



THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
 THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE  
 HOLY EUCHARIST

February 2, 2025

We welcome you today, and always, just as you are. All directions for sitting, standing, and kneeling are “as you are able”. If you need assistance, please ask a neighbor or an usher.

Let us gather in silence to listen to God before the Eucharist and gather to build community after the service.

*The Congregation shares in saying the words in bold.*

PRELUDE

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hail to the Lord who comes (*Old 120th*)

H 259

*All Stand.*

1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem - ple gate;  
 2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,  
 3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;  
 4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!

not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;  
 watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,  
 and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands  
 Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;  
 thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heaven - ly guest.  
 takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.  
 be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*All Remain Standing.*

*Presider:* Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

## CANDLEMAS

*All Remain Standing.*

*Presider:* Dear people of God, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the Incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we now enter the house of God, where we shall recognize Christ in the breaking of bread.

*Presider:* Let us pray. O eternal God, who has created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon: We humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

*People:* **Amen.**

## GLORIA

*All Remain Standing. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Glory to God to God in the highest (Canticle 20) (Powell)

S 280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*All Remain Standing.*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider:* Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People:* **Amen.**

## THE WORD

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

*All are Seated.*

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

PSALM: Psalm 27 – The Lord Is My Light

*All Remain Seated.*

Refrain:



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, of  
whom should I be a - fraid, of whom should I be a - fraid?

Verses:

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord; for this I long:  
To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

3. I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living;  
Hope in God, and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

*All Remain Seated.*

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

<sup>14</sup>Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

GOPSEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia (*Taizé*)

G 263

*All Stand.*



GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

*All Remain Standing.*

*Gospeler:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup>and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup>Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, <sup>29</sup>“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup>And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup>Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup>so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

<sup>36</sup>There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup>then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

*Gospeler:* The Holy Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

*All are Seated.*

## THE NICENE CREED

*All Stand.*

*People & Presider:* We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*All Remain Standing.*

*Cleric:* Together let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*The Lay Reader continues with the following Prayers, and the People respond saying "hear our prayer" after each petition:*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace to the whole world so that all people may live and grow in love with one another, especially those living in Israel, Palestine, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Ukraine, and Haiti;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep safe those suffering from recent natural disasters and accidents as they rebuild their lives, especially those affected by the wildfires in California, the winter storms across the United States, and the plane crash in Washington DC;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who serve in the military, education, nonprofits, healthcare, law enforcement, and anyone who cares for the well-being of others that they be supported in their efforts, especially David B., Shawn M., Jackie C., Doug C., Sue G., Richard W., Eric C., Chris W., Michael B., Marshal N., Nicole G., Deonne H., Tony G., Timothy N., Jerome S., Tommy K., William S., Bianca D., Julie S., Rob H., Tom H., Joan H., Michael D., Mitchell H., and Wayne M.;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who are sick; suffering; ill; infirm; disabled; confined; homebound; hungry; thirsty; needy; homeless; imprisoned; and addicted, especially these persons on our Prayer List: Carol K., A.C., Bill A., John D., R.P., Vicki, T., Jane B., David L., Lisa S., Fran F., Mark S., Patty, Christine M., Lisa P., Katie C., Bill G., Don G., Michele, Bill F., Janice K., Tracy, Jim, Susan A., Emily D., Becca D., Jackie S., Katharyn H., Ben G., Frank D., Ollie R., Mary Lou W., Jen G., C.H., Gerry M., Eleanor H., Sean D., Pyfrom T., and Vincent N.;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom;

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*The Presider reads the concluding collect:* Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People:* **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*All Remain Standing.*

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

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

*The Ministers and People may greet one another with the sign of peace.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*All are Seated.*

[See the Announcements Section in the Bulletin for all the events happening around our Parish Church.](#)

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*All Remain Seated. The Presider selects an Offertory Sentence.*

8:00AM The Offering Plate is stationary, positioned in the back by the baptismal font. Please leave your sacred gift there.

10:00AM Offering Plates will be passed through the congregation. Please make your sacred gift when it comes to you.

