Welcome to Christ *Episcopal* Church

Downtown Cape Girardeau

Sunday Worship

with Holy Communion from Reserved Sacrament



Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 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.

#383 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

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. Canon Whitney Rice, 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: O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he 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: Amos 5:18-24

A reading from the Hebrew Scriptures.

[8]Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light, [19]as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. [20]Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? [21]I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your

solemn assemblies. [22]Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. [23]Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. [24]But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 70

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

[1] Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *
O Lord, make haste to help me.

[2] Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogether dismayed; *
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.

[3] Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, *
because they are ashamed.

[4] Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the Lord!"

[5] But as for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me speedily, O God.

[6] You are my helper and my deliverer; *
O Lord, do not tarry.

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the New Testament Writings.

[13]But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will

bring with him those who have died. [15]For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16]For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

#568 *Father all loving, who rulest in majesty*

The Reading of the Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

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

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

[1]"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7]Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8]The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9]But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10]And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding

banquet, and the door was shut. [11]Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12]But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13]Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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.
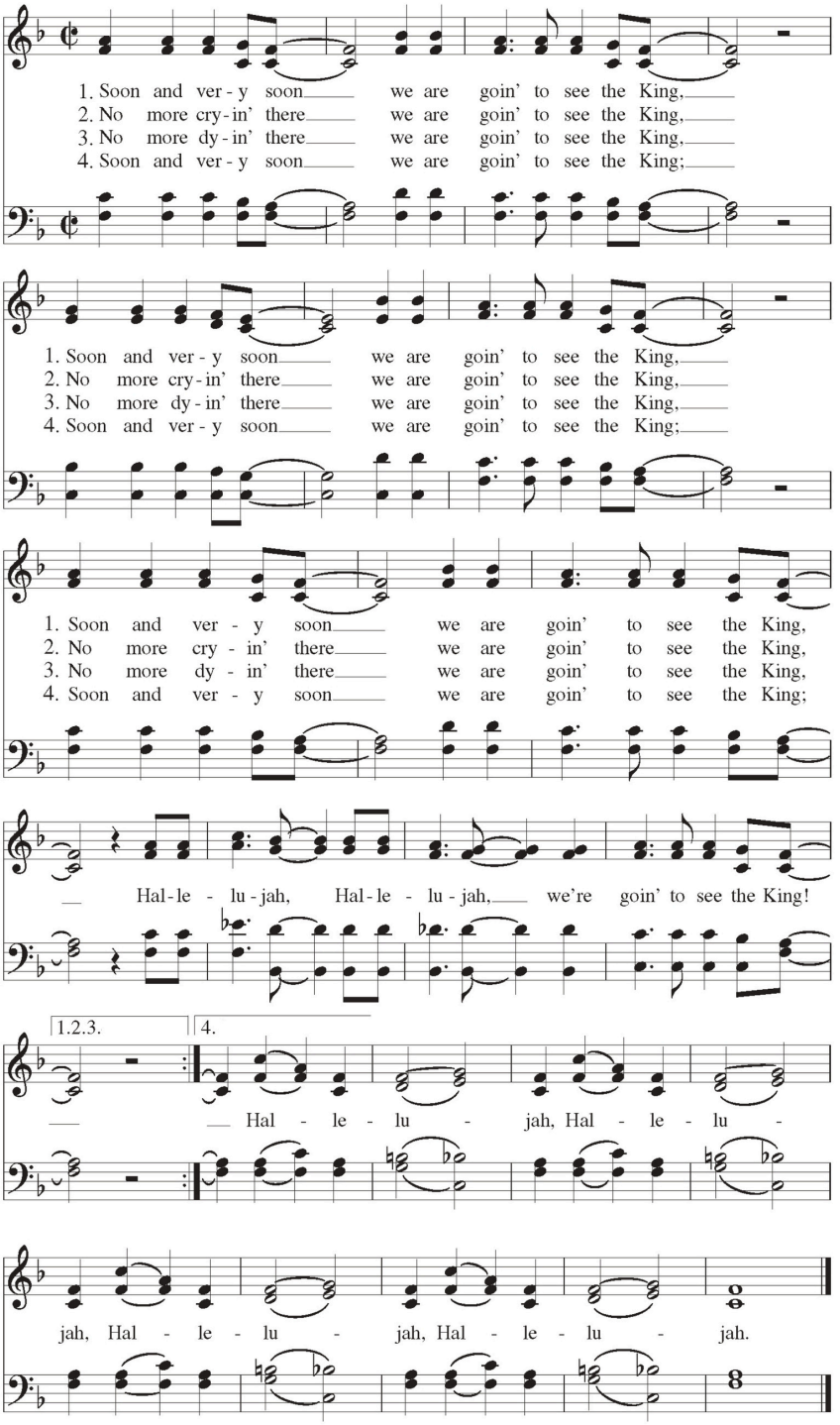
The congregation is then seated.

