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Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 2, 2024
Eleven o'clock

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Only Christ can free us from the prison of legalism,
and then only if we are willing to be freed.

—Madeleine L'Engle

Christ Church Staff :

- Ms. Roseann DeGennaro, Church Administrator
- Dr. Steve Pilkington, Director of Music and Organist
- Mr. Brandon Batson, Director of Communication and Program
- Ms. Lydia Prather, Coordinator of Ministry for Children and Families
- Mr. Robert Heckner, Administrative Assistant
- Mr. Tyler Weakland, Director of the Bell Choir
- Ms. Amanda Smith, Director of the Parish Choir and Children's Choir
- The Rev. Dr. Stephen Bauman, Senior Minister Emeritus
- The Rev. Tyler Heston, Minister for Spiritual Formation & LGBTQIA+ Development
- The Rev. Mickey Correa, Minister of Christ Church Washington Heights
- The Rev. Dr. Eric Park, Senior Minister

The Mission of Christ Church

We seek to love God above all things, and our neighbors as ourselves.

*Christ Church Is A Reconciling Congregation:
Open, Welcoming, And Affirming.*

524 PARK AVENUE AT SIXTIETH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10065-8001 212 838 3036

Entrance

PRELUDE Simple Gifts (A Shaker Tune) arr. Sterling Procter

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: The psalmist declares, "Lord, you have searched me and known me."
Will you open yourselves to be searched by God?

People: Search us, O God, and know our hearts.

Minister: Will you seek God in return, that you might know and love
God in response to the depth with which God has known and loved you?

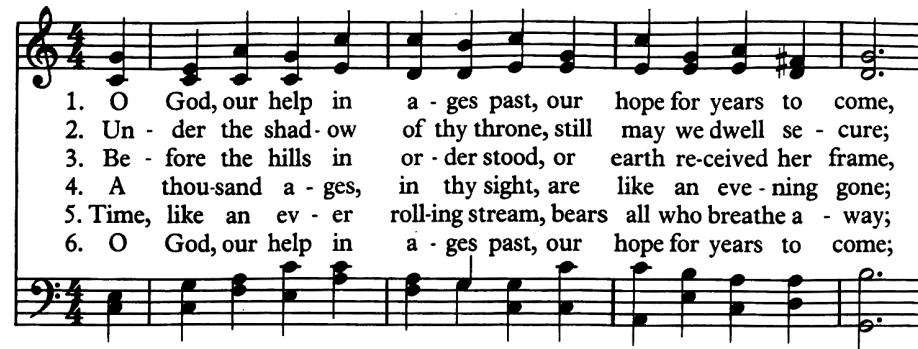
People: We will seek you, God, that we might know your heart.

Minister: The Triune God is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
Will you glorify the One who is Trinity?

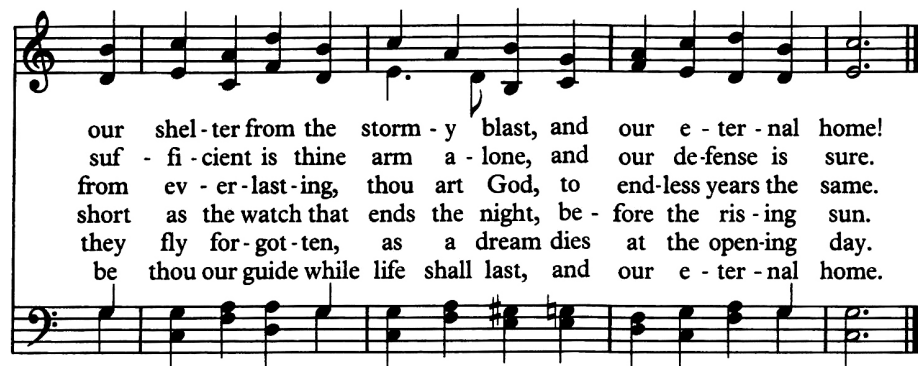
**People: We will offer our heartfelt songs of praise to you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!**

*HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2. Un - der the shad - ow of thy throne, still may we dwell se - cure;
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
4. A thou - sand a - ges, in thy sight, are like an eve - ning gone;
5. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, bears all who breathe a - way;
6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come;



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home!
suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing, thou art God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night, be - fore the ris - ing sun.
they fly for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the open - ing day.
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

