Welcome to Christ *Episcopal* Church

Downtown Cape Girardeau

Sunday Worship

with Holy Communion from Reserved Sacrament

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2026

Stay Connected

Join us after worship for coffee and conversation. Whether you're new or have been with us for years, we'd love to see you there.

☐ **I am new here.**

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

I would like to: *(Check all that apply)*

☐ Learn more about Christ Church

☐ Receive the weekly newsletter

☐ Speak with Deacon Carol

☐ Learn about baptism or membership

☐ Learn about ways to serve

☐ Receive information about weekday prayer

☐ Update my contact information in the parish directory

Prayer Request

How may we pray for you?

_____

☐ Please keep this confidential *(clergy only)*.

☐ Share with the parish prayer list.

If you would like us to follow up, what is the best way to reach you?

_____

Please tear out this page and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

We're glad you're here.

Tear along the dotted line

Welcome! ¡Bienvenido! Karibu!

Scattered in the world we gather together as God's people in worship. We bring the fragments of our lives to be healed and made whole in Christ as we gather in community.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as God's people. One of the glories of the Episcopal/Anglican Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words and actions through which public worship is conducted.

As we gather, we bring our diverse gifts: gifts of music, dance, prophecy, teaching, preaching, and friendship. We present these gifts in the form of our most precious offering to God, our very selves, that all that we do may be for God's glory in the unity of Christ's church.

About Today's Worship

We continue our journey through the Season after Pentecost, often called Ordinary Time, the longest season of the Church year. While the great festivals of Christmas and Easter celebrate the central events of our faith, the weeks after Pentecost invite us to grow as disciples and learn what it means to follow Christ in everyday life.

As we gather around Word and Sacrament, we give thanks for God's presence among us and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the week ahead.

Welcome to worship. We are glad you are here.

Welcome & Announcements

The Prelude
Organist: Michelle Suhr

The Gathering Song
We begin by praising God through song and prayer.

#205 *Good Christains all, rejoice and sing!*

An Exhortation

Presider: Friends in Christ, welcome to this holy gathering. Today we share in Communion from the reserved sacrament. While this is not a new celebration of the Eucharist, it is an extension of the Eucharistic table. The bread and wine we receive were consecrated in the offering of the Eucharist at Christ Episcopal Church by the Rev. Jay Kanzler, and they unite us fully with Christ and with the whole Church across time and place.

People: **Here we are nourished by Christ's Body and Blood, strengthened in faith, and joined with all who gather at table. As we receive this gift of grace, we are sent out to love and serve in God's name.**

Presider: In fellowship with the whole Church of God, with all who have been brought together by the Holy Spirit to worship on this day, and who have celebrated the Eucharist, let us rejoice that we are called to be part of the body of Christ.

People: **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one Bread.**

Silence is kept

Greeting

Presider: Blessed be the One, Holy and Living God.

People: **Glory to God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Presider: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Song of Praise

#S-280 *Gloria in excelsis*
Found in the front section of the hymnal under Service Music.

The Collect of the Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Presider: Let us pray.

Silence is kept for a time.

Presider: Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

We Hear the Sacred Stories

We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors.
The congregation is then seated.

The First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.

[1]I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. [2]He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. [3]And now,

inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. [4]What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? [5]And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. [6]I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. [7]For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

Lector: Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 80:7-14

The psalms are a part of the poetry of the Hebrew people.

[7] Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

[8] You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.

[9] You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.

[10] The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

[11] You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River.

[12] Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

[13] The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

[14] Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted.

The Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from the New Testament Writings.

[4]If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: [5]circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; [6]as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

[7]Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. [8]More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ [9]and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. [10]I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, [11]if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

[12]Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. [13]Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, [14]I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the church.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Preparing to Hear the Gospel

We stand, as we are able, for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on Jesus' words and actions.

The Sequence Hymn

#518 *Christ is made the sure foundation*

The Reading of the Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[33]"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a
fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to
tenants and went away. [34]When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the
tenants to collect his produce. [35]But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed
another, and stoned another. [36]Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and
they treated them in the same way. [37]Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will
respect my son.' [38]But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is
the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' [39]So they seized him, threw
him out of the vineyard, and killed him. [40]Now when the owner of the vineyard
comes, what will he do to those tenants?" [41]They said to him, "He will put those
wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give
him the produce at the harvest time." [42]Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in
the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this
was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? [43]"Therefore I tell you, the
kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces
its fruits. [44]The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush
anyone on whom it falls." [45]When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his
parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. [46]They wanted to arrest
him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The congregation is then seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Carol Brazeale

The Apostles' Creed

We stand, as we are able, for the affirmation of faith

Presider: We affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God.

