CHRISTCHURCH
DIVERSE INCLUSIVE UNITED METHODIST

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 8, 2026

WELCOME | Pastor Doug Johns

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

PRELUDE

Footsteps | Craig Courtney
Ensemble
Jonathan Cook, Craig Courtney | © 2018 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

* CALL TO WORSHIP | Connie Booth, liturgist

Come, let us gather before the one who gives us all we need.
We come to worship the God whose generosity knows no end.
The treasures of this world fade and fail.
But the life shaped by generosity endures.
God calls us to be rich in good works, ready to give and eager to bless.
We gather to learn the joy of generosity, a joy greater than greed.
Let us worship the God who entrusts us with gifts to be used for good.
With grateful hearts and willing spirits, we worship the Lord.

* GATHERING HYMN

O Worship the King | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 73 (verses 1,2,4,5)

O worship the king, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
our shield and defender, the ancient of days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

Johann Michael Hayden, Robert Grant | © words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

* OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, you are the giver of every good gift, the source of all we have and all we are. Teach us to trust your generosity, to delight in sharing, and to see our resources as tools for compassion rather than measures of worth. Free us from the fear that tells us we never have enough, and replace it with trust in your abundant care. Remind us that our lives find their true meaning not in what we accumulate, but in how we are grounded in you. Form us into a people known not for what we keep, but for what we gladly give. 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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MUSIC MINISTRY

Give Me Oil in My Lamp | Mary McDonald
Ensemble
Mary McDonald | © Hope Publishing Company | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

SCRIPTURE

1 Timothy 6:17-19 | New Revised Standard Version, updated edition
17 As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. **18** They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, **19** thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

MESSAGE

Greater Than | *Generosity > Greed* | 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

Worthy is the Lamb | Allen Pote
Chancel Choir
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, riches, wisdom and strength. Worthy to receive honor, glory, and blessing is the Lamb of God. To the one seated on the throne and unto the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory. Forever and forever, Amen! Worthy is the Lamb that was slain. Amen.

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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

Take my Life, and Let it be | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 399 (verse 1,2,3)

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my king.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal & Louis Joseph Ferdinand Herold | © 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

Postlude on "Webb" | Jason Payne
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, *God > Discouragement,* based on Hebrews 12:1-13.

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 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-12th 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. Christ Church and CCS 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**

BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY Today is a second Sunday, the day to pick up a shopping bag with list and fill it for The Blessings Food Pantry. Bring the filled bag back next Sunday. 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, saltine crackers, 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**

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES today | 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 today, March 8, at 2pm. 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

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**

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!

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

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**

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 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**. 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**

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**

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**

EASTER EGGS AVAILABLE FOR FILLING A few more bags of Easter eggs need to 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**

SERVE ON EASTER SUNDAY There are lots of way you can help welcome guests and offer hospitality on Easter Sunday. We'll need hel**p greeting folks and serving coffee at the Sunrise Service, serving treats after the service and then moving equipment into the gym for the 9am service. There are Easter eggs to hide, pastries to plate, and many other opportunities to make guests feel at home. If you can help in any way, please let us know at christchurchfl.org/serve-easter**

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.

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** 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.