



*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 | september 20, 2026

WELCOME | Pastor Jad Denmark

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

There is a Happy Land | arr. Mary McDonald

Wes Kassulke, piano; Doug Friend, percussion

Mary Elizabeth McDonald | arrangement © 2018 by The Lorenz Corporation (admin. by Music Services) | all rights reserved
used with permission under One License #A-726973

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

We come today carrying all that life has placed before us—
joys and sorrows, clarity and confusion, confidence and weariness.

We come trusting that God meets us in every part of our lives.

Faith does not promise calm days or an easy path.

Faith teaches us to rely on God when life feels unsettled.

When tomorrow is unclear, God invites us to take the next step with courage.

Our faith deepens as we learn to lean on God in the midst of whatever we face.

So let us worship the God who is steadfast in every season.

Let us open our hearts and worship God together.

*** 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.

Frederick Henry Hedge & Martin Luther | © words & music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

*** OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious God, we come before you with lives that are not always steady or predictable. Some days we feel strong; other days we feel worn down. Sometimes our faith feels sure, and sometimes questions rise within us. Teach us that faith is trusting your presence in all circumstances. Shape us into people whose faith is lived not only in moments of confidence, but also when life feels unsettled. Quiet the voices of fear and doubt within us. Build in us a faith that endures—not because life is simple, but because you are faithful. Amen.

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

all We believe in God,
creator and giver of every good gift,
whose grace comes before us,
surrounds us,
and is always at work within us.

We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's love made known among us,
who calls us to a faith that is more than words,
a faith made visible in love,
mercy, justice, and service.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who gives wisdom when we seek it,
strength when the way is difficult,
and grace to grow into the people
God calls us to be.

We believe faith is meant to be lived:
with courage in times of trial,
with care in the words we speak,
with humility in the choices we make,
with trust for the days ahead,
and with love for our neighbors.

We believe we are called to live this faith together,
bearing one another's burdens,
seeking peace,
caring for those in need,
and becoming a community
where all may experience the grace of God.

We do not live this way to earn God's love.
We live this way because we are already loved.
By the grace of God,
may the faith we proclaim
become the faith we practice,
until our lives bear witness
to the love of Christ in the world. 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

My Life is in Your Hands | Kathy Troccoli & Bill Montvilo

Connie Bookholt, alto

Bill Montvilo & Kathy Troccoli | © 1993, 1994 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Songs | Floating Note Music | CCLI License # 487103

PASTORAL 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.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Parkway Campus update

OFFERING

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, which helps the church reflect the love, hope and joy of Jesus to our community.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Refuge and Strength | Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear. Though the earth should change, though the earth should crumble into the sea, let the oceans roar and foam. Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge! There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city, it shall not be moved. God will help when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar. The kingdoms of men have tottered. God thunders, the earth melts. The God of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our fortress. God is our refuge and strength!

Mark Hayes | ©2004 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. | 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

SCRIPTURE

James 1:1-8 | New Revised Standard Version, updated edition

¹ James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the dispersion:

Greetings.

²My brothers and sisters, whenever you face various trials, consider it all joy, ³because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴And let endurance complete its work, so that you may be complete and whole, lacking in nothing.

⁵If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. ⁶But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. ^{7,8}For the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

Faith Works | A Faith That Endures | Pastor Jad Denmark

* HYMN OF COMMITMENT

Standing on the Promises | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 374 (verses 1,2,4)

**Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.**

(refrain) **Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.**

**Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God. *(refrain)***

**Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God. *(refrain)***

Russell Kelso Carter | © words & music: public domain

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

* 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.**

John Wimber | © 1979 Mercy | Vineyard Publishing | CCLI License # 487103

MUSIC FOR CLOSING

Go Out with Joy | arr. Mary McDonald

Chuck Stanley, organ

Mary McDonald | © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation | all rights reserved
used with permission under One License #A-726973

Join us next Sunday, as we continue the series, *Faith Works*, with the message *Love in Action*, based on James 2:14–26.

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 so we can help you get connected. 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 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.

MEET MISS SALLY AND LEARN ABOUT PARKWAY MINISTRIES today | september 20 | 10am gym lobby | 12noon sanctuary lobby Sally Wells, our outreach coordinator, will be available after today's services to answer questions about Parkway ministries and help you find a way to serve. Please stop to talk with her.