Confession and Pardon

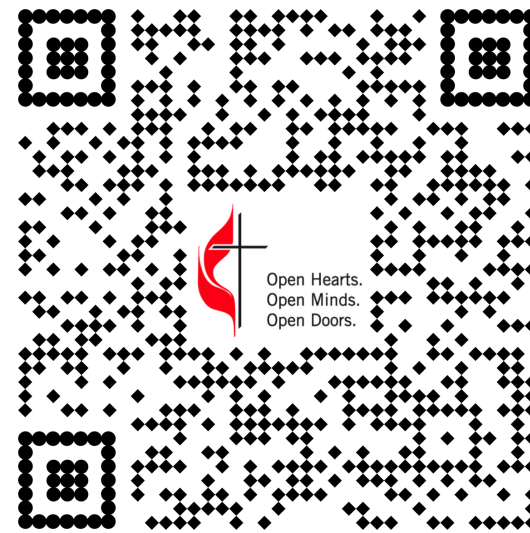
Minister: Even before we speak, God knows our wrongs. Yet our repentance
opens our hearts to the grace God longs for us to receive. Let us, then,
confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

**People: Gracious God, who formed our inward being and knows our
hearts, forgive us. Instead of sharing your mercy, we often
approach the world with a spirit of legalism. Instead of
practicing sacrificial love, we sometimes hide behind walls of
self-righteousness. Instead of bearing witness to the Living
Christ, too often our lives obscure his Way. Cleanse our hearts and
redirect us, that the goodness of Christ will become increasingly
evident in the faithfulness of our discipleship.**

Silent Prayer

Useful United Methodist Church Links:

The following code provides access to a variety of links related to the ministry of that portion of the Christian Church called United Methodism, including information about the denomination's work in disciple-making, spiritual formation, global missions, disaster relief, reconciling ministries, and the dismantling of racism. We invite you to explore the various websites and to utilize them in your personal spiritual journey.



I

1. Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
 2. O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
 3. Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
 4. Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that

new your_ im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
 fruit - less_ fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
 tize us_ in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
 we, when all our search - ing ends may see you face to face.

Minister: Siblings, hear the good news: In Christ, we died to our old selves and became new creations. Therefore, the life of Christ is within us, far greater than our sin.
 People: In Christ, we find forgiveness and new life! Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE I Come with Joy

Unison

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, for - giv - en,
 2. I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as
 3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di -

loved and free, in awe and won - der to re - call his
 all are fed, the new com - mun - i - ty of love in
 vi - sion ends. The love that made us makes us one, and

life laid down for me, his life laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mun - ion bread, in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.

*THE PEACE

Children are invited to Sunday School on the 3rd floor; nursery care on the 5th floor.

MINISTRY UPDATES

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

JULIANA ROWE

Come, Holy Spirit. Enable us to hear the voice of God as Samuel once did in the biblical story. Speak to us once again, and help us to listen. Through Jesus, your living Word. Amen.

A READING FROM FIRST SAMUEL, 3:1-12, 19-20

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ and he said, ‘Here I am!’ and ran to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call; lie down again.’ So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, ‘Samuel!’ Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call, my son; lie down again.’ Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’ Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’ Then the Lord said to Samuel, ‘See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK 2:23-3:6

One sabbath he was going through the cornfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, ‘Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?’ And he said to them, ‘Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.’ Then he said to them, ‘The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.’

Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, ‘Come forward.’ Then he said to them, ‘Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?’ But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

guests each week, and we always need new volunteers! A lead volunteer will give you an orientation on-site. Volunteers arrive at **3:00pm** to help make sandwiches and prepare for guests’ arrival. Doors open to guests at 4:00pm and dinner is served at 4:30pm. If you’d like to sign up or get more information, please see our website!

Christ Church Annual Outreach Benefit - June 13 at 6:00pm. Join us for an unforgettable evening at the Christ Church NYC Annual Outreach Benefit! On June 13th at 6:30 pm, immerse yourself in an atmosphere of philanthropy and community spirit. Hosted in our beautiful sanctuary, this event promises a delightful fusion of entertainment, fine dining, and meaningful connections. Experience the power of collective generosity as we come together to support our outreach initiatives, including Sharing Table, Methodist Home, Nido de Esperanza, and our mission in Cartagena, Colombia. With a meticulously crafted program and heartfelt testimonials, this gala is an opportunity to celebrate compassion and make a lasting impact. Don't miss this chance to be part of something truly special! Purchase your tickets at christchurchnyc.online/benefit. Ticket Deadline is June 2.

