

# Christ Church United Methodist

September 28, 2025

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

## Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

*Jubilant Praise*  
Carillon Ringers

Jantz Black

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard

Leader: Even when God is nowhere mentioned, God is everywhere assumed.

**People: To be a servant is to be like God, for God is in the creation serving it.**

Leader: God provides everything from the food to the sparrow to forgiveness for the sinner. No earthly leader is responsible for the formation or the survival of the community of faith.

**People: For such a time as this, we affirm that the community of faith exists by the Divine service and mercy of God.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Hymn 139  
st. 1-4

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;  
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning  
bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.  
God's care enfolds all, who true good he upholds.  
Hast thou not known his sustaining?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy life and restore thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,  
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.  
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,  
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

\*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

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Hymn 139

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.**

BAPTISMAL COVENANT (11:15 am)

Amelia Elise Stevens (3/7/2025) daughter of Sara and Greg Stevens

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 Amelia 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 Amelia with a community of love and forgiveness, that she  
may grow in her service to others. We will pray for her, that she 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

Amelia, whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that she  
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 Amelia, 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

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Hymn 140

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

◇ 9:00

*O Be Joyful, Sing to God*  
Chapel Choir

Michael Haydn

‡ 11:15

*I Wanna Be Ready*  
Chancel Choir; Portia Odette, soloist

Rosephanye Powell

\*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

*Esther 4: 1 - 17*

(9:00) Trudy Wheeler  
(11:15) Dennis Gray

SERMON

*For Such a Time as This*

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

CALL TO PRAYER

*Lead Me, Lord*

Hymn 473

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;  
make thy way plain before my face.  
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,  
that makest me dwell in safety.

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

*Here I Am, Lord*

Hymn 593

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here am I, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my words to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide, 'Til their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune*  
Matthew Vanover, organ

Andrew Carter

◇ Mark Benz, conductor; Matthew Vanover, organ

‡ Dr. Daniel Blosser, conductor; Daniel Light, 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 have been placed on the altar this morning by Theresa Bondurant in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Williams and sister, Cherrell Williams Rose.

## Christian Sympathy is extended to the following church members:

Mary Sarjeant on the death of her sister, Helen Marie Howard , who died September 17.

The friends and family of Diane Norwood, who died September 18.

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## Announcements

### 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 | Fellowship Hall | \$8 adults and \$4 kids

Register at [ccum.net/dinner](http://ccum.net/dinner) by **12 pm on Friday prior to the dinner**

October 8 menu: Pasta, salad, bread and dessert

**Classes** | 6 – 7:15 pm | Registration: [ccum.net/classes](http://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

Join us at Camp Loucon for a **Fall Discipleship Retreat for All Ages!** Singles, families, couples - all are invited! Enjoy worship, hayrides, free time and, of course - smores! The cost is \$75 per person and \$50 for each additional family member. Friday dinner, Saturday morning breakfast and Saturday lunch are included! Visit [ccum.net/camploucon](http://ccum.net/camploucon) for more information and to register.

## SENIOR ADULTS

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

Join us as we welcome Jesse Hendrix-Inman and Lauren Hendrickson from the **Olmsted Parks Conservancy**. They will discuss the complex park system and how it promotes biodiversity, sustainability and community development. After the program we'll enjoy those yummy **Gracious Plenty** boxed lunches. Register at [ccum.net/sam](http://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](http://ccum.net/SAM).

## 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](http://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**.

## MUSIC

### **Sanctuary Series** presents **The Youth Performing Arts School Jazz Ensemble**

Sunday, October 19 at 7 pm | Sanctuary

The YPAS 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.

## SERVE

Roll up your sleeve and join us for the next **Red Cross Blood Drive**, this **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](http://ccum.net/prepared).

### **Seeking 10 am Faith Formation Leaders!**

Our **Children's Ministry** is growing and we are **needing four to six** Faith Formation leaders to add another classroom to our 10 am hour. Please prayerfully consider signing up to serve as a Children's Ministry leader. For more information and to sign up, visit [ccum.net/cmlead](http://ccum.net/cmlead). If you are unable to serve, please reach out to a friend and invite them to consider this opportunity."