

Christ Church United Methodist

March 1, 2026

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

Second Sunday in Lent / Communion Sunday Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Simple Gifts
High School Handbells
Ben Williams, conductor

arr. Hal Hopson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard

Leader: God's promise arrives to us like a pure gift.

People: God gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Leader: People of God, lift your eyes! Lift your heads! Lift your hearts to the Lord!

People: We lift our eyes to the hills – from where does our help come?

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. This is what Jesus does: He leads us into life!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

Hymn 128
st. 1, 3, 4

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.

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]

And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me. [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: Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Let us all pray silently and confess our sins to God.

(All pray in silence)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Now hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners.

That proves God's love for us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

◇ 9:00

There Is a Balm in Gilead

One Voice

Mary McDonald

‡ 11:15

Be Still My Soul

Chancel Choir

Kenneth Plain

***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**

John 3:1-17

SERMON

Born from Above

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

Consecration John Ness Beck
Sarah Catlett, soprano; Deanna Catlett, piano

Arise, My Soul, Arise Dan Forrest
Deanna Catlett, piano

Moderato Johannes Brahms
Leah Catlett, viola; Deanna Catlett, piano

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy Hymn 121
There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
If our love were but more simple, we should rest upon God's word;
and our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN

To God Be the Glory Hymn 98
To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Te Deum

Jean Langlais

Matthew Vanover, organ

◇ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Kathy Kicklighter, piano

‡ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor

*indicates standing as you are able

Order of Worship Notations:

Call to Worship: *Inspired by Psalm 121; Romans 4:16-17*

This Morning

The altar flowers this morning are given in loving memory of our parents, Miriam and Bill Stinnett and Margaret and Emrole Spurgeon by Myra and Bill Stinnett.

The rose banner is hung in honor of:

Kendall Brown, born December 16. Kendall is the daughter of Clayton and Emily Brown and granddaughter of Holly Brown.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members:

Phillip and Teri Allen on the death of Teri's mother, JoAnn Schanander, who died February 18. Christian sympathy is also extended to grandchildren, Jack and Celia.

Friends and family of Marge Welch, who died February 23.

Announcements

Lenten Study | Beginning February 24 and 25

Tuesdays at 10 am **OR** Wednesdays at 6 pm | Room 250

Join **Pastor Eric** for this **weekly** Lenten Study, using Adam Hamilton's latest book, *Why Did Jesus Have to Die*.

Register at ccum.net/classes.

Prayer Labyrinth | Prayer Room

Walk our prayer labyrinth anytime the building is open.

Create Your Own W.D.J.D. Bracelet | Sundays during Lent | Fellowship Hall

Congregants of **all ages are invited** to make and take a bracelet as a reminder to ask the question throughout this Lenten season, "**What Does Jesus Do?**"! We hope that you will stop by!

Easter Lilies

Honor a loved one, past or present, by purchasing a \$15 lily that will decorate our church for Easter. Visit ccum.net/lent to purchase by Sunday, March 22 or contact Katie Banas at katie@ccum.net with questions.

Community Easter Event | March 28 | 10 am - 12 pm

All ages are invited to join the fun, as we move from the slow walk of Lent into the sprint of Holy Week to the empty tomb of Easter! Put on your best running shoes and **come ready to participate** in races with your friends or hop over to the special pre-K obstacle course challenge. Want to come but don't feel up to running? No problem! Make a floral "Resurrection bouquet", enjoy the sweetness of new life at Farmer Steve's traveling petting zoo and meet the Easter bunny! See you at the starting line! Ready? Set? Go!

SPECIAL ADVISORY

The scammers are at it again! Please know that staff will NEVER email you asking for gift cards, money or access to church directory information. If you have a question about an email you receive actually being from Christ Church staff, simply double check the email address (it should end in ccum.net). You can also call the church office at (502) 897-6421 to verify.

Pastor Eric's Fall 2026 River Rhine Journey | Trip dates: October 25 – November 1, 2026

Pastor Eric Bryant invites you on this unique opportunity for Christian community, spiritual growth, and shared exploration on this **Classical Rhine River Cruise**. Sailing through the breathtaking scenery of the Rhine Valley, you will have the privilege of traveling with **Tod Bolsinger**, noted author of *Canoeing the Mountains* and *Tempered Resilience*, who will share insight about **leadership, faith, and navigating change** in today's world. If you are interested in the trip, you can pick up an informational brochure at the front desk or contact Katie Banas, at katie@ccum.net, for a digital copy.

Pass It On Kids Sale | March 20 and 21

This semi-annual sale is coming soon! Shop for clothing, toys, books, shoes, furniture, equipment, maternity clothes and more! 40% of all proceeds are donated to mission projects selected by the PIOUS Committee. To sign up to **volunteer or consign**, visit ccum.net/passiton. Questions? Text Whitney Fontaine: 502-797-7175.

Sanctuary Concert Series presents The Concordia Choir

Tuesday, March 3 | 7 pm | Sanctuary

Under the direction of Dr. Michael Culloton, the **renowned 70-voice** Concordia Choir returns during their 2026 tour. Join us for an **eclectic program of traditional and contemporary choral works** presented by one of America's finest a cappella choirs. A freewill offering will benefit the University of Louisville Wesley Foundation.

Volunteers Needed - Due to the expected concert attendance, we are looking for greeters like we have for our Christmas concerts. If you are able to help, please contact Mark Coile at mark@ccum.net.

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.

Welcome Ministry Volunteers

We are looking to significantly **increase our welcoming presence** on Sundays and during special events, and we need you! Please consider becoming a part of this important ministry - you can **sign up to learn more** at ccum.net/welcometeam. There will be a kickoff luncheon in March, so stay tuned for more details!

Snacks in Sacks Packing Event | Saturday, March 7 | 9 - 10:30 am | Fellowship Hall

Join us for a Snacks in Sacks **bag-filling event** that will assist our neighbors experiencing homelessness and hunger. The assembled sacks will support **Jacob's Ladder Outreach** and **Louisville Outreach for the Unsheltered**. This is a great service opportunity for all ages and for families to serve together. Sign up at ccum.net/snacks.

SAM Luncheon and Program | Monday, March 9 | 11:30 am | Fellowship Hall

Rev. Robin Jennings will explore **how God speaks to us** personally and directly through the soul, drawing on themes from his latest book, *Expressions of the Soul: Celtic Christianity and Life with God*. After the program, we'll enjoy a boxed lunch from Gracious Plenty. The program is free and lunch is \$15. Register at ccum.net/sam by Friday, March 6 at 12 pm.

Booked For Lunch | Thursday, March 12 | 12 pm | Room 156

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 wish, and join them! At the next meeting they'll be discussing *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans.

Scout Fundraiser - Chili Cook-Off | March 15 | After the 11:15 am Service

Enter your best recipe and compete - **All cooks are welcome!**

Prefer to taste-test? For \$5, you'll get unlimited samples, 3 votes to crown your favorites and a hearty lunch. Donations will be taken at the door. There are two ways to join the fun: **Register** to submit your chili at ccum.net/chili and/or register to attend lunch and the taste-testing at ccum.net/scoutlunch. Bring your appetite, your competitive spirit and maybe a glass of milk - it's going to be deliciously spicy!