



*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 | Easter Sunday | april 5, 2026**

**WELCOME** | Pastor Doug Johns

## **WELCOME ONE ANOTHER**

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

Please see below.

## **PRELUDE**

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today* | arr. Robert Hobby

Chuck Stanley, organ; Brubeck Brass

Robert A. Hobby | © 2007 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers | all rights reserved  
used with permission under One License #A-726973

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP** | Richard Sheffield, liturgist

Christ is risen, and the power of death is broken forever.

**Christ is risen indeed! Life has the final word.**

The tomb is empty, and hope rises with the dawn of this new day.

**God's life-giving love has overcome every darkness.**

Because Christ lives, we too are called to live with courage, joy, and purpose.

**We are resurrection people, shaped by grace and strengthened by hope.**

Let us lift our voices and our hearts to the God who brings life out of death.

**Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

## **\* GATHERING HYMN**

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today* | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 302 (verses 1,2,3,4)

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!**

**Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!**

**Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!**

**Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!**

**Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!**

**Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!**

**Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious king, Alleluia!**

**Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!**

**Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!**

**Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

Charles Wesley | © words and music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

## **\* OPENING PRAYER**

**Life-giving God, on this glorious morning we gather with grateful and joyful hearts. The stone has been rolled away and the light of new life has broken into the world. In the resurrection of Christ, you have shown us that hope is stronger than despair, love is stronger than hatred, and life is stronger than death. Remind us today that we are a resurrection people. When we encounter uncertainty or struggle, lift our eyes to the empty tomb and the promise of new beginnings. Let the joy of the resurrection shape the way we live, serve, and care for others. Send us from this place as witnesses to your life-giving power, carrying the good news of Christ's victory into the world. Amen.**

## **AN EASTER AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in a God who astounds us! God created towering mountains, sparkling sandy beaches, lush green meadows, and dazzling wonders in the night sky. From the hummingbird to the whale, all creation sings your praise. God surprises and astounds us in places where we expected God was absent.**

**We believe in Jesus, the Son of God, whose life, death, and resurrection transforms the world with the power of God's love. His body, crucified and buried, was placed in a tomb. Three days later, he rose from the dead. Jesus, our Risen Savior, embraces us with new life saying, "Because I live, you also will live."**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit who empowers us to be an Easter people, calling us to be witnesses to the resurrection. The Spirit fills us with strength and sends us out to into the world to proclaim the good news: Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!**

## **\* GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Henry W. Greatorex | public domain | CCLI License # 487103

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

*He is Not Here* | Russell Nagy

Chancel Choir; Brubeck Brass

Joel Nagy, Russell Nagy | © 1994 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

## **SCRIPTURE**

**Matthew 28:1-10** | New Revised Standard Version, updated edition

<sup>1</sup> After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for

you.”<sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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

## MESSAGE

*Life > Death* | 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 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

*This is a Day of Rejoicing* | Allen Pote

Chancel Choir; Brubeck Brass

*Tw'as at the break of day when women came with spices to anoint our Lord, and walking to the tomb, said, "Who will move the mighty stone that bars the door?" Then, behold, they found no stone; but a man was standing there instead, dazzling bright in raiment white, saying, "Jesus is not dead!" He is not here! He is risen! See, the tomb is empty where he lay. Jesus rose on Easter Day. When John and Peter heard the strange account, they doubted that it could be true; but running there to find the empty tomb, they suddenly believed it too. In the place where Jesus lay sat the burial clothing of the dead, laid aside, like death denied, for he was no longer dead! The tomb is empty, he is risen! Jesus Christ is risen, Alleluia! See, the tomb is empty for Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! And so we do proclaim on Easter Day that Jesus is not in the grave! But risen from the dead, just as he said, in majesty and power to reign. Jesus rose on Easter Day! Alleluia!*

Allen Pote | © 2000 Hope Publishing Company | 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.**

Bourgeois & Ken | public domain | CCLI License # 487103

## MORNING PRAYER | Pastor Monique McBride

### 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

*He Lives* | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 310 (verses 1,3)

**I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today;  
I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.  
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,  
and just the time I need him, he's always near.**

*(refrain)* **He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!**

**He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.**

**He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!**

**You ask me how I know he lives. He lives within my heart.**

**Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!**

**The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;  
none other is so loving, so good and kind. *(refrain)***

Alfred Henry Ackley | © words & music: 1933 Homer A. Rodeheaver | renewed 1961 Curb Word Music | CCLI License # 487103

## \* SENDING FORTH

### \* RESPONSE

*Hallelujah Chorus* (from Messiah) | George Frideric Handel

**Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.**

**The kingdom of this world; is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ. And he shall reign forever and ever. King of kings forever and ever hallelujah and lord of lords forever and ever hallelujah. And he shall reign forever and ever. King of kings forever and ever and lord of lords hallelujah. King of kings and lord of lords and he shall reign forever and ever. Hallelujah!**

George Frideric Handel | © words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

## MUSIC FOR CLOSING

*Toccata from Symphony 5* | Charles-Marie Widor | arranged for brass and organ by Richard Proulx

Chuck Stanley, organist; Brubeck Brass

Charles-Marie Widor | Richard Proulx | music: © public domain | Brass arrangement © 2006, World Library Publications, the music and liturgy division of J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

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

Join us next Sunday, April 12, for Laity Sunday.

