

Christ Church United Methodist

April 28, 2024

(in - person) 9:00 am

5th Sunday of Easter Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Matthew Vanover, organ

arr. Michael Burkhard

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liz Curtis Higgs

Leader: Arise! Shine! Christ's Church has gathered!

People: We are one body, with Christ as our head.

Leader: What kind of body are we all called?

People: The Body of Christ, brought together not by human flesh, but by the sovereign Lord.

Leader: And who does Christ call us to be?

People: A people who look not to their own interests, but to the interests of others. Those who proclaim the goodness of their Lord.

All: Let us worship as one, Lord, as one united body.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Hymn 158

**Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!**

**Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!**

**Praise yet the Lord again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified dead and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall 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.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

To God Be the Glory

Hymn 98

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO PRAYER

In the Lord

Taizé

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful. In the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

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PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

Grace So Amazing
Mark Berlin, solo
Daniel Light, piano

Gene Bartlett

*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

Acts 15:6-12

Dan Burgess

SERMON

All Call – Us and Them

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*CLOSING HYMN

Amazing Grace

Hymn 378
st. 1-3, 6

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

In Thee is Gladness, BWV 615
Matthew Vanover, organ

J.S. Bach

***Announcements are located on the following pages*

This Morning

The altar flowers this morning are dedicated to the memory of Marsha Wardlaw by her husband, Russ, daughter and son in law, Lindsay and Eric Harden, granddaughters, Harper and Molly Frances and grandson, Wells.

Our Church Family

Christian sympathy is extended to Sally Taylor on the death of her husband, John Taylor Jr., who died April 18. Christian sympathy is also extended to daughter, Kathy (Randy) Bloch and grandsons, Andrew (Brooke) and Christopher (Mallory).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SERVICES

Note for Sunday, April 28

The **9 am** worship service will be held in the **Chapel** and Sunday morning classes will take place as usual at 10 am. Then at **11:15 am**, all are welcome to join us in the Sanctuary for the **PSALM Kids Spring Musical**, *The Rockslinger and His Greatest Hit*, a retelling of the David and Goliath story!

ADULTS

SAM Luncheon | Monday, May 13 | 11:30 am

For our **final SAM Luncheon of the season**, our own Music Man, **Dr. Daniel Blosser**, will share **Hymn Stories in word and song**, focusing on one of our tradition's most prolific and remarkable hymnists, Charles Wesley. Dan's enthusiasm for music ministry and his deep love for God will be a joy to behold. Then, we'll share yummy box lunches from Gracious Plenty. \$12.00 due May 10. Register at ccum.net/SAM.

WoW: Walk on Wednesday with SAM | Beginning May 1 | 12 pm | 30 minutes

Put on your walking shoes, **meet under Portico** and let's walk together! Senior adults are welcome to join us on a **30-minute walk** around our CCUM neighborhood. If it's raining, we'll walk inside the church building. No registration required for **WoW**, just a simple release form to sign. Since leashes can be a safety hazard, we ask that all pets be left at home. Contact liz@ccum.net with any questions.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

Spring Flower Fundraiser, organized by the Youth at Christ Church! **Support our mission trip** by buying spring flowers. Orders will be **delivered on May 11**, just in time for Mother's Day. Order forms are available at the front desk or online at ccum.net/youth, and must be submitted with payment by May 1. Please contact Mike Porter at 502-671-9146 or mike@ccum.net, with questions. **Let's make this fundraiser flourish together!**

VBS 2024: "Wake up, Samuel!" #Godiscalling | July 8 - 11 | 9 am - 12 pm

Meet the young boy, Samuel, this summer as he is called by God and helps us learn how to HEAR God. Registration is at capacity for PreK's and K's - but there are **still spots left for 1st - 5th graders, as well as for volunteers**. Sign up at ccum.net/vbs.

WOMEN

Booked For Lunch is a **monthly book club** for women of all ages who believe novels provide a powerful avenue for thinking more deeply about God and the world. We meet the 2nd Thursday of every month in **Room 156 at 12 pm**—bring a lunch, if you wish, and join us! **The next meeting is Thursday, May 9**, discussing *The Women of Chateau Lafayette* by Stephanie Dray. Find our list of Spring 2024 books at ccum.net/women.

Women's Ministry Spring Gathering: *Gather to Share*

Saturday, May 11 | 10 am - 12 pm | Youth Center

Sisters, we are **moving our gatherings back to Saturday morning** and back to the Youth Center! Join us for coffee, cookies, and meaningful conversation, as Trudy Wheeler, creator of our Sterling Service Tea Ministry and former President of the Woman's Club of Louisville, shares her spiritual journey, showing us how we can **create our own spiritual timelines**. Bring your mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts and friends for a free, fun morning! Register at ccum.net/women through May 9.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Christ Church United Methodist is **seeking a Music Associate for Handbells** to help facilitate the church's mission of *becoming living proof of God's love, one person at a time*. This position will conduct 2-3 handbell ensembles and **provide leadership and visioning** to the handbell ministry of Christ Church, equipping ringers to contribute to the worship experience and empowering them to become lay ministers in the community. Visit ccum.net/jobs for more information and to apply.

NOTEWORTHY

Vendors wanted! Join us for the inaugural summer **Twilight Market** featuring farmers, artists, live music, food, and activities! Registration and more information at ccum.net/vendor.

College Graduate Recognition | Sunday, June 2

Christ Church would like to recognize our recent college graduates in the bulletin on Sunday, June 2. Please provide your information at ccum.net/collegegrad or by picking up a form at the front desk. Deadline is May 26.

General Conference Information

April 23 – May 3 | Charlotte, NC

For up-to-date information about all things General Conference, visit our website or ccum.net/umcgc.

General Conference Pastoral Gatherings at CCUM | Fellowship Hall

Post-General Conference | Sunday, May 5 | 4 - 5 pm

At these gatherings, we will receive news about important topics being addressed and voted on at General Conference (April 23 – May 3) and what these things mean for us at Christ Church. No registration necessary.

Prayer for General Conference by CCUM member Rev. Karen Kidd Lovett

Holy God of Grace,

we confess that grace is a word that falls so easily from our lips but sometimes is difficult to put into practice.

Strengthen us during this time of General Conference as we truly want to show grace to one another.

We pray specifically for those who will attend the General Conference.

Many are going there wounded, broken and hurt.

We pray for your guidance for those who will be about the business of the church and who may arrive with bruised egos and battered spirits.

Some come to the gathering with dread, and others with the anticipation of success for a cause they believe heartily in. But no matter the attitude, we know in our very souls that we are a broken connection.

Many of us feel as fragile as a bird's wing, tattered and easily broken.

And Lord, so many have been broken and wounded during these days of infighting and exchanging hateful words. Forgive us.

Forgive us our desperate clinging to the belief that we know what is completely right.

Forgive us our willfulness and arrogance.

We stand, knowing we should be on our knees.

We preen, when we should be humble.

We gloat, when we should be begging for a clearer understanding of one another.

Forgive us our pridefulness and unwillingness to even consider the viewpoint of others.

We pray for mercy and for wisdom.

Grant us your guidance and your peace so that we may be about your business of spreading healing, love, peace and mercy to all of your people. Amen.