

Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church  
in Cape Girardeau, Missouri

H A P P Y  
*Sunday*



Last Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 29

# The Gathering of God's People

Prelude.....Mary Mims, Organist

Processional.....#477 All praise to thee, for thou O King divine

*All standing, the Presider says*

*Presider:* Come Holy Spirt, our souls inspire.

*People:* **And fill us with celestial fire!**

*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.**

Song of Praise.....Be a bright flame before me (p. 10)

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider:* God is with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

**W**oe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

**The Psalm**

Psalm 46

- 1 God is our refuge and strength, \*  
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, \*  
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;
- 3 Though its waters rage and foam, \*  
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
- 4 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, \*  
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 6 God is in the midst of her;  
she shall not be overthrown; \*  
God shall help her at the break of day.
- 7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; \*  
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
- 8 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 9 Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, \*  
what awesome things he has done on earth.
- 10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; \*  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.
- 11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; \*  
I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be exalted in the earth."
- 12 The Lord of hosts is with us; \*  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**The Second Reading**

Colossians 1:11-20

**M**ay you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with

patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

*The People stand for the Hymn.*

**The Sequence Hymn**.....#688 A mighty fortress is our God

**Third Reading**

Luke 23:33-43

**W**hen they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

*Presider:* The word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Affirmation of Faith

*Presider:* Let us affirm our faith: Do you believe in God?

*People:* I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

*Presider:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

*People:* I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the  
dead.

*Presider:* Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

*People:* 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

*Presider:* God has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what  
does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to  
love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?  
*Micah 6:8*

*Reader:* Let us, in this season of national preparation, offer our  
prayers and thanksgiving to Almighty God who calls  
us to dwell together in unity...

*People:* Let us pray: Christ our Light.  
**Shine in our hearts.**

*Reader:* You who framed the brightness of the first light in  
creation; dispel the arrogance, animosity, and anger  
that shatters the unity of your holy Church.

Fill your faithful people with the radiant light of truth,  
that we may be made one in faith, hope and love.

Christ our Light.

**People:** Shine in our hearts.

*Reader:* You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise; set us free us from enslavement to division, disunity and distrust in our public life and labor.

Illumine those in authority with the light of vision, that they may lead the peoples of the nations to greater unity and concord.

Christ our Light.

**People:** Shine in our hearts.

*Reader:* You who patterned the stars and called the sun into being, who appointed the moon and chartered the cosmos.

Pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of race, class, gender and ethnicity may dissolve into one common humanity.

Christ our Light.

**People:** Shine in our hearts.

*Reader:* You who delight in the complexity of creation and the splendor of each creature; help us to delight in the diversity of the earth our island home.

Inspire your people to care for the earth and its creatures and repent and return when we abuse, misuse and neglect our fellow creatures.

Christ our Light.

**People:** Shine in our hearts.

*Reader:* You who call us into relationship with you and one another; renew our hearts to be people of community.

Knit us together to listen respectfully to one another so that all might glorify you by using our various gifts to raise up those most in need in our neighborhoods.

Christ our Light.

**People:** Shine in our hearts.

*Reader:* You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost and the least; help us to be your compassion and

hope in the world.

Show the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful and the suffering, especially those we now name...

Christ our Light.

**People:** **Shine in our hearts.**

*Reader:* You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity the souls of those who have died; welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare, and strife.

Shine the light of hope on our faithful dead, especially those we now name...

Christ our Light.

**People:** **Shine in our hearts.**

*Presider:* Just and compassionate God, you walk with your people in humility and compassion in times of trial. You call us to do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with You and each other. Set us free from the rancor of division and distrust that infect our hearts and fracture our nation; that following the Way of Jesus we may cast out fear; all for your love's sake. Amen.

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

*Silence may be kept.*

**All:** **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 you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Presider:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*We greet each other in the name of the risen Christ.*

The Offertory Hymn.....#458 My song is love unknown vs 1, 2, 7

## The Agape Meal

*The Presider and People give thanks for the gift of our daily bread.*

*Presider:* Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe.

*People:* You bring forth bread from the earth; we long for the day when we may once again partake of the bread of life, the Body of your Son Jesus Christ. As grain scattered upon the earth is gathered into one loaf, so gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Presider and People give thanks for the gift of wine.*

*Presider:* Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe.

*People:* You create the fruit of the vine; we long for the day when you will once again refresh us with the cup of salvation in the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Presider and People give thanks for the gift of food.*

*Presider:* Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe.

*People:* You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our hunger. Let this food strengthen us in the Eucharistic fast that is before us, that following our Savior in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

*The Presider then continues*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*All:* 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.

**Blessing**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Presider:* May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.  
Amen.