## OFFERTORY HYMN

Longing for light

MHSO 59

*All Stand.*

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for  
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for  
3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for  
4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less, long-ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, — man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, — man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see. \_\_\_\_\_  
pow - er to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice. \_\_\_\_\_  
bro - ken for o - thers, shared un - til all are fed. \_\_\_\_\_  
shel - ter - ing o - thers, wall made of liv - ing stone. \_\_\_\_\_  
to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come. \_\_\_\_\_

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gath - ered to - day. \_\_\_\_\_

# THE TABLE

## SURSUM CORDA

*All Stand. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### Lift Up Your Hearts

S 120

The musical notation is arranged in two rows. The first row has two staves: the left staff is for the Celebrant and the right for the People. The second row also has two staves: the left for the Celebrant and the right for the People. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Celebrant*                      *People*                      *Celebrant*                      *People*

The Lord be with you.      And al - so with you.      Lift up your hearts.      We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*                      *People*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.      It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

*All Remain Standing.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## SANCTUS

*All Remain Standing. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider:* Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It features a key signature of one flat and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. There are three triplet markings over the words 'Ho - ly', 'san - na', and 'Ho - san - na'.

Holy, holy, holy (*Powell*)                      S 129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly      Lord, God of pow - er and

might,      hea - ven and earth are      full of your glo - ry.      Ho -

san - na in the      high - est.      Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the      high - est. \_\_\_\_\_



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*All Stand or Kneel.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling. 8:00 AM is Spoken. 10:00 AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider: We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.*

Therefore, according to his command (*Chant/Martens*)

S 136

We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -  
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

## EPICLESIS

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling.*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

## THE GREAT AMEN

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling. 8:00 AM is Spoken. 10:00 AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider: Amen.*

Amen (*Plainsong*)

S 142

*Celebrant* *People*  
A-men.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling.*

*Presider:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

*People & Presider:* **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 and ever. Amen.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD – FRACTION ANTHEM

*All Remain Standing or Kneeling. 8:00AM is Spoken. 10:00AM is Sung.*

*People & Presider:*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

O Lamb of God (*Powell*)

S 163

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*All Sit or Kneel.*

*Presider:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All Remain Sitting or Kneeling.*

Communion is distributed by kneeling or standing at the altar rail. You can receive the Body of Christ in the form of bread and the Blood of Christ in the form of wine from the common chalice. Please do not intinct (dip) the host. If you are unable to walk or kneel, you may stand or remain in your pew, and Communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest, as you are able. If the steps are difficult, please alert an usher for assistance.

*All Remain Sitting or Kneeling.*

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.

Let not my doubts nor my dark - ness speak to me.

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.

Let my heart al - ways wel - come your love.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*All Remain Sitting or Kneeling.*

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*People & Presider:* 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 SENDING

## BLESSING

*All Remain Sitting or Kneeling.*

*Presider:* The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

*People:* **Amen.**

*All Stand.*

1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to  
 2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a  
 3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with  
 4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a -

me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -  
 nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and  
 springs, and they shall climb from height to height till  
 way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor

in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and  
 praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose  
 Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in  
 from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly

flesh cry out, O liv - ing God, for thee.  
 hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest.  
 glo - ry throned, Lord God, great King of kings.  
 bless all those who live the words they pray.

## DISMISSAL

*All Remain Standing.**Cleric:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

From RitePlanning.com.

From The Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

From The Hymnal, 1982.

From The New Revised Standard Version Bible, 1989.

Copyright © 2025 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

## CCRP EVENTS & INFORMATION

Whoever you are, for whatever draws you to join us today, we are glad that you are here. If you would like to learn more about the ministries of the Episcopal Church in this region and Christ Church Ridley Park (CCRP), please go to our website and click “Join” under the Connect Tab: [ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](http://ChristChurchRidleyPark.org).

### PRAYER

**Adult Forum:** The casual free-flowing conversation will continue every Sunday. We will start at 9:00AM in the Deppich Room. Currently, Adult Forum will focus on Lectionary Based Bible Study.