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

## SERVE

### **SPECIAL OFFERING FOR JAMAICA HURRICANE RELIEF sunday | april 12 | 9am & 11am services**

Responding to concerns by a group of Christ Church community members, a special offering will be taken to help people in Jamaica recover from Hurricane Melissa. The storm, the strongest Atlantic storm to make landfall, devastated homes and communities, and the recovery is continuing. If you would like to make a special gift to help our brothers and sisters in Jamaica, please go to [christchurchfl.org/give](https://christchurchfl.org/give) and scroll down to the special link for Jamaica gifts, or place it in an offering envelope and write Jamaica Relief on the envelope. Together we can make a difference in the lives of many affected by Melissa.

**VOLUNTEER FOR THE TEDDER BOOK FAIR april 13-17 | 9:30am-1:50pm | Tedder Elementary** Tedder Elementary, our partner school in the Parkway neighborhood, will host a Spring Scholastic Book Fair April 13-17. There are lots of opportunities for volunteers between 9:30am and 1:50pm those days. Volunteers need to be approved through the Broward County Public Schools. If you can make a difference in this way, please contact Val Proffer with the days and times you can help. Go to [christchurchfl.org/events](https://christchurchfl.org/events) to sign up.

**BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY** The Blessings Food Pantry welcomes 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](https://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](https://christchurchfl.org/blessings)

**LEARN ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANS** As you leave worship today, pick up a copy of the Building Committee's most recent newsletter describing the exciting progress toward serving middle schoolers and their families. For answers to some frequently asked questions, go to the church website. [christchurchfl.org/FAQ](https://christchurchfl.org/FAQ)

**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** We support the Arise and Shine Kironya Empowerment Group of 24 orphaned and abandoned teens and young adults as they learn the skills to be self-supporting 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](https://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. 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](https://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

**ORGAN RECITAL sunday | april 19 | 4pm | sanctuary** Daniel Colaner will be the featured organist at the Emerging Artist Recital sponsored by the tri-county chapter of the American Guild of Organists in the Christ Church Sanctuary. Colaner has received numerous honors, including the 2023 National YoungArts Winner with Distinction in Organ/Classical Music. He has been featured on PBS with the American Pops Orchestra and on NPR's *From the Top* (Show #377). He holds the Dr. Mi Wha Lee Fellowship at the Curtis Institute of Music and serves as the Michael Stairs Organ Scholar at the Church of The Redeemer in Bryn Mawr, Penn. The recital is free.

**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

**LAY SERVANT MINISTRY CLASSES saturday | may 2 | 7:30am-6pm** Lay Servant Ministries is one of the most impactful lay leadership development programs within the United Methodist connection. It equips and empowers laity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ—and to lead others into discipleship through service, teaching, and witness. Three courses will be offered: Lay Servant Ministry Basic Course; Each one a Minister (Using God's Gifts for Ministry); and Afire with God (Becoming Spirited Stewards). The course fee is \$50 and includes course materials, light breakfast and lunch. For additional information, **email Connie Bookholt**, [cbookholt@nationalgroup.com](mailto:cbookholt@nationalgroup.com)

**AT THE TABLE next sunday | 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. *At the Table* is taking a break today so everyone can enjoy the Easter Egg Hunt and be together. Next Sunday, plan to stay after the 9am service or come early for the 11am service for this time together; 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.

**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 will be on break Monday, April 6, returning Wednesday, April 8.

## 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)

## CHURCH BUSINESS

**CAMPUSES CLOSED APRIL 6** Christ Church campuses, Fort Lauderdale and Parkway, will be closed Easter Monday, April 6. The Blessings Food Pantry will be closed that day too. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, April 7.

**CHURCH CONFERENCE** Christ Church members will vote on plans to add a middle school to Christ Church School at a special church conference on Sunday, April 12, at 4pm. There will also be a vote on Matt Till as a certified candidate for ministry. If you have questions about your membership status, please contact Membership Secretary Claudia Bhatt, [cbhatt@christchurchfl.org](mailto:cbhatt@christchurchfl.org)

**APRIL COUNCIL MEETING** The next Church Council meeting will be Monday, April 13, at 6:30pm in Fellowship Halls 1-3.