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers of the People

The concerns of the community and wider world, including those who are sick, in need, or in want, are named.

Presider: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all those in need, saying, "Lord, guide us by your Spirit."

Lector: For the Church throughout the world; for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Deon our Bishop, Carol our Deacon-in-charge, and all who minister in Christ's name, that we may proclaim the Gospel not only with our lips, but in lives marked by mercy, justice, compassion, and reconciliation.

People: **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

Lector: For this parish family of Christ Episcopal Church, that we may be faithful stewards of the ministry entrusted to us, serving our neighbors with generosity, welcoming all with dignity, and remaining rooted in prayer, worship, and love.

People: **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

Lector: For those who hunger, for those who lack safe shelter, for those who feel unseen or forgotten, and for all who carry heavy burdens, that they may know compassion and care, and that we may meet Christ in our neighbors with open hearts and willing hands.

People: **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

Lector: For our ministries of compassion, hospitality, and community life, especially our food pantry, community meals, and all the ways we welcome our neighbors, that the Holy Spirit may continue to strengthen us as a community of belonging, hope, and peace.

People: **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

Lector: For those entrusted with leadership in communities and nations, that in times of conflict, fear, and uncertainty, they may be guided by wisdom, compassion, and the desire for peace and the flourishing of all people.

People: **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

Lector: For those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit; for those struggling with grief, addiction, fear, or loneliness; and for all who seek our prayers, especially _____, may they know comfort, healing, and renewed strength.

People: **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

Lector: For those who have entered eternal life, especially _____, may light perpetual shine upon them; and for those who mourn, that they may be comforted by the promise of eternal life and the communion of saints.

People: **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

Presider: God of all nations and peoples, you call us beyond ourselves and send us into the world in the power of your Spirit: Receive these prayers and strengthen us for the work you have given us to do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People: **Most merciful God,**
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Exchange of the Peace

We are a community of reconciliation and peace; therefore, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.

Presider: The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Presider: Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Thanksgivings and Celebrations

The Presider invites those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, or other occasions of thanksgiving to come forward or stand where they are.

Presider: Let us celebrate the blessings God has given among us. Are there any birthdays, anniversaries, or other thanksgivings we would like to share today?

The Offertory

As the Lord's Table is prepared, we offer our gifts and our lives to God in thanksgiving and service.

Presider: We prepare the Table and offer ourselves to God in thanksgiving.

The congregation is then seated.

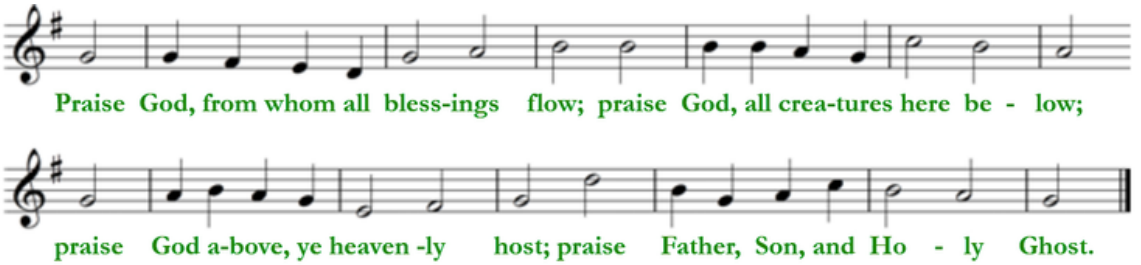
The Offertory Hymn

#441 *In the cross of Christ I glory*

The ushers will receive the people's offerings.

The Doxology

The congregation stands, in body or spirit.



