

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. Please be aware that, as you come down the aisle for communion, you will appear on our livestream. If you prefer to take communion at your seat, please let an usher know.

Hymn at the Presentation

H 380 v. 3

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

Sanctus

S 130

Invitation to Communion

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. Please tell the priest if you wish to have one.

Communion Hymns

Forgive our sins as we forgive

H 674

No saint on earth lives life to self alone

WLP 776

Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitor *Standing*

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

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

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

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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SERVING US TODAY

Video Coordinator: Nykira Williams **Verger:** Hal Stirling

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

Lector: Andrew Garlick **Lector / Eucharistic Minister:** Elizabeth Praul

Intercessor/Eucharistic Minister: Howard Furnas

Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Livingston

Greeters: Peter & Michele Mnatzakian

Acolytes: Baker Hudson, Nora Carpenter, Abram Hambidge, Parker Jutras

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

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

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)



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 - 11:00 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

Announcements & Installation of Daughters of the King

Processional Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

H 390

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

Glory to God

S 280

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 responsibly 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.**

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 **Come down, O Love divine** **H 516**

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**

Sermon **The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby**

The Nicene Creed *All Stand* **BCP 358**

Prayers of the People: Form VI *Stand or kneel* **BCP 392**

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorry, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Rob our own Bishop, and all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation

Silence

Hear us Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

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

We offer special thanksgivings for the flowers behind the altar that are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of his father, Col. Harold H. Stirling, Jr. USMC, by Hal Stirling.

Silence may be kept.

Jesus said that when we help those in need, we are helping him. We give thanks to God for all the ways the people of Christ Church are able to relieve the suffering of so many people in our community by being the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus. We pray that the Outreach Commission of Christ Church will continue to be a beacon of empowerment as we serve our neighbors in need. Amen.

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

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

In your compassion forgive us our sins,

Known and unknown,

Things done and left undone;

And so uphold us by your Spirit

That we may live and serve you in newness of life,

To the honor and glory of your Name;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

Offertory Music **Come and taste** **arr. Alice Parker**
Parish Choir