

Christ Church United Methodist

May 18, 2025

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

Senior Blessing Sunday Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Jerusalem, My Happy Home
Celebration Ringers
Mark Benz, conductor

arr. Anna Laura Page

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Melissa Head

Leader: Lord Jesus, there are times when our hearts are heavy, and it feels
as though we seek You and cannot find You.

People: Remind us, Lord, that even when we cannot see You, You know the path we walk.

Leader: When we face the heartache of departures and struggle to understand the empty spaces,

**People: Your love never gives up. It does not demand what it does
not have. It cares for others more than for itself.**

Leader: Love does not keep count of wrongs. It does not delight in others'
failures. Love always hopes, always trusts, always seeks the good.

People: By this, everyone will know we are Your disciples—by our love for one another.

All: Love never fails.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

Hymn 166
st. 1 – 4

All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine,
didst yield the glory that of right was thine,
that in our darkened hearts thy grace might shine:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou can'st to us in lowliness of thought;
by thee the outcast and the poor were sought,
and by thy death was God's salvation wrought:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
who wast a servant, that we might be free,
humbling thyself to death on Calvary:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose,
thou art high exalted o'er all creatures now,
and given the name to which all knees shall bow:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
Shall tribulation or distress,

or persecution or famine,
or nakedness or peril or sword?

People: No!

In all things we are more than conquerors
through the One who loved us.
We are sure that neither
death nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine* Hymn 166
Let every tongue confess with one accord
in heaven and earth that Jesus Christ is Lord:
and God the Father be by all adored: Alleluia! Alleluia!

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR BLESSING (see insert at the end of the bulletin)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

MUSICAL RESPONSE *Open My Eyes, That I May See* Hymn 454
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

◇ 9:00

Christians, We Have Met to Worship
Chapel Choir

arr. Lloyd Larson

‡ 11:15

Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace
Chancel Choir

Mary McDonald

*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 14:23-29

(9:00) Shelah Woodruff
(11:15) Josiah Brock

CALL TO PRAYER

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Taizé

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call answer me.
 O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

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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

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

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 will one day be restored.

Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
 yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
 We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
 And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

We Will work with each other, we will work side by side;
 We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
 And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
 And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
 And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Amazing Grace"

J. Christopher Pardini

Matthew Vanover, organ

◊ Mark Benz, conductor; Daniel Light, piano

*indicates standing as you are able

‡ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light, piano

This Morning

The altar flowers this morning are given by Betsy and Harry Wall in memory of their parents, Dorothy Conlin Hultman and Thomas Henry Wall IV.

Announcements

College Graduate Recognition | Sunday, June 1

Christ Church would like to recognize our recent college graduates in the bulletin on Sunday, June 1. Please provide your information at ccum.net/collegegrad. Deadline is Sunday, May 25.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. We stand with individuals and communities across the nation striving to **break the stigma** surrounding mental health challenges. We are grateful for our **Pastoral Counselor, Jane Myers**, who has faithfully served our church for over 11 years. To schedule a time to meet with Jane, please call (502) 893-2201, ext. 230. You can also **support this vital ministry** by contributing to the Pastoral Counseling Fund at www.ccum.org/pastoralcare.

Mark your calendars for this year's summer **Twilight Market!**

Thursdays, June 12 & 26 | July 10 & 24 | 5:30 - 8:30pm

If you or someone you know would be a great **vendor**, please invite them! **Vendor registration** and more details available at ccum.net/market.

JOB OPENINGS

We're Hiring! Christ Church is seeking a **Part-Time Senior Adult and Church Hospitality Coordinator** to support our Senior Adult Ministry and oversee our hospitality efforts on Sundays. If you or someone you know has strong communication and organizational skills and a heart for ministry, visit ccum.net/jobs for more details and to apply.

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.

Part-time Digital Content Creator/Storyteller

Looking for someone with experience generating compelling and engaging content for various digital platforms, including websites, social media and digital publications. The ideal candidate must have strong writing and editing skills plus a keen eye for design. Visit ccum.net/jobs for more details and to apply.

ACTIVITIES

Handbell Showcase | Sunday, June 1 at 12:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Featuring Celebration, Carillon and Jubilate Ringers.

