

Christ Church United Methodist

May 17, 2026

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

Ascension Sunday / Senior Blessing Sunday Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Aria
Matthew Vanover, organ

Andrew Carter

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Amy Chapman

Leader: May the God of glory make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for his followers, and the utter extravagance of his work in us who trust him!

People: God raised Christ from death and set him in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule, forever.

Leader: Christ is in charge of it all and has the final word on everything. At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church.

People: The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence and gives the world a fresh start and new life.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Crown Him with Many Crowns
Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Hymn 327

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
and round his pierced feet

fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

***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**

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Hymn 157

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom spread from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

BAPTISMAL COVENANT

(9 am) Caroline Elizabeth Yackey (12/1/2025) daughter of Danny and Kirsty Yackey
(11:15 am) Clark William Haynes (3/7/2012) son of Nick and Becca Haynes

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
(9 am) Caroline (11:15 am) Clark 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 her/him with a community of love and forgiveness, that she/he may grow in her/his service to others. We will pray for her/him, that she/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
(9 am) Caroline (11:15 am) Clark, whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that she/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 (9 am) Caroline (11:15 am) Clark, 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

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Hymn 157

**Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!**

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

◇ 9:00

O God Beyond All Praising
Chancel Choir

Dan Forrest

11:15

Alleluia
Jody Gravatte, soprano
Daniel Light, piano

W.A. Mozart

*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!**

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR BLESSING (see insert)

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.

2026 High School Seniors

<u>Seniors</u>	<u>Parents</u>	<u>Grandparents*</u>
Sarah Grace Benz	Mark & Ashley Benz	
Meghan Jean Chappars	Jim & Stephanie Chappars	Steve & Robin Chappars
Jackson David Wayne Cravens	Trevor & Analese Cravens	
Mary Elizabeth Dohn	Eddie & Megan Dohn	
Tyler S. Duncan	Kristen & Scott Duncan	Debbie Hale
Elijah James Jerger	Matt & Kimberly Jerger	Karen Jerger
Mary Claire McKnight	Jay & Stacy McKnight	
Grace Elizabeth Myers	John & Jessica Myers	
Nathan Patrick Pennell	Aaron & Heather Pennell	
Thomas Raymond	Edye & Peter Raymond	
Lainey Collier Reeves	Joe & Charla Reeves	
Alexander Jeffrey Reynolds	Jaime & Jeff Reynolds	Craig & Mary Anne Reynolds Susie Comstock
Eva Elizabeth Robison	Brad & Ellen Robison	
Ellasyn Brooke Schuster	Cortnea & Jeff Schuster	
Malorie Shea Taylor	Brigid & Jay Taylor	Pam Taylor & Jim Taylor
James Alexander Tennill	Kelley & Jimmy Tennill	Jim Tennill & Priscilla Garland Priscilla Pash
Wade S. Thompson	Allison & Chris Thompson	

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.

*SCRIPTURE

Luke 24: 44-53

(9:00) Riley Cravens
(11:15) Sarah Grace Benz

HOMILY

The Blessing That Sends Us

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

CALL TO PRAYER

He Is Lord

Hymn 177

**He is Lord, he is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

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

How Firm a Foundation

Hymn 529

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Praeludium in G Major, BWV 557
Matthew Vanover, organ

J.S. Bach

◇ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light, piano
*indicates standing as you are able

Order of Worship Notations:

Call to Worship: *Ephesians 1: 15-23 selected, The Message*

This Morning

The altar flowers this morning are given by Betsy and Harry Wall in memory of their parents, Dorothy and Walter Hultman and Thomas H. Wall III.

The rose banner is hung in honor of:

Lycan Philip Guetling, born April 22. He is the son of Clay and Christie Guetling and grandson of Gil and Jane Hubbard.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members:

Friends and family of Betty Lee Graham, who died May 11.

Janet Waddle Seron on the death of her husband, Terry Waddle, who died May 12.

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** (don't forget to **wear red**), 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! Please register at ccum.net/livingproof.

Announcements

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

Celebrate the Semiquincentennial Year of the USA along with the Christ Church Handbell Ministry! Join us as our High School and Adult Handbell groups present a program of music to **honor and celebrate** our nation's birth through patriotic favorites and hymn tunes that reflect our faith and theological heritage.

Sacred Worth, a ministry of LGBTQIA members and allies, **will not meet today**. Their next meeting will be on Sunday, June 21. Everyone is welcome!

Walk on Wednesday with SAM! Grab your walking shoes and join your Senior Adult Ministry friends, as we **explore local walking paths in May**. We'll meet each Wednesday just before **10 am** at the designated point, then walk as long as we want. Set your own pace and pause when you like. You'll find both the company and the conversation upbeat. Register at ccum.net/sam.

Grief Support Group | Wednesdays, through May 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. Register at ccum.net/care.

The Pastor's Pick - May | Tuesday, May 26 | 10 - 11:30 am | Room 250

Join Pastor Eric for this month's installment of The Pastor's Pick! May's book, *Mattering: The Secret to a Life of Deep Connection and Purpose* by Jennifer Breheny Wallace explores the **fundamental human need to feel valued** and to add value. Visit ccum.net/classes to register and to order the book.

Attention **College Graduates!** If you are graduating from college this year and would like to be recognized by the church, please register online at ccum.net/collegegrad, by Tuesday, May 26. We would **love to celebrate** this important milestone with you!

CCUM is hosting the **Annual Conference** of the Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church from **May 31 - June 3**. We are expecting 500+ attendees this year, and **we need a LOT of volunteers** to make this a success! If you have any availability during this time frame, please contact Mark Coile at mark@ccum.net.

Kentucky Shakespeare | Friday, June 5 | Central Park (1340 South Fourth Street)

CCUM is kicking off summer with a special Shakespeare outing! Join us for Kentucky Shakespeare's **free production** of *As You Like It*. The show begins at **8 pm**, but we'll enjoy a **special behind-the-scenes tour** with Producing Artistic Director Matt Wallace at **6:45 pm**. For more information, visit ccum.net/shakespeare.

Vacation Bible School - Rainforest Falls | June 15 - 18

Volunteer: We have opportunities for adults and youth to help us make VBS a wonderful experience this summer!

Snacktivity Collection: Help us collect the items we need for this fun VBS activity that offers a healthy snack and a great time for kids and volunteers!

Visit ccum.net/vbs for more information on snack items needed and to volunteer!