



CHRIST CHURCH
AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA
FOUNDED 1715, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA

Our Vision: To be a church that loves the way God Loves

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 17, 2023 — 8:30 am

*Book of Common (BCP) and Hymnal pages are listed on the right. BCP: Book of Common Prayer (black),
S or H: Hymnal 1982 (blue), WLP: Wonder, Love, and Praise (green), L: Lift Every Voice (red)*

The 11 a.m. service is livestreamed on our YouTube channel:

www.youtube.com/c/ChristChurchNewBern

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO HOLY SCRIPTURE

Voluntary

Welcome and Announcements

Processional Hymn

Praise my soul the King of Heaven

H 410

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

BCP 355

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

S 280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please sit for the reading of the scriptures.

The First Lesson

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114 *Read responsively by whole verse.*

In exitu Israel

BCP 756

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.**

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

**4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

**6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?**

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

The Second Lesson

Romans: 14: 1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

When I survey the wondrous cross

H 474

The Holy Gospel *Standing*

Matthew 18: 21-35

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Children's Homily

The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby

The Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People *Stand or kneel*

Intercessions for the Christian People

Our God is a God of unity, not of division; of love, not of hate; of forgiveness, not of resentment. With open hearts, bearing the pain of the world, let us beseech the God of love, saying: We beseech you, O Lord.

For our brothers and sisters of every race and nation:

for their safety and well-being,

for the relief of their sufferings,

for the assuaging of their hunger and thirst,

and for the overcoming of enmity,

let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

For those peoples we have come to view as enemies:
for the people of nations with which we are at odds,
for the healing of hatred and the birth of friendship,
let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

For the churches of the world, let us pray:
for the healing of divisions,
for growth in understanding,
for devotion to the truth of the gospel,
for our mutual enrichment,
and for complete communion in the Holy Spirit,
let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

For our homes and families:
for an end to feuds,
for release from the cycle of violence,
for the healing of painful memories,
for forgiveness and peace between those who injure,
for patience in veering with one another,
let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

We remember those included in this week's Cycle of Prayer: Grace Episcopal & Christ the King Lutheran Church, Whiteville; and The Episcopal Farmworker Ministry

Jesus charged his Apostles to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Empower us, O God, to continue that mission, equipping and inspiring the Christ Church Evangelism Commission to lead us in that call. May we all tell of the Good News of Jesus Christ in our words and actions.

Lord God, your Son made himself the least among us, bore our sins upon the cross, and delivered us from death by his own suffering and dying. Forgive us our sins, by which we have added to the world's pain, and make us instruments of peace and reconciliation, through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Silence

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace *All stand.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Sentence

Thank you for your ongoing support of Christ Church. You can visit <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/give> to make a contribution. You can also text the word FUNDS to 833.233.8760 or mail a check to PO Box 1246, New Bern, NC 28563.

Music at the Offertory

Lamb of God

Twila Paris

8:30 am Choir

A guide to receiving Communion

There are several ways to receive Communion today.

Please come down the center aisle towards the Baptismal Font.

At the lower station, we have regular bread and a silver chalice or common cup. We also have gluten-free wafers, small individual cups of wine, and grape juice at the lower station. If you wish to intinct (dip your wafer into the wine), please use a small individual cup.

At the main altar rail, we have regular bread and the common cup. **If you wish to intinct, please use a small individual cup at the lower station.** You may stand or kneel as is most comfortable and prayerful for you.

Please fill in along the rail from right to left, and leave through the side entrance on the left side of the altar.

Receiving communion in one kind (just the bread or just the wine/grape juice) is also sufficient to receive the full benefit of the Sacrament. If you do not wish to receive the Sacrament, you are invited to receive a blessing from the clergy. Simply cross your arms across your chest when you approach the clergy. If you prefer to take communion at your seat, please let an usher know.

Hymn at the Presentation

H 380 v. 3

**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**

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE
HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer, Prayer A

BCP 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

S 130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

We welcome to communion all who have been baptized in any Christian tradition. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available at the lower communion station.

Communion Hymn

Eagles Wings

WLP 810

Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitor

Celebrant We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.

