

Christ Church United Methodist

August 31, 2025

(live-streamed & in - person) 10 am

Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Prelude
Matthew Vanover, organ

Theodore Dubois

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Mike Porter

Leader: Great is your Faithfulness, O God our Father!

People: As you have been, you forever will be!

Leader: All we have needed your hand has provided,

People: In Summer and Winter, in Springtime and Harvest,

Leader: As the Sun, Moon, and Stars hold their courses above,

People: We join with all nature, in manifold witness, to the very ends of the earth.

All: We proclaim your great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Lord, teach us to be your Witnesses.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Hymn 140

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

***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**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hymn 384

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

BAPTISMAL COVENANT (11:15 am)

Welford Phelps Kington (5/5/2025) son of George and Jessie Kington

Pastor: Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin
and your commitment to Christ?

People: We do.

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include
Wells now before you in your care?

People: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according
to the example of Christ. We will surround Wells with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may
grow in her service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way
that leads to life.

Pastor: Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care
Wells, 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 Wells, 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**

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hymn 384

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,

till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

◇ 9:00

Write Your Blessed Name
Chapel Choir

K. Lee Scott

‡ 11:15

One Faith, One Hope, One Lord
Chancel Choir; David Catlett, trumpet

Craig Courtney

*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

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

(9:00) Peter Lovett
(11:15) John Brunner

SERMON

Lord, Teach us How to Witness

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

CALL TO PRAYER

They'll Know We Are Christians

FWS 2223

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

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.

*CLOSING HYMN

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

Hymn 383
st. 1-4

This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in Seven
Matthew Vanover, organ

John Rutter

◇ Mark Benz, conductor; Daniel Light piano

‡ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light piano

Fifth Sunday Offering

The Kentucky United Methodist Children's Home family has always continued to have a generous and compassionate heart for vulnerable children. This offering represents 25% of critical income for the children who are dependent on these gifts to find healing. If donating by check, please write Fifth Sunday in the memo line, or you can give online at ccum.net/give.

This Morning

The flowers have been placed in the chancel area this morning in loving memory of Mike Powers by his family, Wanda, Mark, Sarah, Nigel, Patrick and Jonathan.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members:

Billie and Richard Luckett on the death of Billie's sister, Anna Prather, who died August 21.

Mike and Kay Peak on the death of Mike's father, Rich Peak, who died August 25. Christian sympathy is also extended to grandchildren, Nick and Jenny.

Announcements

Building Hours | The church building will close:

2 pm Sunday, August 31

Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day

Last Twilight Market of the Season! | Thursday, September 4 | 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Join us for an evening of food, music, and shopping! Enjoy fresh baked goods, unique gifts, local vendors, and the bluegrass sounds of The Brothers' Mother—all while connecting with friends.

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!

Travel Sized Toiletry Items Needed! We'll be making **Healthy Care Bags** on Christ Church Cares Day and hope to fill 100 – 150 gallon-size Ziplock bags. Find the list of **new, travel-size items** needed at ccum.net/cccd. Donations can be dropped off through September 7 in Gathering Hall.

Diaper Drive | August 24 - September 12

We are collecting **diapers of all sizes** to benefit Mama to Mama and Play Cousins Collective. These worthy organizations work to promote the health of Louisville's pregnant black mothers and their families. Collection bins are located in the Gathering Hall and under the portico.

Weekday Desk Volunteers needed! We would love to have you join our incredible weekday crew! For more information, contact Gina Perry at <mailto:gina@ccum.net> or 502-882-9685.

Children's Ministry is growing, and we invite you to be a part of it! We're looking for **4-6 leaders to serve during the 10 am hour** at least one hour a month. Fill out our interest form to get started at ccum.net/cmlead.

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. Then pick from those yummy **Gracious Plenty** boxed lunches. Register at ccum.net/sam.

ADULT

September Adult Classes | Wednesday evenings | 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.

The Church on Mission: A Study in Acts

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

Join **Mike Porter** as we journey through the book of Acts and discover the church's call to mission. We'll explore how the early believers lived out Christ's command and how we can continue that mission today. Register at ccum.net/adultclasses.

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.

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. Join this **7-week study** of *He Speaks to Me*, by Priscilla Shirer, led by Tish Muldoon. Register at ccum.net/women.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

Pass It On Kids Sale

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

Our semi-annual kids' consignment sale begins soon! Shop hundreds of items! For questions and more information **text Whitney Fontaine** at (502) 797-7175. Consignor and volunteer **registration** at ccum.net/passiton!

Acolyte Training | Sunday, September 14 | 10 - 11 am | Sanctuary

Acolyte training is open to all **4th and 5th graders**, including current acolytes. If you are interested in learning about this special ministry, come join us! Contact Elizabeth Powell with questions: egolden0@hotmail.com.