**Daily Office:** Through Facebook or the Parish Website you can join Fr. Michael on Mondays through Saturdays for Morning Prayer at 8:30AM and Evening Prayer at 7:00PM. These services last about 10 to 15 minutes and include a Psalm, a Scripture Reading, and Intercessions for those in need. You do not even have to leave the comfort of your home. Join live or replay videos at your convenience.

**Midweek Eucharist:** Fr. Michael will preside over the Eucharist every Wednesday evening at 7:00PM. Not a morning person? Work on the weekends? Looking for a midweek faith practice? Then we will see you in the pews on Wednesdays.

**Homebound Visits:** Our Team of Lay Eucharistic Visitors are ready to bring communion to homebound parishioners. If you would like a visit and want to receive communion in your home, notify the Church Office so that it can be arranged for you.

**Lay Ministers:** Ministries are open to anyone who would be interested in being a Lector, Acolyte, Eucharistic Minister, Eucharistic Visitors, and Choir Members. Liturgy is the work of the people. We all can play a part in our Sunday prayer, and we need your participation. All are welcome to participate. If you would like to be included, please e-mail [Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](mailto:Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org). We are returning to a Quarterly Schedule which is forthcoming shortly.

**Children’s Sunday School:** This is creative fun Christian Education using the Godly Play method for children Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade which meets in the Whaley Room with Leader Sharon Cotter on Sundays at 10:00AM. It uses a play-filled method of invitation into Bible Stories and the Christian Tradition. We love to make art, share stories, and build relationships together while learning about our faith.

**Refresh the Prayer List:** We ask that you please inform the office if you are aware of anyone who can be added or removed from the Prayers of the People. To keep our lists up to date, it is helpful to know any changes in status.

**Sacraments:** The sacraments are for everyone! Christ Church is your neighborhood church, and we welcome all to grow in your faith journey. If you or a family member or friend need to be baptized, married, confirmed, visited in the hospital or at home, or buried, please know our doors are open to you. You do not need to be a member; just reach out to the office and we will gladly try to assist you.

**Feast of The Presentation or Candlemas:** Today: Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, 40 Days after the birth of Christ, we commemorate Jesus’s presentation in the Temple. It is traditional to bless candles on this date. Feel free to bring candles from your home to be blessed. We will also celebrate the Feast of Saint Blaise of Sebaste with the Blessing of Throats.

**Healing Eucharist:** In honor of the World Day for the Sick on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, we will have anointing and prayers for healing at both Eucharists.

**Guest Preacher:** Dave Kasievich, the Headmaster of Saint James School will be the Guest Preacher on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 at both Services. He will also be bringing some students to join us this morning. Saint James School is the only Episcopal School in Philadelphia providing a faith-based education for Grades 4 through 8 in the West Allegheny neighborhood.

## SERVICE

**Free Shared Meal:** “The Gathering” is a free shared community meal for all! Christ Church is starting a new ministry of community on the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome to join in a time of food and company with no questions asked. If you need a meal or just want company, then this is the event for you. Our first meal will be lasagna TODAY: Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at 4:00PM in Musselman Hall. Please share this invitation with your family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors.

**“Souper” Bowl Sunday:** On this Super Bowl Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 we remember all the local food pantries which help so many people in our neighborhoods. Bring in an extra item this week to help stock the food pantries in both Ridley Park and Essington.

**Life Center:** On Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Christ Church will provide a meal for the 50 residents at Life Center. We need volunteers to prepare the main meal and donate supplies. Please contact Carole McManus at via e-mail at [CaroleMcManus@Comcast.net](mailto:CaroleMcManus@Comcast.net) or by text at **610-509-6614** to sign-up and arrange donations. Items can be dropped off at Church by Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 2:00PM. Can you help? The Life Center needs these extras: milk, coffee, creamer, sugar, plates, bowls, cups, utensils, napkins, aluminum foil, canned soup (chicken noodle, chicken rice, and tomato), single serving oatmeal, and cereal.