SERVE

TRUNK OR TREAT saturday | october 17 | 5-7:30pm | christ church field Help welcome thousands of guests to the giant party on the field. This is Christ Church's largest outreach ministry of the year. Please bring lots and lots of individually wrapped candy, which will be given to the young ghouls and goblins that night. We are still seeking sponsors for the event. Also needed: lots of volunteers for that night. Perhaps you'd like to decorate a car and give out candy. Check out all of the ways you can help with this outreach event at christchurchfl.org/TrunkorTreat

ENCOURAGE VOTERS sunday | september 27 | 10am The Anti-Racism Task Force invites you to take a stand against voter suppression by filling out postcards to Black voters in the Selma, Alabama, area. We'll provide the script, the postcard and the postage. You supply energy and encouraging words for those who have been discouraged from voting. Just join the task force after the 9am Praise Service.

BRING A DISH TO SHARE FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY WORSHIP WORKSHOP sunday | october 4 | 10am | fellowship halls 2-4 World Communion Sunday is the day we join Christians around the world in celebrating Holy Communion and remember that we are one in Christ, no matter our background, language or culture. At 10am that Sunday, we will come together in Fellowship Halls 2-4 to share food from our family heritage and learn more about Holy Communion practices. Please participate by bringing a dish from your heritage and culture. Let us know what you're bringing at christchurchfl.org/events

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS FOR THE BLESSINGS PANTRY Today is the third Sunday of the month, the day we donations for the Blessings Food Pantry. Your donations help keep up with the growing needs of our neighbors. Here are the most-needed items: canned tuna and 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, 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

SERVE A MEAL AT PARKWAY **sundays 8:30-10:30am | wednesdays 4-6pm** You are invited to share the joy of serving a hot meal to our neighbors and friends on the Parkway Campus. You'll serve alongside more experienced volunteers, serving food, welcoming guests, and helping to clean up after the meal. Students who serve can receive service hours. If you are interested, please send an email to info@christchurchfl.org

ARTF GATHERING **sunday | october 11 | 12:15pm | fellowship halls 2-4** The Anti-Racism Task Force, a group focused on bringing an end to racism within and outside the church, will gather at 12:15pm on Sunday, October 11, to plan events for the next couple of months. All are welcome to come learn about the initiative and plan ways to share with others. For more information, email ARTF leader Susan Spragg, sspragg@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 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

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 info@christchurchfl.org if your family or group can help.

HEAT DINNERS FOR PARKWAY On Wednesdays, we prepare 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

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

DECISION 2026: BE READY TO VOTE **saturday | october 10 | 10am | fellowship halls 2-4** Invite your friends and neighbors to join you for this nonpartisan voter education event on Saturday, October 10. Learn how to confirm your voter registration information and where you can vote for the November 3, 2026, election. Learn about the state, county and municipal issues on the November ballot, and ways to educate yourself further about each issue. Decision 2026 is co-presented by the Christ Church Anti-Racism Task Force and the League of Women Voters of Broward, a nonpartisan organization supporting voter rights. The United Methodist Church affirms the right to vote as a basic human right for adult citizens. Mark your calendar now for this important gathering.

SHARED MEALS You are invited to share a meal and community twice each week on the Parkway Campus. On Wednesday, 4:30-5:30pm, 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

WOMEN OF FAITH noon wednesdays on zoom Women of all ages are invited to join Women of Faith. This lunch hour group welcomes all who want to learn and pray together. If you're interested, contact group leader Cynthia Metzger Phipps, cmetzgerphipps@christchurchfl.org

MORNING PRAYERS Join your church family for morning prayers Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30am 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.

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.

STUDENTS

FREEWAY GAME ON! SUNDAY NIGHT **sunday | september 27 | 5-6pm – 5th-8th graders | 6-7pm dinner & band rehearsal | 7-8pm high schoolers** Mr. W has some group games planned for each gathering, plus dinner and rehearsal. Bring a friend or two. Questions? Contact Mr. W, director of student ministry, at pwoodard@christchurchfl.org

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

CHURCH BUSINESS

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION Christ Church is seeking a collaborative, relational, and highly organized Director of Administration to provide leadership for the administrative and operational life of our church. Learn more about the position and how to apply at christchurchfl.org/jobs

PART-TIME CUSTODIAN Christ Church is seeking a dependable, flexible, and conscientious Part-Time Custodian to help maintain clean, safe, welcoming, and well-prepared spaces at Christ Church & Christ Church School in Fort Lauderdale and the Parkway Campus, home of our food pantry, in Deerfield Beach. Learn more about the position and how to apply at christchurchfl.org/jobs

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING monday | october 5 | 6:30pm The Church Council will next meet on Monday, October 5, at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Halls.