASTER** We want to welcome guests on Easter morning with coffee and treats. Your contributions would be much appreciated. You may bring cookies, muffins and other handheld treats to church before the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. Thank you in advance for any contributions.

**WELCOME GUESTS ON EASTER SUNDAY** With the Sunrise Service and Easter egg hunt, we could use extra Welcome Team volunteers for Easter Sunday. If you can help greet and welcome guests at any of the services or help with the Easter treat coffee and buffet, please send an email to **[welcome@christchurchfl.org](mailto:welcome@christchurchfl.org)** and a leader will be in touch.

**HIDE EASTER EGGS easter sunday | 8am** Volunteers are needed to help hide Easter Eggs on Easter Sunday. Sign up with Lisa Jones, **[ljones@christchurchfl.org](mailto:ljones@christchurchfl.org)**, to volunteer.

## **CHURCH BUSINESS**

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