



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 PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

February 2, 2025 — 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

Prelude Carols of the Star Lani Smith

Processional Love divine, all loves excelling H 657

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

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by 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

Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

This Sunday's antiphon: How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

ANTIPHON

- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

ANTIPHON

- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

ANTIPHON

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel *Standing*

Luke 2:22-40

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Children's Homily

Hannah Hutchens

The Sermon

The Rev'd. Canon Stephanie Allen

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*

Form III

BCP 387

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We especially remember educators, the homebound, and caregivers.

The flowers behind the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the people of Christ Church.

We remember St. Andrew's on the Sound, Wilmington; and St. Paul's, Wilmington; in this week's Cycle of Prayer.

O God of all justice and peace we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths - Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your heavenly kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honor as your children for, to all of us, you are our Heavenly Father. **

Deacon We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

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.

*** Prayer offered by the Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem, the Most. Rev. Hosam Naoum.*

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

Music at the Offertory

Star of Wonder
Parish Choir

Allen Bullard

Receiving Communion and One-On-One Prayer

Christ welcomes all to communion. Those Baptized in any Christian tradition are encouraged to receive communion.

- Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips.
- If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. If you wish to intinct, or dip the wafer in the wine, please hold the wafer in such a way that the Eucharistic Minister can intinct it and hand it back to you. Please do not intinct the wafer yourself.
- Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available at the lower station.
- Respond to communion by saying “Amen.”
- If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest.
- Baptism is offered several times yearly; speak to a priest to learn more.
- If you wish to pray one-on-one with a Prayer Minister, go to the Chapel after receiving communion or a blessing.
- Prayer ministers hold all requests in absolute confidence.

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.**

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

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

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 holy 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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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 all 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, in 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.

Communion Hymn

The great Creator of the worlds

H 489

We will sing this as communion is ending. Please stand as you are able while we sing.

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 *Standing or kneeling**Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing *Standing*

The Lord be with you in all the places where you will go.

Go then:

Go where there is ignorance;
 Go where there is need;
 Go where there is danger;
 Go where there is pain;
 Go where there is narrowness;
 Go where there is fear;

Go in courage; go in doubt.

Go in the wisdom of knowing
 and in the wisdom of not knowing.

Go in strength,
 and in the strength of weakness.

Go in the joy which overcomes sorrow
 and in the love which casts out fear.

Go. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 go with you. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn**Lift up your heads****H 436****The Dismissal***Deacon* Let us bless the Lord.*People* **Thanks be to God.****Postlude****Lift up your heads****setting by Thomas Bliss**

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SERVING US TODAY

Video Coordinator: Nykeria Williams **Verger:** Hal Stirling **Deacon-in-Training:** Charles Pringle
Altar Guild: Sims Wayt, Lee Ann Fordyce, Margaret Shields, Mary Lynn Guidage, Gretchen DuPeza
Lector: Ann Super **Lector/Eucharistic Minister:** Kahni Miller
Intercessor / Eucharistic Minister: Delle Curry **Eucharistic Minister:** David Super
Acolytes: Caroline Carpenter, Julia Ballard, Wynn Buhmaster **Prayer Minister:** Andrew Garlick
Greeters: Tony Embrey, Susan Husson **Ushers:** Sam Curry, Ed Campbell, Vins Bowers
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Andrew's on the Sound, Wilmington; and St. Paul's, Wilmington

CHRIST CHURCH CLERGY AND STAFF

Rector: The Rev. H. Paul Canady III **Associate Rector:** The Rev. Suzanne Hood
Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Lisa Kirby **Deacon-in-Training:** Charles Pringle
Director of Music: Jacqueline Nappi **Director of Church Life:** Jimi Paderick
Director of Growing in Grace: Debbie Fodrie **Director of Christian Formation:** Hannah Hutchens
Financial Coordinator: Cindy Tripp **Communications Coordinator:** Betsy Downard
Volunteer Coordinator: Sarah Risty-Davis **Facilities Coordinator:** John Peterson
Nursery Staff: Heidi Powell, Allison Robinett **Custodial Services:** Terry Pitner

CHRIST CHURCH VESTRY

Term - 2025: Randy Bogle (*Junior Warden*), Stephanie Bratton, Holly Craighead, Kim Huddle (*Senior Warden*)
Term - 2026: Laura Overman, Elmer Praul, Wayne Rowe, Graham Underhill
Term - 2027: Vins Bowers, Liz Coble, Susan Husson (*Clerk*), Ernie Williams

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.

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



Please Note: You will notice that not all weekly church events are listed here. If there are no changes to your regularly scheduled event, it might not appear below. The entire calendar can be viewed online at <https://www.christchurchnewbern.com/calendar> and in the Sunday morning email. Signs with the complete calendar are posted on the kiosk in the Reception Area and the bulletin board across from the Library. Daily calendar signs are posted on the church's exterior doors.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, February 2

Birthday and Anniversary Sunday

8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)

9:45 am: Sunday School for all ages

9:45 am: Coffee Hour (Parish House)

11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))

5 pm: POD (Purple Pineapples Room) *NOTE: First meeting since Christmas Break*

Monday, February 3

9 am: Vita Tax Prep (Harrison Center) — *Note: First Session*

9:30 am: Lector Training (Nave)

1 pm: Staff Meeting (2nd Floor Conference Room)

5 pm: Endowment Committee Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, February 4

7 am: Al-Anon Meeting (2nd Floor Living Room)

8:30 am: Eucharist (Chapel)

5 pm: Racial Reconciliation Group Meeting (Parish House)

6:30 pm: Small Wonders NA Meeting (Pelletier Room)

Wednesday, February 5

6:15 pm: AA Meeting (Harrison Center)

Thursday, February 6

11 am: Funeral and Reception for Bruce Meyers (Nave / Parish House)

Sunday, February 9

8:30 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave)

9:45 am: Sunday School for all ages

9:45 am: Coffee Hour (Parish House)

11 am: Eucharist Rite II (Nave / [Online](#))

5 pm: Schola Evensong (Nave)