People **Take these holy gifts of our Lord's Body and Blood and go forth in the name of Christ Church. May those to whom you go experience with us the majesty and mystery of His presence through the sharing of the bread and wine.**

All **We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

Post Communion Prayer *Standing or kneeling*

BCP 833

Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Blessing *Standing*

The Peace of God that passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds on the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Lift High the Cross

H 473

Voluntary

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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SERVING US TODAY

Sound / Video Coordinator: Zach Thuringer **Vergers:** Hal Stirling

Altar Guild: Pat McCotter, Mary Parrish, Susanne Pendleton, Rodney Hayes, Tina Marsh

Lector: Patricia Holmes

Lector/Eucharistic Minister: Terry Brubaker

Intercessor/Eucharistic Minister: Randy Bogle

Eucharistic Minister: John Rowe

Acolytes: Carolina Carpenter, Ada Ruth Canady, Beckett Jennings, Holden Veit

Greeters: Rodney Hayes and Karen Gabriel

Ushers: Kathleen Hughes and Joanie Bogle

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Grace Episcopal & Christ the King Lutheran Church, Whiteville; and
The Episcopal Farmworker Ministry

Thank you to Nadi Richter for serving as our musician today.

CHRIST CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

Rector: The Rev. H. Paul Canady III **Associate Rector:** The Rev. Suzanne Hood

Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby **Director of Church Life:** Ellie Roberts

Director of Growing in Grace: Debbie Fodrie **Sunday School Coordinator:** Page Litfin

Financial Coordinator: Cindy Tripp **Communications Coordinator:** Betsy Downard

Administrative Assistant for Volunteer Engagement: Sarah Risty-Davis

Nursery Staff: Heidi Powell **Custodian:** Terry Pitner

CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY

Term - 2023: Howard Furnas, John King, Elizabeth Livingston (*Senior Warden*), Sims Wayt

Term - 2024: Tony Embrey, Phyllis Fox (*Clerk*), Rebecca Buchanan Leahy, Susan Moffat-Thomas

Term - 2025: Randy Bogle (*Junior Warden*), Stephanie Bratton, Holly Craighead, Kim Huddle

CONTACT US

Christ Church

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MISSION

The mission of Christ Episcopal Church is to welcome and inspire all people to faith, hope and spiritual growth through worship, Christian fellowship, and service to one another and to the community beyond.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, September 17

- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Coffee available between services
- 9:45 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II with DOK Service of Admission (Nave/[Online](#))
- 12 pm: Coffee Hour
- 12:30 pm: Stephen Ministry Meeting
- 4 pm: English-Speaking Union Program and Concert (Nave)
- 4:45 pm: Youth Confirmation Class (Library)
- 5:30 pm: Sacred Ground (Harrison Center)
- 6 pm: EYC

Monday, September 18

- 10 am: Home Place (Offsite)
- 10:30 am: McCarthy Court Eucharist (Offsite)
- 11 am: Contemplative Prayer (Pelletier Room)
- 1 pm: Staff Meeting
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)
- 6 pm: Vestry Meeting (Parish House)

Tuesday, September 19

- 7 am: Al-Anon Meeting (2nd Floor Living Room)
- 8:30 am: Eucharist (Chapel)
- 10 am: Women's Book Study (2nd Floor Living Room)
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)
- 4 pm: Christ Church Friends (Library)
- 6:30 pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)
- 7 pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Wednesday, September 20

- 11 am: Rector's Bible Study (Parish House)
- 3 pm: Pastoral Care Commission Meeting (Library)
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)
- 5:30 pm: 8:30 Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
- 6:15 pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)
- 7 pm: Parish Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, September 21

- 10:45 am: Truewood by Merrill Eucharist (Offsite)
- 3 pm: Growing in Grace (GIG Room)
- 3:30 pm: GIG Chapel Time (Chapel)
- 5:30 pm: Outreach Commission Meeting (Library)
- 6 pm: Director of Music Search Committee Meeting (Pelletier Room)

Saturday, September 23

- 11 am: Audry VonDolln Funeral
- 4 pm: Burns/Cox Wedding

Sunday, September 24 -- Stewardship Kick-Off

- 8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)
- 9:30 am: Coffee available between services
- 9:45 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave/[Online](#))
- 12 pm: Coffee Hour
- 12:30 pm: Cursillo Reunion (Chapel)
- 3 pm: CROP Walk (Union Point Park)
- 4:45 pm: Youth Confirmation Class (Library)
- 6:30 pm: Sacred Ground (via Zoom)