

Christ Church United Methodist

June 29, 2025

(in - person) 9 am
(live-streamed & in - person) 11:15 am

Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Melissa Head

PRELUDE

Travelin' Strangers
John Maynard, solo
Adeline Elliott, violin; Andrew Blosser, clarinet

arr. Andrew Blosser

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

Leader: Live by the Spirit, for you are called to freedom!

People: Christ has set us free!

Leader: Let us also be guided by the Spirit!

People: Let us not become conceited, competing with one another.

Leader: Everything we know about God's word is summed up in a single sentence:

People: Love your neighbor as you love yourself.

All: That's an act of true freedom.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymn 144

This Is My Father's World
This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
he shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world.
O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King; let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let the earth be glad!

***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

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.

BAPTISMAL COVENANT (9 am)

Jeffrey Paul Schroeder (8/7/2024) son of Tyler and Becky Schroeder

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
Jeffrey 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 Jeffrey with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may
grow in his 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
Jeffrey, 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 Jeffrey, 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

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

◇ 9:00

Many Gifts, One Spirit
The Benz and Blosser Families

Allen Pote

‡ 11:15

Breathe on Me, Breath of God
Chancel Choir
Erin Cornett, solo

Philip Wilby

*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

Galatians 5:13-25

(9:00) Scott Dickens
(11:15) Mark Coile

*This worship series invites the gathered community into a
renewed hearing of scripture by using The Message, Eugene Peterson.*

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 | version: The Message

13-15 It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then?

16-18 My counsel is this: Live freely, animated and motivated by God's Spirit. Then you won't feed the compulsions of selfishness. For there is a root of sinful self-interest in us that is at odds with a free spirit, just as the free spirit is incompatible with selfishness. These two ways of life are contrary to each other, so that you cannot live at times one way and at times another way according to how you feel on any given day. Why don't you choose to be led by the Spirit and so escape the erratic compulsions of a law-dominated existence?

19-21 It is obvious what kind of life develops out of trying to get your own way all the time: repetitive, loveless, cheap sex; a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness; trinket gods; magic-show religion; paranoid loneliness; cutthroat competition; all-consuming-yet-never-satisfied wants; a brutal temper; an impotence to love or be loved; divided homes

and divided lives; small-minded and lopsided pursuits; the vicious habit of depersonalizing everyone into a rival; uncontrolled and uncontrollable addictions; ugly parodies of community. I could go on.

This isn't the first time I have warned you, you know. If you use your freedom this way, you will not inherit God's kingdom.

22-23 But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

23-24 Legalism is helpless in bringing this about; it only gets in the way. Among those who belong to Christ, everything connected with getting our own way and mindlessly responding to what everyone else calls necessities is killed off for good—crucified.

25 Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives.

SERMON

Let Freedom Ring!

Rev. Melissa Head

CALL TO PRAYER

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Hymn 420

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

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

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine
Holy Spirit, Truth divine,
dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God and inward light,
wake my spirit, clear my sight.

Hymn 465

Holy Spirit, Love divine,
glow within this heart of mine;
kindle every high desire;
perish self in thy pure fire.

Holy Spirit, Power divine,
fill and nerve this will of mine;
grant that I may strongly live,
bravely bear, and nobly strive.

Holy Spirit, Right divine,
King within my conscience reign;
be my Lord, and I shall be
firmly bound, forever free.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in F Major, BWV 157

J.S. Bach

Matthew Vanover, organ

◇ Daniel Light, piano

‡ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Matthew Vanover, organ

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 on the altar this morning are given by Leslie and Leon Thomas in honor of their children and grandchildren.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members:

The friends and family of Chris Berry, who died June 18. Chris was a former member of our custodial team.

Announcements

Honoring Melissa Head's Service

Throughout her almost 11 years of service at Christ Church, Melissa has made significant impacts on every aspect of how we live into our mission of *becoming living proof of God's love, one person at a time*. The love and support that she has brought to our care ministry has been an extraordinary blessing for us all. As Melissa departs for the next chapter of her journey, join us as we **show our appreciation for her** and wish her well during a **reception on Sunday, August 3 at 12:30 pm**. Melissa has written a beautiful letter to the congregation that can be viewed at ccum.net.

We're pleased to share that **Gina Perry** will be our new part-time **Senior Adult Ministries Coordinator beginning August 1**. Gina has served on staff at Christ Church since 2009 and we are very excited for her to be stepping into this new role!

Called to Write! Our next gathering is **Thursday, July 17** from **6:30 - 8 pm**. Published author Karen H. Richardson will share her expertise on "*Critique Groups: How to Start One, How They Work, How They Help*." Wherever you are in your writing journey, we promise it will be **informative and fun**. Consider bringing one page of your work-in-progress to share.

Twilight Market | Thursday, July 10 and 24 | 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Artisans, crafters, makers and bakers deliver sweet summer memories to you, your family and friends old and new. These summer markets are also a **wonderful opportunity to engage** in the mission of *becoming living proof of God's love, one person at a time*. **Invite** your neighbors and come meet new friends. If you or someone you know would be a great **vendor at a future market**, please invite them! **Vendor registration** and more details available at ccum.net/market.

MUSIC

Arsis Handbell Ensemble Concert | Wednesday, July 9 | 7 pm | Sanctuary

Join us for a truly unique musical experience as Christ Church welcomes the Arsis Handbell Ensemble from Estonia as part of their eight-city US tour this summer. Enjoy their **beautiful arrangements of classical favorites**, including Bach, Chopin, Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky. Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear one of Europe's most celebrated handbell groups! No charge for admission but a free will offering will be collected.

SERVE

Children's Ministry Faith Formation Volunteers Needed

Summer is right around the corner, and we **urgently need more volunteers** to lead in our classrooms. Please prayerfully consider signing up to serve as a Children's Ministry **10 am Faith Formation leader** at least one hour a month. Without leaders, there is no Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings. Please visit ccum.net/cmlead for more information and to sign up!

Weekday Desk Volunteers are needed! Work as little or as much as you like! For information contact Gina Perry 882-9685 or gina@ccum.net.

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. Bring a lunch, if you like, and join us **Thursday, July 10 in Room 156 at 12 pm**, to discuss *The Language of Flower* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. Visit ccum.net/women for more information.

JOB OPENINGS

Children's Ministry is looking for **Sunday childcare workers** for Infants thru Pre-K. Must be 18 or older. Contact Gina Perry at 882-9685 or gina@ccum.net.

Christ Church School is Hiring

Christ Church School is looking for lead/assistant teachers, support teachers and substitutes, both full time and part time. We have openings for the 2025-20256 School year. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact the school at (502) 882-9963 or visit ccum.net/school.