

Christ Church United Methodist

September 21, 2025

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

Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Contemplation
Matthew Vanover, organ

Alec Rowley

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Amy Chapman

Leader: The crops are in, the summer is over.

People: But for us, nothing has changed. We are still waiting to be rescued.

Leader: Are there no healing ointments, Lord? Is there no doctor in the house?

People: At such a time as this, O Lord, heal and save your dear, dear people.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to the throne thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore God's praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Hymn 66

Praise the Lord for grace and favor
to all people in distress;
praise God, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious now God's faithfulness.

Father-like, God tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame God knows;
mother-like, God gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet God's mercy flows.

Angels in the heights, adoring,
you behold God face to face;
saints triumphant, now adoring,
gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Blessed Assurance

Hymn 369

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

MUSICAL RESPONSE

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Taizé

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid;
lift up your voices: the Lord is near,
lift up your voices: the Lord is near.

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OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

◇ 9:00

He Never Failed Me Yet
Chancel Choir
Susan Blosser, solo

Robert Ray

‡ 11:15

Creation of Peace
One Voice and Laudate

Mark Miller

*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

Jeremiah 8:18 - 22

(9:00) Rev. Mike Porter
(11:15) Ben Blosser

SERMON

A Word Through Tears

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

CALL TO PRAYER

There Is a Balm in Gilead
Gordon Crawford, soloist; Daniel Light, piano

traditional

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

Jesus, United by Thy Grace
Jesus, united by thy grace
and each to each endeared,
with confidence we seek thy face
and know our prayer is heard.

Hymn 561

Help us to help each other, Lord,
each other's cross to bear;
let all their friendly aid afford,
and feel each other's care.

Up unto thee, our living Head,
let us in all things grow;
till thou hast made us free indeed
and spotless here below.

Touched by the lodestone of thy love,
let all our hearts agree,
and ever toward each other move,
and ever move toward thee.

To thee, inseparably joined,
let all our spirits cleave;
O may we all the loving mind
that was in thee receive.

This is the bond of perfectness,
thy spotless charity;
O let us, still we pray, possess
the mind that was in thee.

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Matthew Vanover, organ

◇ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Matthew Vanover, piano

‡ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Mark Benz, piano

Companion Litany to Our UMC Social Creed



*Sermon Series: For Such a Time as This
September 2025*



God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ,
calls us by grace
**to be renewed in the image of our Creator,
that we may be one
in divine love for the world.**

Today is the day
God cares for the integrity of creation,
wills the healing and wholeness of all life,
weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness.
And so shall we.

Today is the day
God embraces all hues of humanity,
delights in diversity and difference,
favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends.
And so shall we.

Today is the day
God cries with the masses of starving people,
despises growing disparity between rich and poor,
demands justice for workers in the marketplace.
And so shall we.

Today is the day
God deplores violence in our homes and streets,
rebukes the world's warring madness,
humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.
And so shall we.

Today is the day
God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace,
celebrates where justice and mercy embrace,
exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.
And so shall we.

Today is the day
God brings good news to the poor,
proclaims release to the captives,
gives sight to the blind, and
sets the oppressed free.
And so shall we.

This Morning

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Judy Lawhorn and Joyce Young in memory of their parents, Rev. Alton and Margaret Lawhorn, and J.W. and Ruth Knox.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members:

Debbie Fontaine on the death of her husband, Don Fontaine, who died September 10. Christian sympathy is also extended to sons, Matt (Whitney) and Brad and grandchildren, Sloane, Margot and Rhodes.

Announcements

A note from Debbie Yackey:

Thanks for the great response to the needlepoint Chrismon meeting. The group is currently at capacity but please watch for an announcement after Christmas about another round.

Wednesday Dinners and Classes | Wednesdays: October 8 - 29

Fellowship meal for all ages, followed by our second round of fall classes.

Dinner | 5:15 - 6 pm | Registration coming soon!

Classes | 6 - 7 pm | Registration: ccum.net/classes

Options include:

Every Neighbor Housed: A Christian Call to End Homelessness

Led by: Joy Monsma and Betsy Gibbs

Book Study of, *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt

Led by: Rev. Amy Chapman and Dr. Bryan Carter

CCUM: Fall Church-Wide Overnight Retreat

November 14 - 15 | Camp Loucon | Registration coming soon!

MUSIC

Open Chord: CCUM Music Ministry

Wednesday, September 24 | 6 - 7:30 pm | Room 002

Whether you have never picked up an instrument before, or you're a professional looking to rekindle the simple joy of making music with others, this group is for you. We will foster a fun and supportive community together as a **biweekly jam** session playing hymns, blues, rock, bluegrass, and beyond. Open to anyone, **10th grade through retired**. If you can't bring your own instrument, we will have extras on hand. Register at ccum.net/openchord.

Sanctuary Series presents The Youth Performing Arts School Jazz Ensemble

Sunday, October 19 at 7 pm | Sanctuary

The Youth Performing Arts School Jazz Ensembles, directed by Dr. Kevin Callihan and Conner Kinmon, participate in conferences, competitions and festivals throughout the nation. They are known for performances of new arrangements, progressive repertoire, virtuosic solos and challenging ensemble material. The program **invigorates interest in jazz** and **enables performance opportunities** and collaborations for young jazz musicians and enthusiasts in the Louisville metro area. A freewill offering will benefit West End School.

SENIOR ADULTS

SAM Lunch and Program | Monday, October 13 | 11:30 am

Jesse Hendrix-Inman and Lauren Hendrickson, from the **Olmsted Parks' Conservancy**, will describe the system and

all that happens within the parks for biodiversity, sustainability and community development. Then pick from those yummy **Gracious Plenty** boxed lunches. Register at ccum.net/sam by October 10.

Walk on Wednesday this Fall with SAM | Beginning October 1 | 10 am

Take a step toward fitness that's **free, safe, and fun!** Put on your walking shoes and join us for a **30-minute walk every Wednesday in October**. Details and registration: ccum.net/SAM.

SERVE

Roll up your sleeve and join us for the next **Red Cross Blood Drive** on **Tuesday, September 30** from 1 - 6 pm in Fellowship Hall! Please schedule an appointment by contacting Kim Brice at (502) 727-2581. **Walk-ins are also welcome.**

Medical • Security • Disaster Response

Join a Team at Christ Church! We are forming **3 new teams** to help care for, protect, and serve our church family and community. Whether through providing medical assistance, supporting church security, or responding to disasters, your skills and heart for service can **make a difference**. To learn more and find the team that fits you, visit ccum.net/prepared.

YOUTH/CHILDREN

Trunk or Treat and Community Fun Night!

We hope you'll join us for our annual fun and festive event on **Friday, October 24 from 6 - 7:30 pm**. We are inviting the entire community, so **we're asking for your help to make it a success!**

We need **30 Halloween-themed Decorated Car Trunks**, to bless our community with fun, creativity and connection. Whether your trunk is spooky, silly, or storybook-inspired, your participation will **light up the night** for local families! Sign up your car at ccum.net/children.

We need candy! Please **drop off individually wrapped candy** to collection bins at the Christ Church School entrance at Door 8 and in the Gathering Hall **by October 19**.

ARTS

Open Art Studio | Wednesday, September 24 | 6 - 8 pm | Art Room

Join the **A.W.E.** (Art | Wonder | Experience) Ministry for Open Studios, once a month on Wednesday evenings. Bring your work in progress or come and start something new – we have plenty of paper, paints, and drawing materials available. Everyone, ages 11-111+ is welcome and **childcare is available!**