



*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 | august 10, 2025

PRELUDE

Just a Closer Walk with Thee | arr. John Carter
Wes Kassulke, piano; Doug Friend, percussion

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WELCOME | Pastor Doug Johns

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

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

Come, people of God—let us gather with open hearts.

We come, trusting that God is at work within us.

Not by our own plans, nor by our expectations—

But by the Spirit's movement in ways we cannot predict.

Let us release our need to control and surrender our assumptions.

For God's wisdom is greater than ours, and God's path leads to life.

Let us embrace the divine invitation to be led into a future filled with purpose.

We commit to listening for the Spirit's voice, trusting in God's direction.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

A Mighty Fortress is Our God | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 110 (verses 1,2,3,4)

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;

our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;

his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,

were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;

Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,

we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.

The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;

his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

**That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours, through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.**

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*** OPENING PRAYER**

Holy and gracious God, we gather in your presence with hearts attuned to your voice, eager to walk where you lead. We thank you for the promise that your Spirit dwells within us, ready to lead and direct our steps. We confess that at times, uncertainty can stir apprehension within us and we stumble on the path. Yet, we choose to fix our gaze upon you, for we know that you are the faithful guide, the one who holds all tomorrows in your hands. Lead us not down familiar roads, but into the places where your Spirit whispers fresh direction. In every action we take, help us reflect the light of Christ, so that we may shine brightly in a world that longs for hope. Amen.

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

World Methodist Social Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people;
and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again;
and in the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.**

**We rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom: In the upholding of human dignity and community;
in every expression of love, justice, and reconciliation;
in each act of self-giving on behalf of others;
in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough;
in all responsible use of the earth's resources.**

**We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action:
through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, sexual identity, nation, or faith;
through the exploitation of people because of greed and indifference;
through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life;
through the search for security by those military and economic forces that threaten human existence;
through the abuse of technology which endangers the earth and all life upon it.**

**We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ:
to take up the cross; to seek abundant life for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come.**

*** 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

How Firm a Foundation | arr. Michael Ware
Wes Kassulke, piano; Chuck Stanley, organ

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SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:1-5, 12-16 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

...

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴ Do all things without murmuring and arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world, ¹⁶ holding forth the word of life so that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

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

MESSAGE

Traveling off the Map | When God Leads – Burn the Map | 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

He's Calling My Name | Patsy Ford Simms

Chancel Choir

My Lord is calling me. I can hear him callin' my name. He calls me by my name. He leads me all the way with joy and happiness every day. I want to jump! Shout! Praise the Lord! I hear him callin' my name. He calls me all the time. He's always on my mind. I need him every day, and he's near to show me the way. Well, he's my friend, my guide, from him I'll never hide. When my days are dark and grim, all I do is call on him. He makes my pathway bright, and he's near to show me the light. I hear him callin' my name.

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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 | Pastor Cathy Johns

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

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 133 (verses 1,2,3)

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

(refrain) **Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *(refrain)***

**What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *(refrain)***

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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

Praise Ye the Lord | James D. Kimball

Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us next Sunday, for the message *A Good Word for Hard Times*, based on Luke 12:49-56 and Hebrews 12:1-2.

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

TODAY

CONNECT CARDS We want to stay in touch. 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 Every Sunday, coffee and snacks are available before the 9am and 11am services. Join your friends at the kitchen window in the gym lobby for coffee and conversation.

AT THE TABLE today | 10:05am | fellowship halls 1-3 *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 is open, so grab a snack and coffee, and join us.

INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL today | august 10 | 5-6pm | sanctuary Join us to pray and witness against the inhumane and unconstitutional treatment of our neighbors held at the Everglades Detention camp, derisively called Alligator Alcatraz. Every Sunday at 5pm, persons of faith and conscience from across Florida are holding an interfaith vigil outside the detention camp. If you can't travel there this Sunday, you are invited to pray together in our sanctuary. We will follow the same prayers and liturgy as the Everglades vigil.

CONNECT

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.

WELCOME BRUNCH **sunday | october 19 | 10am | fellowship hall 1** If you or someone you sit next to during worship is new to Christ Church, we'd love to get acquainted at the next Welcome 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

GROW

INVITATION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT required orientation **wednesday, september 10 | 6:30-8pm**
8 sessions september 24 | october 1, 8, 15, and 29 | november 5, 12, 19 Join Pastor Cathy for this 8-week covenant learning community that will explore the wonder of Creation, important wisdom teaching that shapes our faith, voices of the prophets, and the beauty of poetry. It is appropriate for those new to Bible study, as well as those with Bible study experience. Participants secure their own book before orientation on September 10. Sign up for the class by September 3. Child care is provided with advance registration to Lisa Jones, coordinator of Children's Ministry. Get all of the details and sign up at christchurchfl.org/events

SAVE THE DATE: SOUTHEAST FLORIDA IMMIGRATION TOWN HALL **saturday | september 20 | 9:30am-12noon** Join the Anti-Racism Task Force and the Florida Immigration Coalition to hear how current immigration policies are hurting our immigrant neighbors and learn how you can act in solidarity. If you can volunteer for the morning, contact Susan Spragg, sspragg@christchurchfl.org, or Linda Bajkowsky. Bring friends and neighbors to stand up for human dignity. Sign up at christchurchfl.org/immigration

MORNING PRAYERS Join your church family for morning prayers Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 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.

SERVE

CHURCH COUNCIL APPLICATIONS *"Here I Am Lord, Send Me!"* These words from the prophet Isaiah ring through the centuries to today. The Leadership Development Team invites you to pray about using your gifts as a member of the Christ Church Council. We are seeking people with a heart to serve Christ, a strong desire to bless others with the love, joy, and hope of Christ, and a willingness to be servant leaders in our faith community. You can pick up an application on tables outside of worship spaces. Please see Pastor Cathy Johns or Brian McComb for more information.

BLOOD DRIVE **sunday | august 17 | 8:30am-12:30pm** You serve your community when you come to worship on Sunday, August 17. The Big Red Bus for blood donations will be here. Did you know one donation can save three lives? Sign up to be a donor that morning. You'll find the link at christchurchfl.org/events

PARKWAY LUNCH **sunday | august 24 | 12noon** Come enjoy great food to support the outreach ministries on the Parkway Campus. This is an opportunity to financially support Parkway's outstanding ministries: feeding people and helping those in crisis. The second mini-fundraiser is lunch on Sunday, August 24, after the 11am service. We'll be treated to music by musicians of the traditional service. Suggested donation day of the event: \$20/person or \$50/family. You'll hear more about outreach at Parkway and perhaps be inspired to volunteer. If you attended last month's brunch, you're welcome to attend the lunch as well. Just RSVP by filling out a card on the tables as you enter worship or online at christchurchfl.org/events

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 will run 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

FOOD FOR THE BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY 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. Items may be taken to the pantry during pantry hours, 9-11am Monday, Wednesday and Friday, or brought to the Fort Lauderdale campus on Sunday morning. Learn more at christchurchfl.org/ blessings

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. Linda Bajkowsky coordinates the team and would love your help. 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

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 the Fort Lauderdale Olive Garden. For more information, send an email to info@christchurchfl.org with your contact information. A Faith Caring Group leader will get back to you.

CHURCH BUSINESS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING **monday | september 8 | 6:30pm | fellowship halls 1-3**