



*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 7, 2025

PRELUDE

Standin' in the Need of Prayer | arr. Marilyn Ham

Wes Kassulke, piano; Doug Friend, percussion

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WELCOME | Pastor Doug Johns

WAYS TO CONNECT | christchurchfl.org/ways2connect

Please see below.

VIDEO | VIDEO | *A Day in the Life of Christ Church School*

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** | Connie Booth, liturgist

Come, people of God, we are called to love boldly.

We come ready to open our hearts to others.

Every stranger is a neighbor waiting to be known.

We welcome the stranger, seeing Christ in each one.

Our acts of kindness bear witness to the goodness of God.

We love not only in word, but in action.

Let us worship the God who first loved us.

We gather as God's family, united in grace, ready to worship and serve.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

God, Whose Love is Reigning o'er Us | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 100 (verses 1,2,4,5)

God, whose love is reigning o'er us, source of all, the ending true;

hear the universal chorus raised in joyful praise to you:

Alleluia, Alleluia, worship ancient, worship new.

Word of God from nature bringing springtime green and autumn gold;

mountain streams like children singing, ocean waves like thunder bold:

Alleluia, Alleluia, as creation's tale is told.

Covenant, new again in Jesus, Starchild born to set us free;

sent to heal us, sent to teach us how love's children we might be.

Alleluia, Alleluia, risen Christ, our Savior he!

**Lift we then our human voices in the songs that faith would bring;
live we then in human choices lives that, like our music, sing:
Alleluia, Alleluia, joined in love our praises ring!**

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*** OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, we thank you for your enduring love and for the truth that guides our lives. You call us to walk in faith, to love boldly, and to welcome those we do not know. Teach us to see your image in every stranger. Make us brave enough to extend friendship first. When fear whispers "be careful," let love whisper louder. When prejudice builds walls, tear them down with kindness. When strangers seem different, help us see how we're the same. Grant us the courage to welcome, to support, and to love, just as you have loved us. As we spread your love throughout our community, mold us into a people known for radical hospitality. 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 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

Know My Heart | Benjamin Harlan

Chancel Choir

Lord, you have searched me, you know everything I do. When I rise, when I lie down, you are with me. Before I speak, you hear me, your presence follows day by day. O know my heart, O God. If I ascend into heaven, you are there on the wings of the morning or in my deepest despair. His hand shall lead me, his right hand will guide me, though darkness should cover me, light shall surround me, and I will praise the Lord, I will praise him with my whole heart! O know my heart, O God.

* 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

3 John 2-8 | New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

² Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul. ³ For I was overjoyed when some brothers and sisters arrived and testified to your faithfulness to the truth, how you walk in the truth. ⁴ I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

⁵ Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brothers and sisters, even though they are strangers to you; ⁶ they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of God, ⁷ for they began their journey for the sake of Christ, accepting no support from nonbelievers.

⁸ Therefore we ought to support such people, so that we may become coworkers with the truth.

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

MESSAGE

The Anatomy of Love | Even When They are Strangers | Pastor Doug 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.

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.

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**

God, We See What You Have Given | HYMN TO JOY

God, we see what you have given;

Signs of grace are everywhere!

All around are gifts from heaven —

Gifts enough for all to share.

**We are stewards of your bounty,
Called to give as we've received;
And your blessings have been plenty
From the day we first believed.**

**We are stewards of your welcome
That you showed through Christ the Son.
In his living and his teaching,
Jesus welcomed everyone.
To the outcast and the stranger,
He showed hospitality!
By your Spirit, may we also
Give the welcome we've received.**

**We are stewards, sent out sharing,
Offering you our very best.
Through our serving and our caring
May we give as we've been blessed.
God of love, may faithful living
Be much more than Sunday talk.
Send us loving, serving, giving;
Help us daily walk your walk!**

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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

March in G | Henry Smart
Chuck Stanley, organ

Franklin Ritter, Henry T. Smart | © 1984 Lorenz Publishing Company | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

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

Join us next Sunday, as we continue the series, *The Anatomy of Love*, with the message *And the Truth Shall Set You Free*, based on 2 John 1:4-8.