**Announcements**

**Recessional Hymn**.....#494 Crown him with many crowns

**Dismissal**

*Presider:* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**.....Mary Mims, Organist

**This Service's Servers**

<i>Presider</i>	Chris Masters
<i>Preacher</i>	Bob Lowe
<i>Reader</i>	Kent Miller
<i>Greeter</i>	Donna Richardet
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Elizabeth Miller
<i>St. Isidore's Guild</i>	William and Bruce Miller
<i>Vestry Counter</i>	Bob Lowe
<i>Organist</i>	Mary Mims

# Be a bright flame before me

Carmina Gadelica

Richard Michael Joseph

Be a  
bright flame be - fore me, Be a guid - ing star a -  
bove me, Be a smooth path be - low me, And a  
kind - ly shep - herd be - hind me, To - day, to - night and for -  
ev - er. A - men.

	Nov. 27	Dec. 4	Dec. 11	Dec. 18
Presider	Rev. Annette Joseph	Kent Miller	Rev. Annette Joseph	Carl Muench
Eucharistic	Gina Thomas		Bob Lowe	
Preacher	Rev. Annette Joseph	Greg Heinsman	Rev. Annette Joseph	Tyler Helm
Verger	Chris Masters		Chris Masters	
Reader	Bob Lowe	Toni Alexander	Shiela Theile	Sue Balsamo
Greeter	Sue Balsamo	Monica Waldon	Shiela and Jude Thiele	Gloria Miller
Altar Guild	Marilyn Reiger	Mary Alice Regenhardt	Monica Waldon	All Members
St. Isidore's Guild	James Boyer	Bruce Mims	Toni Alexander	Gina Mills
Vestry Counter	Toni Alexander	Julie Wittenborn Sikorski	Cheryl Essner	Cheryl Essner
Organist	Matt Palisch	Mary Mims	Kevin Hampton	Matt Palisch

# Notes on the Service

## Last Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 23:1-6 • Lk 1:68-79 • Col 1:11-20 • Lk 23:35-43

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Within the church year, each cluster of observances ends on a triumphant note: the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany season ends with Christ's Transfiguration; the Lent-Easter season ends with Christ's Ascension; the season after Pentecost ends with Christ the King. In 1925, when kings of Prussia, Austro-Hungary, Turkey, and Russia had been dethroned, Pope Pius XI promulgated a new feast of Christ the King, and a collect for it. Enslaved to sin, the world can be freed by submitting to Christ's rule, says that collect.

Writing in the early sixth century B.C., Jeremiah blames "evil shepherds," i.e., bad leaders, for the defeat of Judah by Babylon. Nevertheless God will, Jeremiah promises, retrieve a remnant of his people from Babylonian exile and will give them a new, a good, shepherd, a king of the family of David. "I am the Good Shepherd," Jesus will announce in John's Gospel. Jesus the Good Shepherd is the "righteous branch" of David.

"A mighty salvation for us in the house of ...David," exalts the Benedictus, the Song of Zechariah, John the Baptist's father. Luke's first three chapters are a lyrical preface to that Gospel, telling of the conceptions and the births of cousins John and Jesus. From Luke's preface the church selected the Nunc dimittis for Compline, and also selected the major canticles of Evening and Morning Prayer, Magnificat and Benedictus, respectively, two songs of the Incarnation on which the daily office turns. For its verses, "the dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death," the Benedictus was chosen for mornings, and particularly for mornings in Advent, the season about to begin next Sunday.

Christ is not only the Son of David, the King of Israel and the Light of the nations, who was promised by prophets and vaunted by psalmists; he is also the one in whom Divinity dwells fully, and is the agent by whom God made and reconciled the universe. That cosmic evaluation of Jesus opens Colossians, in the passage which serves as this feast's epistle.

The superscription over Jesus' cross, "the King of the Jews" had a double significance: To Pilate, it mocked a deluded zealot's pretension and rebuked a rebellious nation's pride. To Luke, it accurately signed Jesus' messianic rank. In the shadow of death, one thief recognized Jesus' royalty, or at least his innocence, according to Luke. Toward that thief (named Dismas by a tradition), Jesus acted as a king, that is, he pardoned a criminal; and he promised him paradise at once, a promise not made to anyone else. Paradise-at-once is a promise seemingly at variance with resurrection at the last day, which Jesus endorsed in the Gospel of two Sundays ago.

**Rev. Stephen Weissman**  
Asheville, North Carolina

# Thank you for visiting Christ Episcopal Church!

## Who are We?

We are a community, forgiven and loved by God, joyfully called to the work of reconciliation.

Known throughout Cape Girardeau as "the Red Door Church" by those we serve, our mission is to share God's love and grace.

## When are our Services?

Services are held 10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. on Sundays and Evening Prayer is from 5:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. on Wednesdays.

We are hosting a Bible study group before service at 9:00 A.M. on Sundays as well.

