



*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 6, 2026

WELCOME | Pastor Jad Denmark

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

God so Loved | arr. Lleyton Denmark

Lleyton Denmark, guitar

Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash & Scott Cash | © 2019 Angie Feel Good Songs | Bay19 | Capitol CMG Genesis
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*** CALL TO WORSHIP** | Judy O'Donnell, liturgist

Come, people of God, and bring your questions and doubts.

We come trusting that God's grace meets us wherever we are.

Nicodemus came to Jesus in the darkness, carrying questions and uncertainty.

Jesus met Nicodemus with grace and opened the way to new life.

Today, Christ meets us in the same way with an invitation to become something new.

We come ready to listen, to receive, and to be transformed.

Come, then, with your questions. Come with your doubts. Come with your hopes.

We come to meet Jesus, to receive grace, and to discover again the gift of new life.

*** 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 and loving God, we give thanks for the wideness of your mercy and the depth of your love. Like Nicodemus, we have questions we cannot always answer, and uncertainties we cannot easily name. We thank you for Jesus, who welcomed people from every walk of life and invited them to live a deeper life. Remind us today that transformation is not reserved for those who seem to have their lives together. As we gather around this communion table, open our hearts to receive your abundant grace. And when we leave this table, send us into the world to invite others to discover this new life found in Christ. 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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STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Christ Church facilities team

OFFERING

worshipping 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

Nearer, My God, to Thee | Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee; even though it be a cross that raiseth me. Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God to thee. Oh, let the way appear, leading to heaven. All that thou sendest me, in mercy given. Thy Spirit beckons me nearer to thee. There in my Father's home, safe and at rest, there in my Savior's love, perfectly blest. Age after age to be nearer, my God, to thee! Nearer to thee!

Sarah F. Adams, Lowell Mason, arr. Dan Forrest | © 2013 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc. | all rights reserved
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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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SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-17 | New Revised Standard Version, updated edition

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

MESSAGE

Jesus and ... | *Jesus and the Powerful* | Pastor Jad Denmark

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the 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. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters. 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. Your Spirit came upon prophets and teachers, anointing them to speak your Word.

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.

Holy are you, and blessed is your son Jesus Christ. At his baptism in the Jordan your Spirit descended upon him and declared him your beloved son. With your Spirit upon him he turned away the temptations of sin. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, baptizing us with the Holy Spirit and with fire, as on the Day of Pentecost.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "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 on 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 and empowered by the gifts of the Spirit.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, 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 for ever. **Amen.**

And now with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray together:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

You do not need to be a member of Christ Church or a United Methodist to come to the table. Christ himself is host and welcomes all. If you cannot come forward, please know that someone will bring the bread and cup to you.

GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

all 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)**

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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.

MUSIC FOR CLOSING

Trumpet Voluntary in D Major | John Stanley
Chuck Stanley, organ

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

Join us next Sunday, when we conclude the series, *Jesus and ...*, with the message, *Jesus and His Friends*, based on John 11:1–44.

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.

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. 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 serve this outreach event at christchurchfl.org/TrunkorTreat

BLESSINGS FOOD PANTRY The Blessings Food Pantry served more than 230 families each week in July, a significant increase from just six months ago. 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

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

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED deadline: september 15 The Christ Church Scholarship Committee will accept applications for programs that begin in January 2027. Scholarship applications are available to all who are attending college, graduate school, technical school, seminary and career advancing programs. Learn more and find the application at christchurchfl.org/scholarships

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. For the rest of the summer, they will be studying the book of Acts. 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 SCHOOL YEAR KICK-OFF sunday | september 13 | 5-7pm | gym Mr. W has some Crazy Games in mind for Freeway's School Year Kick-off. All 5th-12th graders are invited. Bring a friend or two. Of course, there'll be food. 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

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING monday | september 14 | 6:30pm The Church Council will next meet on Monday, September 14, at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Halls.