

Christ Church United Methodist

January 4, 2026

(in-person) 9 am
(live-streamed & in - person) 11:15 am

Epiphany Sunday / Communion Sunday Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard

Leader: How blessed is God! Long before he laid down earth's foundations,
he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by that love.

**People: Long ago, God decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus
Christ – to include us in his glory.**

Leader: God set it all out before us in Christ. God has a long-range plan.

**People: Everything will be brought together and summed up in Christ –
everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth. So be it.**

sourced from verses in Ephesians 1:3–14 from The Message

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

We Three Kings

Hymn 254

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown Him again;
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. [Refrain]

Frankincense to offer have I,
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

Glorious now behold Him arise,

King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

***INVITATION**

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live
in peace with one another.
Therefore let us confess our sin before God and one another.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

People: Merciful God,
We confess that we have felt threatened by your glory.
Like Herod, we have been frightened by your arrival
and by the tension between our own agency
and Christ, God's agent of salvation.
We have rebelled against your presence and your mercy.
We have been complicit in the harming of innocents,
we have clung to the security of control and privilege,
and the advantages of profit and power.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful and fearless obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Let us all pray silently and confess our sins to God.
(All pray in silence)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Now hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners.
That proves God's love for us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

Birthday of a King
Mark Berlin, tenor

W.H. Neidlinger

***DOXOLOGY**

Hymn 95

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.

***SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

Included in Glory

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

*SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (*page 24 in the hymnal*)

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Holy, Holy, Holy
Matt Walton, guitar

arr. Matt Walton

Sweet Little Jesus Boy
Karen Lovett, soprano

Robert MacGimsey

Romanza, from Sonata for Clarinet & Piano
Andrew Blosser, clarinet

Francis Poulenc

The First Noel

Hymn 245

Then entered in those wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee, and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN

What Child is This
What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Hymn 219

Refrain:
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. (Refrain)

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him. (Refrain)

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

This Morning

The flowers on the altar this morning are in loving memory of Carroll and Dorothy Garrison (parents), Patricia Garrison Aicken (sister) and Walt Calain (brother-in-law) given by Ronda Garrison.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members: The friends and family of Claudia Houston who died December 28.

Announcements

Charge Conference | January 25 | 12:30 pm

All Administrative Council members are asked to attend and all church members are invited to attend this annual church business meeting. Childcare is available upon request by January 18 to childcare@ccum.net.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

Epiphany Pillow Project | Today, January 4th | 12:30 - 2 pm | Fellowship Hall

On the Sunday before Epiphany, we invite you to come hang out, eat pizza and make soft, knotted pillows for our homeless neighbors. During Epiphany, we celebrate that the Wise Men traveled to meet and bring gifts to Jesus. This is an opportunity to follow their example and **deliver meaningful gifts** to those in whose faces we glimpse the glory of God. Registration is required at ccum.net/children, if you plan on eating.

Created By God 2026 | February 20- 22

The human body is fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139)! Created By God is a **weekend retreat** designed to help prepare **fifth and sixth grade** students and their families to have Christ centered conversations around the topics of human sexuality, values and relationships. Parents should plan to attend an information meeting in order for your child to participate. Learn more and register at ccum.net/children.

Youth Missions Fundraiser - Save the Date!

Sunday, February 8 | 12:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

We're excited to announce that our annual Youth Fundraiser to support Youth Missions, Choir Tour and Confirmation is once again this year on Super Bowl Sunday! Join us lunch, Super Bowl snacks to purchase, a donation wall to support Youth Ministry and our famous Cake Auction!

Parents, please **mark your calendars** for **Vacation Bible School** this summer,

June 15 - 18! We'll meet Monday - Thursday from 9 am - 12 pm. Registration coming soon!

SERVE

Roll up your sleeve and join us for the next **Red Cross Blood Drive** on **Tuesday, January 13** from 1 - 6 pm in Fellowship Hall! Please schedule an appointment by contacting Kim Brice at (502) 727-2581. Walk-ins are also welcome.

WE'D LOVE TO SPEND TIME WITH YOU IN 2026!



[CCUM.NET/EVENTS](https://ccum.net/events)

Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Youth Music | Begins Sunday, January 11
Youth Group | Begins Sunday, January 11
PSALM Kids | Begins Wednesday, January 14
REFIT Wednesdays (5 weeks) | Begins January 14
Youth Game Night | Begins Wednesday, January 14
Winter Blitz | January 23 -24 | Georgetown First United Methodist
Laudate Retreat | January 30 - 31
Youth Fundraiser | February 8
Created by God (5th and 6th graders) | February 20 - 22
PSALM Kids 3rd-5th Grade Musical | Sunday, April 26
Vacation Bible School | June 15 - 18

Bible Study

Lenten Study with Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant | Begins February 24

Mom's Ministry

Mom's Small Groups, Pray & Playdates, Mom's Night Out and more!

Men's Ministry

Men's Breakfast | January 31 | 12:30 pm

Marriage Retreat

NULU | February 6 - 7 | Registration open now!

Senior Adult Ministry (S.A.M.)

Luncheons and Outings | Begin February 2026

The Arts

Sanctuary Series Presents The Concordia Choir | Tuesday, March 3 | 7 pm
Sanctuary Series Presents *The Creation* | Sunday, April 26 | 7 pm
Sacred Worth Art Exhibit | April 2026
One Voice Homecoming Concert | Sunday, June 14 | 7 pm

Serve

American Red Cross Blood Drive | Tuesday, January 13 | 1 - 6 pm
Pass It On Kids Sale | March 20 - 21

One Voice High School Choir Tour | June 9 - 14
Summer Mission Trip to Dominican Republic | June 30 - July 7