

Christ Church United Methodist

August 24, 2025

(live-streamed & in - person) 10 am

Blessing Sunday Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God
Matthew Vanover, organ

Sigfried Karg-Elert

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard

Leader: We cannot know the end of another person's story.

People: Our lives, so often only briefly intersect.

Leader: Let us be content to minister regardless of visible outcomes.

**People: May we trust that the small mercies we extend will be woven in
the larger theme of redemption at work in the lives of others.**

Leader: Draw people to yourself, O God, by graces offered. Shape our hearts as we serve.

People: In this process of learning to serve well, may we learn to love well.

All: Lord Jesus, you came not to be served but to serve. Teach us to serve, too.

adapted from "Before Serving Others," Every Moment Holy, Douglas Kaine McElvey

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

God Is Here

Hymn 660
st. 1-3

God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us, as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Pastor: Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,
whose holy faith let us now declare.

**All: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

God Is Here

Hymn 660

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

BAPTISM REMEMBRANCE AND CELEBRATION

James Alexander Tennill (5/28/2008)

Pastor: Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care
Alex, whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that he may
grow in the knowledge and love of God, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

**People: With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ
that Alex, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established
in the faith and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.**

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Hymn 609

You have put on Christ, in Christ you have been baptized.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**PRESENTATION OF
THIRD GRADE BIBLES**

Rev. Amy Chapman, Associate Pastor
Max Childers, Children's Ministry, K-5

MUSICAL RESPONSE

He Is Lord

Hymn 177

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

Let This Mind Be In You
Chancel Choir
Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light, piano

Craig Courtney

*DOXOLOGY

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.

Hymn 95

BLESSING OF THE
KINDERGARTNERS

Rev. Amy Chapman, Associate Pastor
Linda Hess, Children's Ministry, Pre-K

*SCRIPTURE

Matthew 20:20–28

Katerina Tzanetos

SERMON

Lord, Teach Us How to Serve

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

CALL TO PRAYER

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee
O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Hymn 430

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.

BLESSING OF THE
6th GRADERS

Rev. Amy Chapman, Associate Pastor
Bobby Patton, Director of Youth Ministries

*CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service
Lord whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

Hymn 581

Still Your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As O Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quicken sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that you servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress is Our God
Matthew Vanover, organ

Carolyn Hamlin

This Morning

The flowers are placed on the altar today in recognition of their 60th wedding anniversary by George and Glenda Thacker.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members:

Ginny Heyburn on the death of her husband, John Heyburn, who died August 18.

Announcements

Farewell to Kathy Waggoner

Today we give thanks for Kathy Waggoner, who has faithfully served as our Controller for the past 4 and a half years. Kathy's steady leadership, kindness, and dedication have been a blessing to Christ Church and we are grateful for the many ways she has shared her gifts with us. As she steps into retirement, we pray God's joy and peace will surround her in this new season. We are pleased to announce that Chuck DiChiara is stepping into the role of Controller, ensuring continued excellence and stewardship.

Join the **A.W.E.** (Art | Wonder | Experience) Ministry for **Open Studios**, once a month on Wednesday evenings, beginning August 27 from 6 - 8 pm. Bring your work in progress or come and start something new – we have plenty of paper, paints, and drawing materials available. Everyone, ages 11-111+ is welcome and **childcare is available!**

YOUTH/CHILDREN

PSALM Kids Registration is Here! | Register at ccum.net/psalmkids

Parents, registration is now open for PSALM Kids, our **Children's Music Program**. Kids in **grades Pre-K through 5th grade** experience God's love and develop musical and other skills through singing, ringing and activities. PSALM Kids meets weekly on **Wednesdays from 6 - 7:15 pm, beginning August 27.**

Youth Music Registration is now open!

Sign up to join Laudate, our **Middle School Choir** or One Voice, our **High School Choir**, or ring **Handbells**. No prior music experience is necessary, just come with an open heart and ready to have fun! Register at ccum.net/youthmusic. Join us for **Youth Music Opening Night, tonight**, August 24 at 5 pm!

Pass It On Kids Sale

September 12, 9 am - 2 pm & 5:30 - 7:30 pm | September 13, 9 am - 12 pm

Mark your calendars for the semi-annual Pass it On Kids Sale! Shop hundreds of items - including clothing, toys, books, shoes, furniture, equipment, maternity clothes and more! For questions and more information **text Whitney Fontaine** at (502) 797-7175. Consignor and volunteer **registration** at ccum.net/passiton.

