



*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 3, 2025**

### **PRELUDE**

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot/I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* | arr. Mary McDonald  
Wes Kassulke, piano; Doug Friend, percussion

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**WELCOME** | Pastor Cathy Johns

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

Please see below.

#### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP** | Brian McComb, liturgist

Come, people of God, seeking wisdom and direction.

**We come, trusting the one who leads us forward.**

When the road is uncertain and the way unclear—

**We listen for the voice that calls us to peace.**

When we feel lost or alone—

**We remember the presence that never leaves us.**

God lights our path and shows us the way.

**With open hearts, we follow in faith and hope.**

Let us worship the one who guides us with wisdom and love.

**We worship with joy, knowing we are never without direction.**

#### **\* GATHERING HYMN**

*We are Called to be God's People* | HYMN TO JOY

**We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives his grace,**

**One in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race.**

**Let us show how he has changed us, and remade us as his own;**

**Let us share our life together as we shall around his throne.**

**We are called to be God's servants, working in his world today;**

**Taking his own task upon us, all his sacred words obey.**

**Let us rise, then, to his summons, dedicate to him our all,**

**That we may be faithful servants, quick to answer now his call.**

**We are called to be God's prophets, speaking for the truth and right;**

**Standing firm for godly justice, bringing evil into light.**

**Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill,**

**That we all may know the blessing of the doing of God's will.**

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## \* OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, we are grateful for your steady hand that guides us through the fog of uncertainty. When the road ahead feels blurred and decisions weigh heavy, you are our compass—faithful and sure. When we are unsure, you whisper peace into our anxious moments and turn every detour into a deeper lesson of trust. We thank you for the peace, purpose, and profound joy that come from aligning our lives with your desires. Your will for us is not only good—it is life-giving. Open our eyes to see what you see. Tune our ears to hear your quiet promptings. Shape our hearts to desire your will above all else, and give us the courage to follow where you lead. Amen.

## \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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.

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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](https://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

*Write Your Name Upon My Heart* | Benjamin Harlan

Chancel Choir

*Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart. There to remain so indelibly engraved that no prosperity nor adversity shall remove me from your love. Be thou my fortress, be thou my comforter. Be my deliverer, be thou my faithful guide. Be in each step I take, be in prayer I make, be in each song I sing, be in my everything. O blessed Jesus, my Lord. Write your blessed name upon my heart.*

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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

**Colossians 1:9-14** | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

## MESSAGE

*Traveling off the Map | Finding and Following God's Will* | Pastor Cathy Johns

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to you, 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 formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets.

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.**

Loving and guiding God, you placed a cloud and a pillar of fire in the midst of your people to lead them. Jesus became the light of the world, drawing the lost and forgotten, the hurt and the wounded, the oppressed and the depressed to the wellsprings of life. He changed water into wine, called unheralded workers to be disciples, preached good news to the poor, healed the sick and beckoned people to love their neighbor. By his baptism, suffering, death, and resurrection he revealed the depth of your love and the power of light over darkness.

On the night he gave himself up, Jesus gathered with friends. He took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his followers saying, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Likewise, he took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples saying: "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 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.

Strengthen us to follow where you lead, serving you and our neighbor in a spirit of joy, 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.**

## 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.**

## GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. 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

*He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought* | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 128 (verses 1,3)

**He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

*(refrain)* **He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;  
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

**Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;  
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me. *(refrain)***

Joseph Henry Gilmore & William Batchelder Bradbury | © 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

*How Firm a Foundation* | Jason D. Payne  
Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us next Sunday, when we conclude *Traveling off the Map*, with the message *When God Leads – Burn the Map*, based on Philippians 2:1-5, 12-16.

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

## **CONNECT**

**JOY GROUP wednesday | august 6 | 10:30am** Women 55 and over, here's your chance to get to know and encourage one another. The Joy Group – Jesus, Others, You – meets the first Wednesday of each month. Their mission is to share what Christ has done in their lives and to support one another. The group will discuss a book, sign cards and then go to lunch at a nearby restaurant. RSVP if you plan to attend. If you need a ride or have questions, send an email to [info@christchurchfl.org](mailto:info@christchurchfl.org) or contact Val Proffer.

**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.

**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](mailto:welcome@christchurchfl.org)

## **GROW**

**GREAT BOOKS: *Jesus and the Disinherited* wednesday | august 6 | 6:30pm | fellowship halls 1-3** In this 110-page classic Howard Thurman invites oppressed individuals to turn away from hatred and turn toward love. Thurman writes of Jesus, who lived under Roman oppression and chose to live out his teachings daily in the face of the oppressive yoke of Rome. Dr. Thurman's book, written in 1949, was a favorite of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Thurman invites us to love our enemies by practicing "mutual discovery." Through humanizing both the privileged and the underprivileged we are able to love everyone. Please secure your own book and read in advance. This gathering is part of the *Great Books 2025* series, *Spiritual Classics for the Soul with Pastor Cathy*. Child care is available with reservation to Lisa Jones, [ljones@christchurchfl.org](mailto:ljones@christchurchfl.org)

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

**MORNING PRAYERS** Morning prayers are now online 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.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR TEDDER** Thank you to everyone who brought school supplies for Tedder Elementary School. We will be taking them to the school on Monday, August 4, for the faculty and staff welcome back breakfast. We will continue to accept donations throughout the year. If you would like to serve at the breakfast, please see Val Proffer. Get the list of supplies requested by Tedder at [christchurchfl.org/school-supplies](http://christchurchfl.org/school-supplies)

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

**THANK YOU FOR DONATING COOKIES** Sincere gratitude goes to all who baked or purchased cookies for the July Cookie Shower. We surpassed our goal of 1776 cookies. You can donate cookies for Holy Grounds, our Sunday morning coffee hour, at any time. Just bring cookies on disposable plates in freezer bags, marked Holy Grounds. Together, we can have refreshments that make our guests feel welcome at any time.

**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 [info@christchurchfl.org](mailto:info@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 [info@christchurchfl.org](mailto:info@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](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)

## **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](mailto:info@christchurchfl.org) with your contact information. A Faith Caring Group leader will get back to you.

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**DISTRICT YOUTH EVENT** **today | august 3 | 4-7pm | plantation umc | 1001 nw 70<sup>th</sup> avenue** All 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to Plantation UMC for an afternoon of food, games and worship before school starts. Students from South East District churches will be there, as will Christ Church Youth Leader Jess Woolverton. Let them know you're coming at [christchurchfl.org/events](http://christchurchfl.org/events)

## **CHURCH BUSINESS**

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