**Items Needed for Shelter Residents:** Saint Joseph's Family Hope Center has requested donations of the following items: Hand Soap, Dishwashing Liquid, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent, Bathroom Cleaning Supplied, Disinfectant Spray, Lysol Wipes, and Twin Bed Sheets. Items can be dropped off directly at the former Convent of Our Lady of Charity Parish in Brookhaven or brought to the Church.

**Diocesan Global Mission Grant Opportunity:** The Episcopal Church's Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) is seeking Episcopalians ages 21-35 who are interested in 2025 international mission engagements. It is a unique opportunity to meet people from a different culture in another part of the world. Many have used this as a foundation for ongoing work in development-related fields, improving language skills, and as part of the discernment process for continued ministry in the church. Alumni have shared the deep, life-changing impact of their growth and service. For details visit: <https://tinyurl.com/yc7h69u7>. Apply here: <https://tinyurl.com/23psrrut>. Deadline: Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

## COMMUNITY

### Office Schedule

The Church Office will be open with modified hours due to Staff Vacation  
from Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 through Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The Church Office will be CLOSED  
on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in honor of Presidents' Day Holiday.

**New Communications Director:** Please welcome The Reverend Jerry Maynard, also known as “The People’s Priest”, who will be joining the Christ Church Ridley Park Staff as a Remote Communications Director. Jerry will be handling the Newsletter, the Weekly E-mails, and the Website. Contact Information will follow shortly.

**Vestry Thank You & Welcome:** The Vestry of Christ Church Ridley Park would like to thank everyone that came to the Annual Meeting and Luncheon last Sunday. The Vestry selected Kathleen Okarski as the new Senior Warden. We thank Sharon Cotter for her many years of Leading the Christ Church Vestry as Rector’s Warden, especially in this time of Transition. We would also like to thank all of those that were nominated for the Vestry Membership as there were seven (7) Candidates this year. We are so grateful for the dedication and leadership of Carol Parasink, Barbara Torrens, and Patrick O’Neill who have completed their Vestry Terms. We are pleased to announce the following Parishioners were elected during the Annual Meeting as new Vestry Members: Robert Melso, Bill Graham, Michelle Mason, and Patrick O’Neill. Bob, Bill, and Michelle will be serving Full 3-Year Terms while Pat will be completing a 2-Year Term remaining from Kathy Okarski as she is now the Senior Warden. Thank you everyone who participated in the Vestry Election and approved the 2025 Annual Budget.

**Savings Cards:** Savings Cards are back for 2025 and are being sold for \$10.00 each. 17 Local Merchants are participating, and all proceeds will go to the Outreach Committee. Savings Cards can be purchased after Services or by contacting the Church Office.

**Pledging for 2025:** There is still some time to consider your stewardship commitment and pledge. Pledging is a regular financial commitment discerned through prayerful consideration of our Church’s mission. It is important for Christ Church to know your stewardship commitment so that we can plan appropriately for our ministries in 2025. When you share your gifts, you enable our parish to continue its important ministries and programs. Submit a digital or physical pledge card, or you can call the church office to inform us of your pledge amount. Thank you for your commitment to Christ Church!

**Book Club:** Join the Book Club on Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 2:00PM to discuss the 2018 novel *The Death of Mrs. Westaway* by British author and "The Agatha Christie of our Time", Ruth Ware. Harriet “Hal” Westaway, a poor tarot card reader, receives a letter bequeathing her an inheritance which she later discovers was misdirected. She quickly is embroiled in a very strange mystery, family drama, and a possible murder.

**Estate Planning:** The Episcopal Community Services (ECS) is hosting a FREE Zoom Webinar on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 1:00PM to 2:00PM on the topic of Estate Planning and how to optimize your plans for a lasting legacy. The Guest Speaker is Ms. Emily Pickering, Esq., who is a Partner at Morgan Lewis as an estate and gift tax planning attorney. For more information E-mail Jessica Lynch at [JessicaL@ECSP Philly.org](mailto:JessicaL@ECSP Philly.org).