Join the Adventure with **Cub Scout Pack 317**! All elementary kids and their adults are invited to a year of fun, learning, and adventure – **starting this week**. From hikes and camping to service and the popular Pinewood Derby, there's something for everyone! For details, visit ccum.net/children or email lhcpack317@gmail.com.

SERVE

Christ Church Cares Day | Saturday, September 13

Join us as we spend the day serving our neighbors at multiple sites across our city. We'll have **offsite and onsite opportunities** for all ages to serve. For more information and to register, please visit ccum.net/cccd.

Diaper Drive | August 24 - September 12

In conjunction with Christ Church Cares Day, we are again hosting a Diaper Drive to **benefit Mama to Mama and the Play Cousins Collective**. These worthy organizations work to promote the health of Louisville's pregnant black mothers and their families. Last year's drive was a great success! Collection bins are located in Gathering Hall and under the portico. Thank you for your generosity!

ADULT

Called to Write: A Monthly Workshop | Thursday, August 21 | 6:30 pm

Wherever you are on your writing journey, join us as we put into practice what we've learned about **critique groups**! Bring **one page** of your work-in-progress to share with our safe and welcoming circle of writers, so we can offer encouragement and helpful feedback. If you're new to our group, register at ccum.net/write!

September Adult Classes | Wednesday evenings, Beginning September 3

Register at ccum.net/adultclasses. The sessions include:

Belong - a Christ Church Connect Class

Four Sessions, September 3 - 24 | 6 - 7:15 pm

Join Pastor Eric for this 4 week series to deepen your understanding of the United Methodist faith. Materials will be provided.

Every Neighbor Fed: A Christian Call to End Hunger

Four Sessions, September 3 - 24 | 6 - 7:15 pm

The class will host guest speakers from Dare to Care and also discuss the book, *Think Red: Imagine Your Community Living & Loving Like Jesus* by Larry Stoess.

Rising Kindergarten Q & A - Unraveling Kindergarten Registration

One Session on September 17 | 6 - 8 pm

Parents with rising Kindergartners—this session is for you! A small panel of educational experts and host families will share their personal and professional experiences of the various local options.

Looking for a **new activity this fall**? Try your hand at ringing in a class designed just for you! Join Donna Vaughn, Director of Adult Handbells, for **Handbells 101** in the **Chapel** on Mondays, September 8 - 29 from 6:15 - 7:15 pm. No ringing experience required. Please sign up at ccum.net/handbells101, so that bells are available for everyone.

Come join All Strings New and friends at the newest CCUM Music Ministry, **Open Chord**, beginning August 27 and meets **every other Wednesday** in room 002 from 6 - 7:30 pm. Whether you have never picked up an instrument before, or you're a professional looking to rekindle the simple joy of making music with others, this group is for you. We will foster a fun and supportive community together as a biweekly jam session playing hymns, blues, rock, bluegrass, and beyond. Open to anyone, **10th grade through retired**. If you can't bring your own instrument, we will have extras on hand. Register at ccum.net/openchord.

The Church on Mission: A Study in Acts

Beginning Sunday, September 7 at 6 pm | Room 003/004

This fall, join **Mike Porter** as we journey through the book of Acts and discover the church's call to mission. Together, we'll explore how the early believers lived out Christ's command and how we can continue that mission today.

Registration is encouraged but not required, ccum.net/adultclasses. Come be **encouraged, challenged, and equipped** to live on mission!

SENIOR ADULTS

SAM Lunch and Program | Monday, September 8 | 11:30 am

For our first fall luncheon, **Chef Teresa White** from **Dare to Care Food Bank** will teach us how the community around Louisville works together to develop means for ending hunger in our area. Learn how we can be involved in the mission to help every neighbor to have enough food by serving and partnering with organizations throughout our city. Then pick from those yummy **Gracious Plenty** boxed lunches. Register at ccum.net/sam.

WOMEN

Women's Bible Study | Beginning Thursday, September 4 | 5:30 - 7 pm | Room 260 Our Lord speaks to us one-on-one. He meets us where we are, despite who we are and reveals His will for our lives. Be encouraged to **dig deeper** in this **7-week study** of *He Speaks to Me*, by Priscilla Shirer, led by Tish Muldoon. Register at ccum.net/women.