Pride Month at Christ Church NYC - Celebrate Pride Month at Christ Church NYC with a vibrant array of events including, Pride Kickoff, a special picnic, our Illuminate Pride Service, and more. Visit christchurchnyc.online/pride for a full list of activities.

Wonder Circle and Creation Care Group Outing - June 9 after the 11am Service, Join us for an afternoon outing to Central Park jointly hosted by the Wonder Circle and Creation Care Circle. We will meet after church to walk to the park together, where we will share in a light vegetarian meal provided by the Creation Care Circle and engage in a guided meditation and wonder together about our sacred connection to nature (even in a busy and bustling city).

Nido Graduation - Nido de Esperanza invites you to join us for the graduation of our families on **June 27th at 10am** at Christ Church, Park Avenue. The ceremony will take place in the sanctuary. Lunch and a reception will follow in Phillips Hall immediately following the ceremony at 11 am. Toddler music and dancing will ensue! Smiles are sure to follow. Your support makes this all possible so we would love to have our Christ Church family present. Please RSVP to alba@nidodeesperanzanyc.org if you plan to attend the reception so we ensure we have sufficient food.

Interfaith programming with Temple Emanu-El - Our neighbor Temple Emanu-El is offering a variety of programming opportunities to connect with folk from across faith traditions through dialogue groups about everything from meditation to making meals together. Christ Church NYC is partnering to host the monthly Queering the Bible & Beyond dialogue group; below is information about each of the upcoming opportunities. For more information, contact Dr. Alyssa Cady, Director of Center for Interfaith Dialogue, at Alyssa.Cady@emanuelnyc.org. For a full schedule please scan the QR code



Morning Prayer - Daily, **Monday through Friday at 8am.** Everyone is invited to join the Christ Church family for a short time of prayer and reflection each morning. Join the call via the events page on our website!

Children and Families - **Every Sunday** during the **11am** Service, preschool through fifth grade children are welcome to join us for Sunday School on the third floor. Nursery Care is available on the fifth floor.

Vacation Bible School at Christ Church! - Kids ages 3 to 11 are invited to join us, **August 26-30**, for a week long camp called Hero's Hotline. Our Heroes, the kids, will spring into action and explore the ultimate Hero Handbook, the Bible! We will discover how all Heroes can follow the examples set by a cast of Bible Heroes with stories from the Old and New Testaments. We will learn to work together to bring peace, build each other up, and share the great story of God's love for us! All are welcome! More details to come. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, reach out to Lydia Prather, Lydia@christchurchnyc.org.

Sharing Table Outreach - Sharing Table serves a hot meal and toiletries to over 130

*HYMN God Beyond all Praising
* The congregation remains seated and joins in singing verses one and three

1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,
and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;
for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,
at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:
we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,
we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

MESSAGE "A Liberation From Legalism"

Responding

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of every harvest, we offer our gifts, our lives, and the fruit of our labors to you, asking that, through what we have offered, you will expand the impact of your gospel and the ministry of your church. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERING ANTHEM

NOW GLAD OF HEART

K. LEE SCOTT

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Sung to "Christ the Lord is Risen Today")

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and God of might.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Alleluia!
Bless'd is he who comes in God's name,
Alleluia!
Hosanna in the highest heav'n,
Alleluia!**

Minister: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."
When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
On the day you raised him from the dead
he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread,
and in the power of your Holy Spirit, your Church has continued
in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Alleluia!
Christ will come again to reign,
Alleluia!**

Minister: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by
his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast together
at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your
holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

**All: Amen. Amen;
Alleluia!
Amen, Amen;
Alleluia!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and
forever. Amen.**

*THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*All are welcomed at God's Table; gluten free bread is available, please inform the Communion server of your need;
de-alcoholized wine is used in our celebration of the Lord's Supper.*

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in
which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may move
from this table and into the world in the strength of your
Spirit, that our lives might bear witness to the Bread of Life
and the Cup of Salvation. In the name of Jesus Christ our
Lord we pray. Amen.**

Going Forth

*HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

1. Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2. Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for thy gos - pel's

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of thy sal - va - tion

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound; ev - er faith - ful,

O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.

*BENEDICTION

Postlude

Postlude in D Major

Berthold Tours

Guest Organist today is Jason Vodicka, Associate Dean of Westminster Choir College