**Sponsor Weekly Flowers:** Parishioners can sponsor Weekly Flowers in honor or memory of a person or occasion by: Going Online to the Church Website, Calling or E-mailing the Church Office, or Placing a Request in the Collection Basket. Requests should be submitted at least one (1) full week in advance to ensure that it will be listed in the Bulletin for a particular Sunday. Payment should be made prior to the date for which you are Sponsoring. If you have any questions or problems, please contact Nick in the Church Office.

**2025 Calendars Available NOW!** Episcopal Church Calendars with Holidays, Feast Days, Lectionary Readings, and Seasonal Colors for 2025 sponsored by White-Luttrell Funeral Homes, Ltd. are now available to Christ Church Ridley Park Parishioners. They will be placed in the back of the Church and on the table inside the Green Doors. Please take one when you are here for Services.

**2025 Updated Directory Available NOW!** The Updates to the Church Directory have been completed. A copy has been E-mailed out to all Parishioners, and there are limited Printed Copies available in the Church Office. If you need a Printed Copy, please contact Nick who can provide one to you in person or by mail.

**Christ Church Fun:** Many time-honored parts of church life have been forgotten, and they need to be revived. We would like to see a simple weekly coffee hour return to Sundays. We would love to see potlucks or church gatherings happen in restaurants or in people's homes. We live in a time where we need to rebuild our community and overcome isolation. We need your help to make this fun community building happen so please share your thoughts and ideas with the Office or Vestry. Let 2025 be the year of bringing these essential parts of church life back to Christ Church.

**Annual Giving Statements:** Detailed Annual Giving Statements including all Parishioner Contributions from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 have been mailed. Please review and contact the Church Office if there are any errors or discrepancies. Thank you so much for your continued generosity to Christ Church Ridley Park! We appreciate all that you do!

**Attention Veterans in the Diocese:** The Diocese of Pennsylvania would like to recognize those who have served in the military from the World Wars to the present. They want to hold interviews about your time in the military and how faith has played a part of your life. The purpose is to create a video in recognition of those who served our country in our pews and pulpits for this year's Veterans' Day. There will be food and time to meet other fellow veterans in the diocese! Those who would like to participate will be sent the date and location via e-mail. The interview would not take place until after Easter. Contact Rev. Canon Toneh Smyth at [TSmyth@DIOPA.org](mailto:TSmyth@DIOPA.org) for any questions. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/m7znahw9>.

**Newsletter:** The Newsletter was paused for January 2025, however, it will return in February 2025 so please be on the lookout for it. It will continue to include information about our Parish and a Calendar of Upcoming Events. We also welcome any Parishioners to submit any relevant articles or photos of events that they may have. We would love to showcase your experiences here at Christ Church!

**Go Deeper Online!** Scan the QR code pictured here on the right with your smartphone camera to connect with Christ Church Ridley Park online platforms or visit [linktr.ee/ccrp1](https://linktr.ee/ccrp1) in your web browser.



### **Feast Days of the Week:**

Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025: Anskar, Bishop and Missionary  
Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Manche Masemola, Martyr  
Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Agatha of Sicily, Martyr  
Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025: The Martyrs of Japan  
Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Bakhita (Josephine Margaret Bakhita), Monastic

### **Christ Church Ridley Park (CCRP) Leadership**

The Reverend Michael Ruk, Interim Priest-in-Charge  
Nicholas D'Amato, Parish Church Administrator  
The Reverend Dr. Jerry Maynard, Communications Director  
Guest Organist: Doris Dabrowski

**Choir Members:** Julie Wickland, Alice Berry, Carole Buchan, Robert Hand

**Vestry Members:** Kathleen Okarski, Nicole Bowden, Eileen Capozzoli, Earl Dempsey, William Graham, Bruce Horne, Michelle Mason, Robert Melso, Nancy Mobley, Patrick O'Neill, & Judy Yorke

Church Office Address: 104 Nevin Street, Ridley Park, PA 19078

Church Office Phone Number: 610-521-1626

Church Office E-mail: [Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](mailto:Office@ChristChurchRidleyPark.org)

Church Website: [www.ChristChurchRidleyPark.org](http://www.ChristChurchRidleyPark.org)