Please join us for a lite lunch as we feature music presented by our **Adult Handbell Ringers**. We hope you will come and enjoy this time of fellowship and entertainment.

SENIOR ADULTS

SAM Spring Outing | May 28

The SAM Team is excited to invite our seniors to a day of art and fun at the **Speed Art Museum**. We'll enjoy a **guided tour** and have time to explore independently. Lunch times will be staggered at the museum's lovely café, **Est. 1927 by Marigold**. We'll depart the church at 9:30 am, returning around 2:30 pm. The cost is \$30 per person, covering the transportation, museum entry, and tour. Lunch is not included and will be paid by the individual. **Register by 2 pm, Sunday, May 25**, at ccum.net/sam.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

VBS 2025 | *Road Trip: On the Go with God!* | June 16 - 19

Kids will experience twists, turns and excitement as they face new challenges and find strength in God's presence on this unforgettable trip! Registration is at capacity for PreK's -3rd graders - but there are **still spots left for 4th - 5th graders**, email help@ccum.net to register.

VBS **Snack Sign-Up**: From now through June 15th, you can drop off snack donations in the Gathering Hall. Visit ccum.net/vbs for a list of items needed and to sign-up.

ARTS

Pastel Plein Air Art at Locust Grove

Saturday, June 28 | 10 am | Locust Grove | 561 Blankenbaker Ln

Join us for a morning immersed in color and creativity at our Pastel Plein Air Art Class. This **outdoor session** invites artists of all levels to explore **oil pastels** while capturing the light and atmosphere of the season. Please visit ccum.net/awe to register, cost is \$25.

SERVE

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.

Do You Need Help After the Flood?

If you have been impacted by the recent flooding, **we're here for you**. Please contact Mike Porter at mike@ccum.net or call 502-897-9290. We would love to see how so we can offer assistance and support.

High School Senior Blessing Sunday

May 18, 2025



Today, we recognize our high school seniors and their parents in this important milestone and time of transition. Blessings will be exchanged between seniors and their parents while seniors receive a symbolic blanket. As a church family, we celebrate with them and affirm their faithfulness to their baptismal covenant. We bless our seniors who are sent as disciples for the transformation of the world by *becoming living proof of God's love, one person at a time.*



2025 High School Seniors

Seniors

Kaelin Abboud

Caden Allen

Amy Elizabeth Bagley

Isabelle Marie Bodart

Bethany Mae Chapman

Caroline Jane Fishback

Sophie Elizabeth Hooker

Isaac Kicklighter

William Johnathan
Gabriel Maynard

Walter James Roth IV

Parents

Mike and Courtney Abboud

Chris and Karen Allen

Scott and Cindy Bagley

Darren and Anna Bodart

James and Amy Chapman

Will and Jenny Fishback

Robert and Patty Hooker

Michael and Catherine Kicklighter

Todd and Leigh Ann Maynard

Walter and Olivia Roth

Grandparents*

Kay Wyssbrod

Stephanie and Doug Madison
Jane Rosenthal

Katherine Kicklighter

Richard and Billie Luckett

*Grandparents who are members of Christ Church



Blessing of the Seniors

Parents' Blessing

We thank God for the gift you are to us. We have experienced God's love, joy, and forgiveness as we have grown along with you. On those nights when we cannot wrap our arms around you, may you wrap yourself in this blanket and know you are loved.

Seniors' Blessing

I thank God for the wisdom you have shared and for the care you have given to me. I receive your blessing and go forth knowing that I am blanketed in the love of Christ and in the love of my family. For all that we are to one another, thanks be to God.

Congregation's Blessing

May this blanket remind you that the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go. You wear it now as a stole, a symbol of the life of ministry to which God calls you and to which we send you. May the warmth of this blanket, the grace of God, the peace of Christ, the power of the Spirit, and the fellowship and support of the Church be with you now and forever. Go forth with our blessing.



Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant, Senior Pastor
Bobby Patton, Director of Youth Ministries
Rev. Melissa Head, Associate Pastor
Rev. Amy Chapman, Associate Pastor

Displayed at the front of the church is the Confirmation Banner for this Senior Class, as a reminder of their journey together as brothers and sisters in Christ and their commitment to be his disciples.



"You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. . . . Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16, *The Message*