

Christ Church United Methodist

April 26, 2026

9 am

Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace
Matthew Vanover, organ

arr. Fred Swann

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Amy Chapman

Leader: The Lord is my Shepherd. I don't need a thing.

People: **You make me to lie down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools
from which to drink. True to your word, you let me catch my breath, you grant me a chance to begin
afresh, and you send me in the right direction.**

Leader: Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I am not afraid when you walk by my side.

People: **Your shepherd's staff makes me feel secure.**

Leader: You serve me a meal right in the presence of my enemies.

People: **You revive my drooping head and my cup brims with blessing.**

Leader: Surely, your beauty and love, your goodness and mercy, shall chase after me every day of my life.

People: **And I shall dwell back home – in the house of God – all the days of my life.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

Hymn 128
st. 1-3

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me. [Refrain]

Lord, I would place my hand in thine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me. [Refrain]

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
 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,
 who with the Father and the Son
 is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in the 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.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

Hymn 163

Ask ye what great thing I know, that delights and stirs me so?
 What the high reward I win? Whose the name I glory in?
 Jesus Christ, the crucified.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

Hymn 163

This is that great thing I know; this delights and stirs me so:
 faith in him who died to save, him who triumphed o'er the grave:
 Jesus Christ, the crucified.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

Jesus, Lord to Me
 Mark Berlin, solo

McSpadden/Nelson

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise Him, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the sources of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*SCRIPTURE

John 10:1-10

SERMON

When You Recognize the Voice

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

CALL TO PRAYER

Bless the Lord

Taizé

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul who leads me into life.

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

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Hymn 381
st. 1, 3, 4

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

Thou hast promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
We will early turn to thee.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
We will early turn to thee.

Early let us seek thy favor,
early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!

Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

CWM RHONDDA
Matthew Vanover, organ

Paul Mainz

*indicates standing as you are able

Order of Worship Notations:

Call to Worship: *Psalm 23, The Message/NRSV/KJV*

Call to Prayer: *Used by permission One License A 702340*

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.

Staff Update

The Staff Parish Relations Committee and Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant, are delighted to announce that **Lauren Libert** will join Christ Church as our new **Executive Director** beginning April 27. We are thrilled to welcome her to the Christ Church family and look forward to the leadership, partnership, and heart she will bring to our community!

Announcements

Sanctuary Concert Series: *The Creation* | Tonight, April 26 | 7 pm

Sanctuary Series presents **Joseph Haydn's masterwork, *The Creation***, featuring the Chancel Choir, orchestra, and soloists Emily Albrink, Jesse Donner and Aaron Eaves. Haydn's monumental work retells the story of creation from the book of Genesis, **celebrating God's power** to bring light out of darkness and order out of chaos. **Joyful and uplifting**, this masterpiece is as relevant today as it was at its premiere in 1798. A freewill offering will benefit Lighthouse Academy at Newburg.

The Pastor's Pick | Wednesday, April 29* | 10 - 11:30 am | Room TBD

Join **Pastor Eric** this month as he discusses *The Vanishing Church: How the Hollowing Out of Moderate Congregations is Hurting Democracy* by Ryan Burge. This is a thoughtful and challenging book **for anyone who loves the church** and wonders what has happened to our unity—and what it might take to rebuild it. Please visit ccum.net/classes to sign up and purchase the book. (*Please note the day/date change)

Senior Blessing Sunday | Sunday, May 17

Senior year is an **exciting time** of endings and beginnings! Your Christ Church family wants to recognize and celebrate this important life event with you. During the 9 am and 11:15 am worship services, we will recognize our high school seniors and their parents in a **Senior Blessing service**. If you'd like to participate, please sign up at ccum.net/youth by Sunday, May 10.

Weekday Desk Volunteers are needed!

Have you ever wondered what's involved in **greeting folks** during the week? Work as often or as little as you like. For more information, contact Gina Perry, gina@ccum.net or 502-882-9685.

Men's Breakfast | Saturday, May 9 | 8 am | Fellowship Hall

Men of all ages are invited to join us monthly for **breakfast, fellowship** and a **guest speaker**. Don't miss this last gathering before we break for the summer as we hear from **Mark Coile** about CCUM's Welcome Ministry and hosting the upcoming KYUMC Annual Conference.

Grief Support Group | Wednesdays, May 6 - 27 | 10 - 11:30 am | Room 159

Experiencing the death of a loved one is something **you do not have to walk through alone**. As you are grieving, transitioning, and coping, we invite you to attend our **weekly Grief Support Group**, facilitated by Jane Myers, Pastoral Counselor and Rev. Amy Chapman, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care. Join us for a time of sharing, learning about the tasks of grief, and holding one another up with care. Register at ccum.net/care.

SAM Lunch and Program | Monday, May 11 | 11:30 am | Fellowship Hall

Second Chances Wildlife Center will visit us with some special ambassador friends. **Brigitte Brouillard**, a state and federally permitted wildlife rehabilitator, is the Founder and Director of Second Chances Wildlife Center. After the program we'll enjoy a tasty boxed lunch. **Register for lunch** at ccum.net/sam by 12 pm on May 8.

Booked For Lunch | Thursday, May 14 | 12 pm | Room 156

Monthly **book club for women** of all ages who believe novels provide a powerful avenue for thinking more deeply about God and the world. This month's book is *An Unfinished Love Story* by Doris Kearns Goodwin. Bring a lunch, if you like, and join us. Visit ccum.net/women for more information.

Handbell Showcase | Sunday, May 17 | 12:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Celebrate the Sesquicentennial Year of the USA along with the Christ Church Handbell Ministry! Join us as our High School Ringers and all of our Adult Handbell groups present a program of music to **honor and celebrate** our nation's birth. You will hear patriotic favorites and hymn tunes that reflect our faith and theological heritage. A picnic style lunch will be provided. Sign up at ccum.net/showcase.

Living Proof Showcase | Pentecost Sunday, May 24

Come celebrate the many ways that Christ Church lives out its faith! On **Pentecost Sunday**, we'll gather for **one combined worship service at 10 am**, followed by a **churchwide lunch** and a vibrant, interactive **showcase of our ministries**. From building projects and creative arts to care teams and outreach efforts, you'll see how lives are being touched every day—and how you can jump in and be part of it. Food, fellowship and purpose—all in one place! [Registration coming soon.](#)

Vacation Bible School - Rainforest Falls | June 15 - 18 | 9 am - 12 pm

Kids will plunge into a **lifelong adventure** of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms. To **register or volunteer**, visit ccum.net/vbs.