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.

FREEWAY GAMES & PIZZA today | 12noon-1:30pm | fellowship hall 1 & gym All sixth through 12th graders are invited to come play games and enjoy pizza. Jess Woolverton, director of student ministries, challenges you to bring you A game and your appetite. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT INSTALLATION today | september 7 | 4 pm | plantation umc Rev. Vidalis Lopez will be installed as Superintendent of the South East District of the Florida Conference on Sunday, September 7, at 4pm, at Plantation United Methodist Church, 1001 NW 70th Ave, Plantation, 33313 *Where Hope Grows* is the theme for this service. All are welcome.

CONNECT

CREATIVE SPIRIT sunday | september 21 | 4-7pm | walkway room Women and girls are invited to devotions and guided artwork with Pastor Monique McBride, CCS art teacher and pastor to school and families. The group will paint faux pumpkins. This class is open to girls in 4th grade and up, as well as adult women. Cost is \$10 per class to cover supplies, and scholarships are available. Please bring a refreshment to share: last name A-L bring something savory, M-Z bring something sweet. Additional Creative Spirit gatherings are planned for November 16, January 25, and March 8. RSVP by Wednesday, September 17, to Pastor Monique, mmcbride@ccsfl.org

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

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA IMMIGRATION TOWN HALL saturday | september 20 | 9:30am-12noon Hear about the devastating impact of the immigration enforcement and detentions, then learn what you can do to help our immigrant neighbors. The Christ Church Anti-Racism Task Force and the Florida Immigration Coalition will bring together people from throughout South Florida on Saturday, September 20, 9:30am-12noon, at Christ Church. The day will start with a time of networking at 9:30am, followed by a Unity Session moderated by District Superintendent Rev. Vidalis Lopez, with speakers from the University of Miami Immigration Center and the ACLU among others. Then, at 11am, you can attend a breakout session where you will be equipped to take action in an area that speaks to your gifts and interest. Sign up at christchurchfl.org/immigration Please sign up in advance to take action to protect our vulnerable neighbors. 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.

ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE sunday | october 5 | 12:15pm | fellowship hall 1 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 on the first Sunday after the 11am Traditional Worship Service, around 12:15pm. Questions? Contact Susan Spragg, leader of the Anti-Racism Task Force, artf@christchurchfl.org

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

TRUNK OR TREAT saturday | october 19 | 5-7:30pm We are getting ready for Christ Church's giant party on the field, Trunk or Treat. There are many ways to help get ready -- and to serve the night of the party. Here are some of them:

BE A SPONSOR Help make sure our thousands of guests have a great time

DECORATE A TRUNK Church and school families are invited to decorate a trunk and give out candy, after all, that's what Trunk or Treat is all about! If you're a business, you too can decorate a trunk and give away candy that you provide, as well as approved marketing materials.

DONATE CANDY Candy is the star of the night. And we give away lots of it. Donations of individually wrapped candy can be sent or brought to the church.

DONATE SOFT DRINKS & SPORTS DRINKS Trunk or treating can make one thirsty. Donate cans of Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite and LaCroix and individual-size bottles of Gatorade.

MOST OF ALL, VOLUNTEER We want every guest to feel welcome, and that takes lots of people! There are many opportunities to serve and have fun together.

For all of the details about this exciting night, go to our website. christchurchfl.org/boo

PAINT CEILING TILES FOR PARKWAY wednesday | september 17 | 4-6pm | walkway room Families with children age PK-4 and up are invited to serve by painting ceiling tiles to decorate the Parkway Center. Pastor Monique McBride, art teacher Christ Church School, will lead the way. Children PK4 through fifth grade must be accompanied by a parent. Sixth-12th graders must have a signed liability form. We'll have a creative time together. RSVP to Lisa Jones, coordinator of children's ministries, ljones@christchurchfl.org

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**