Holy Communion by Extension

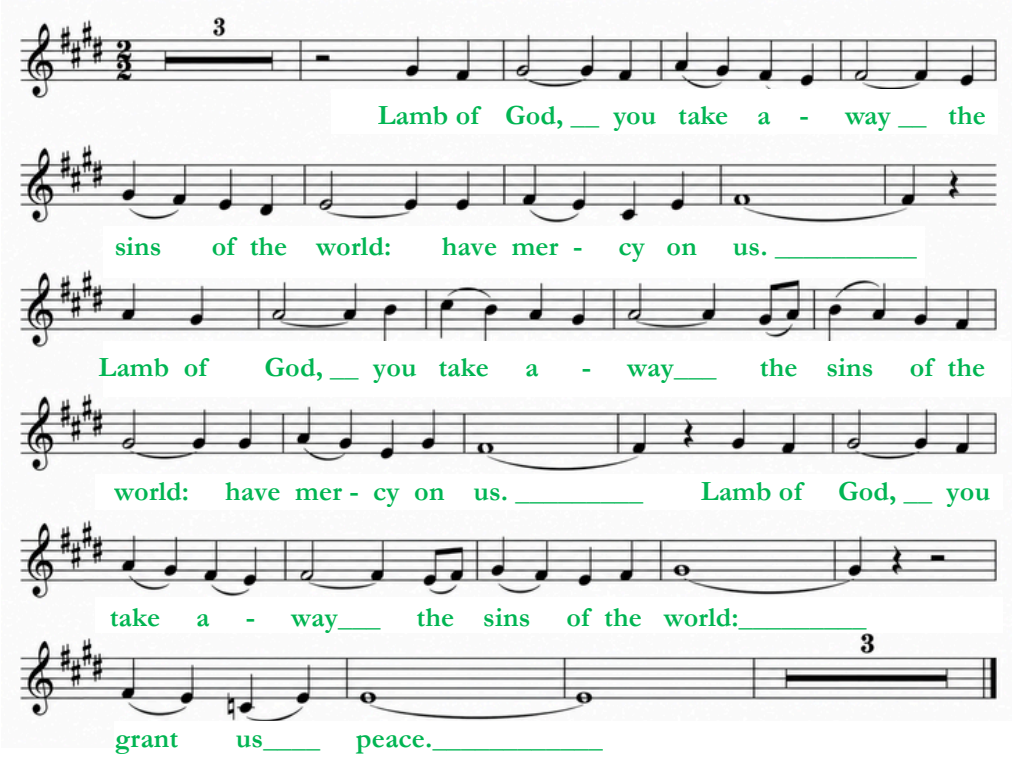
Presider: Beloveds, this is Christ's table. Not because we have earned it, but because love has made a way. Today, we receive the holy gifts already consecrated, a living reminder that Christ is not confined to a moment but is present with us always. Risen. Alive. Among us.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: So, with all who labor for your kingdom, with angels and archangels, and with the saints in every age, we pray to you, as our Savior has taught us:

People: **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Lamb of God



The Invitation to Communion

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The congregation is then seated.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the presider.
If you wish to receive the bread only, know that you receive the Sacrament fully.
If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward,
cross your arms over your chest, and receive a Blessing.

Communion Hymn

#595 *God of grace and God of glory*

Post-Communion Prayer

We stand, as we are able, for the Post-Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

Silence is kept

People: **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Presider: May Christ make our hearts wide enough to welcome the stranger, gentle enough to speak the truth with love, courageous enough to disturb false peace, humble enough to keep learning, and joyful enough that people glimpse the goodness of God simply by being in our presence. Amen.

Closing Hymn

#555 *Lead on, O King eternal*

The Sending

Presider: Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude

Organist: Michelle Suhr

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

We hope to see you again soon

as we offer Christ's unfenced love to the world.

Today's Servers:

Presider.....The Rev. Carol Brazeale
Eucharistic Minister.....Brooke Clubbs
Lector.....Pam Williams
Host.....Monica Waldon
Altar Guild.....Monica Waldon
St. Isidore's Guild.....TBD
Vestry Counter.....TBD
Organist.....Michelle Suhr

Next Week's Servers:

If a spot is marked "Open," it still needs to be filled.
If you are available to serve, please reach out.

Presider.....The Rev. Carol Brazeale
Eucharistic Minister.....*Open*
Lector.....Leslie Jones
Host.....*Open*
Altar Guild.....Mary Mims
St. Isidore's Guild.....*Open*
Vestry Counter.....*Open*
Organist.....Michelle Suhr

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