

Christ Church United Methodist

January 5, 2025

(live-streamed & in - person) 10 am

Communion Sunday Epiphany Sunday Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Go Tell It
Matthew Vanover, organ

arr. Timothy Albrecht

INVOCATION

Rev. Melissa Head

*HYMN OF PRAISE

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

Hymn 254

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: Loving God,
we confess our sins against you and one another,
and pray that you will fill us with your light,
that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name,
without counting the cost.
In the name of Christ,
the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen.

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

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: God's light is present in this world.
Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness.
Present in the star, in all that guides us to love.
People: God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it.
God's grace is in the world, and our missteps will not overcome it.
All: We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

Rise Up Shepherd and Follow
Erin Cornett, solo

Mark Hayes

***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

***SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

***SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

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

I Wonder as I Wander
Mark Benz, Soloist

John Jacob Niles

Romance, Op. 2
Ben Williams, oboe

Carl Nielsen

In the Bleak Midwinter
Daniel Light, piano

arr. Daniel Light

The First Noel

Hymn 245
Stanza 5

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

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*CLOSING HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story

Hymn 156

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;
and that is just the reason I tell it now to thee. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.

And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

We Three Kings
Matthew Vanover, organ

arr. Paul Manz

***Announcements are located on the following pages*

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.

Announcements

Charge Conference | January 26 | 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 19 to gina@ccum.net.

Senior Adult Ministry Leadership Update

With the retirement of Liz Curtis Higgs on December 31, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) expresses heartfelt gratitude for her incredible leadership and dedication to the Senior Adult Ministry (SAM). Liz's contributions have been a true blessing to this ministry and to Christ Church. The SPRC is actively evaluating the needs of SAM to ensure its continued vitality. Activities are planned through May (the first event of 2025 is the SAM Luncheon on February 10), and this ministry remains a priority for Christ Church. We are committed to supporting SAM as we discern the best path forward for its leadership. Stay tuned for updates as plans develop!

CARE

Grief Support | Prayer Room 150b | 11 am | Wednesdays, January 8 - February 26

Experiencing the death of a loved one is something you do not have to walk through alone. As you are grieving, transitioning, and coping, you can **receive support and encouragement** through your church. If you have questions, email Melissa at melissa@ccum.net.

MEN

Men's Lunch - Meet and Meat! | Sunday, January 12 | 12:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

All men are invited to join us immediately following the 11:15 am worship service for **lunch, fellowship and fun!** We're excited to welcome our **guest speaker, Rear Admiral Gene Price** (Retired). The menu features smoked ham, baked beans and macaroni and cheese. Please note that there will be no Men's Breakfast in January, so this lunch is a great opportunity to connect. Please sign up at ccum.net/men.

SERVE

Roll up your sleeve and join us for the next **Red Cross Blood Drive** on **Tuesday, January 7** from 1 - 6 pm in Fellowship Hall! Please schedule an appointment by contacting Kim Brice at (502) 727-2581. Walk-ins are also welcome.

WOMEN

Booked For Lunch is a **monthly book club for women** of all ages! We believe fiction stories provide a powerful avenue for thinking more deeply about God and the world. We **meet the 2nd Thursday of every month at noon**—bring a lunch and join us! The next meeting is **Thursday, January 9** in Room 156 at 12 pm to discuss *Cooking for Picasso* by Camille Aubray.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

Created By God 2025 | February 14 - 16

The human body is fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139)! Created By God is a **weekend retreat** designed to help prepare fifth 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 9 | 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!

FELLOWSHIP

New to Christ Church? Looking to learn more? Join Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant and Rev. Amy Chapman for **Belong! A Christ Church Connect Class**, Sundays in February at 10 am in the Chapel. Register at ccum.net/belong; registration is encouraged but not required.

FAMILY

Marriage Retreat | February 21 - 22, 2025

This fun overnight retreat is an amazing opportunity to spend time with your spouse, celebrate what's going well in your marriage and learn some practical tools to STRENGTHEN your relationship! The retreat takes place at the AC Marriott in NULU with dinner at La Bodeguita de Mima. Register at ccum.net/ministries/adult.

ARTS

A.W.E. Open Art Studio | Wednesdays, January 15, 22, and 29 | 6 pm | Art Room

Join the A.W.E. (Art | Wonder | Experience) Ministry for Open Studios on Wednesday evenings! Everyone, ages 11-111+ is welcome and childcare is available!

Feel free to bring your works in progress. We also have plenty of paper, paints, drawing materials and more for anyone who want to dabble in something new. We'll have some regular art friends on hand to help try a new technique or medium. No experience necessary!