The Offertory Hymn

LEVAS *Soon and very soon*

The hymn is found on the next page of the bulletin.
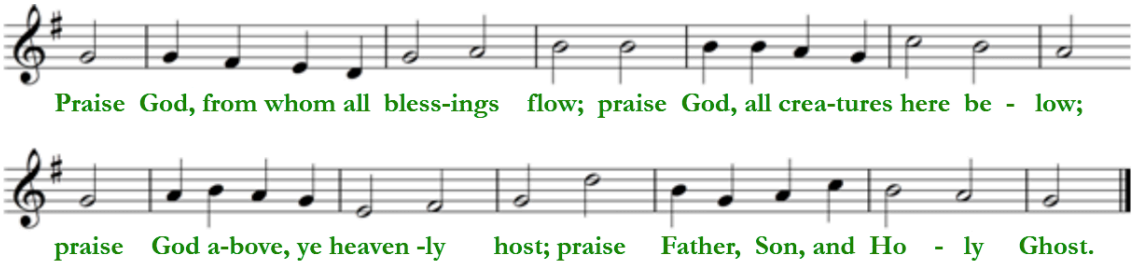
The ushers will receive the people's offerings.



Words and Music: Andraé Crouch (1942-2015).

The Doxology

The congregation stands, in body or spirit.



Holy Communion by Extension

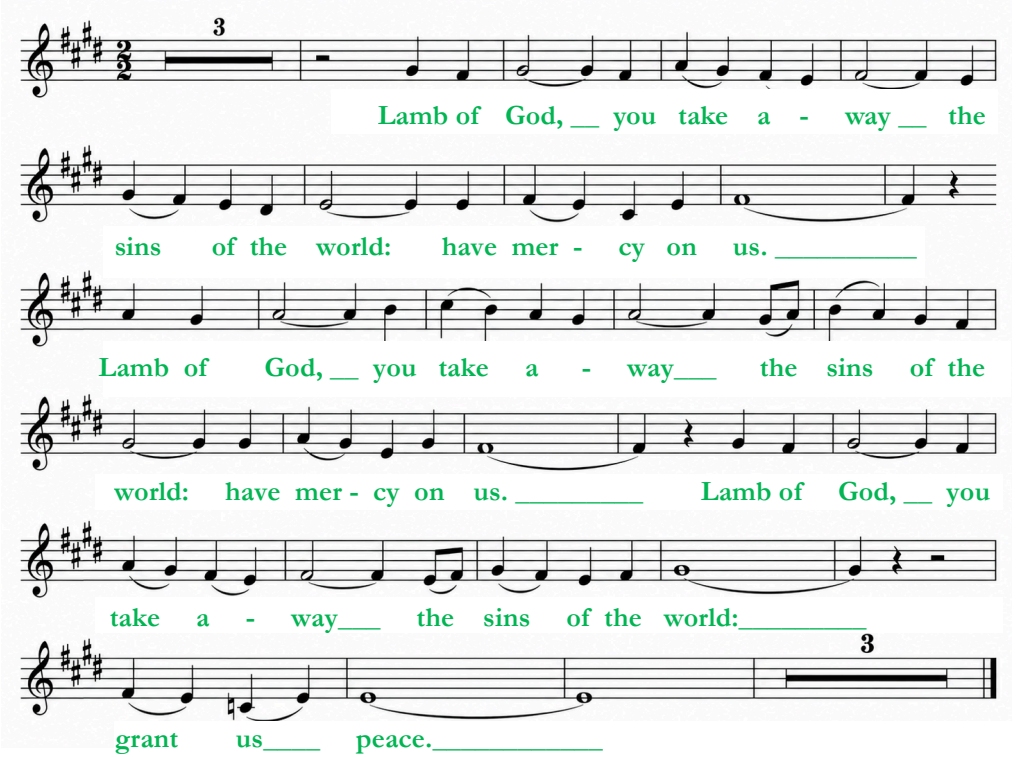
Presider: Beloveds, this is Christ's table. Not because we have earned it, but because love has made a way. Today, we receive the holy gifts already consecrated, a living reminder that Christ is not confined to a moment but is present with us always. Risen. Alive. Among us.

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 prayer.

Communion Hymn

#510 *Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove*

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.

Closing Prayer

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

#358 *Christ the Victorious, give to your servants*

The Sending

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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.....Kent Miller
Lector.....Brooke Clubbs
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.....Gloria Miller
Altar Guild.....Elizabeth Miller
St. Isidore's Guild.....*Open*
Vestry Counter.....*Open*
Organist.....Michelle Suhr



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