

# Christ Church Bulletin



*As followers of Christ, we share the beauty and power of God's transforming love through worship, community, and service in the world.*

## THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

- Sunday: 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II with the St. Nicholas Choir  
Nursery for infants and toddlers in Room 102  
10:00 AM Coffee Hour in Parish Halls B and C  
11:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II with the Christ Church Choir  
Child care for infants through 5-year-olds in Room 102  
12:00 PM "What's Next?" luncheon and forum in Parish Hall B  
1:00 PM Jalonga Trip Orientation meeting in Parish Hall A
- Monday: 7:00 PM Newcomers Committee meeting in the Conference Room
- Tuesday: 9:20 AM Intercessory Prayer Service in the Chapel  
10:30 AM Books, Brew, & Banter in the Commons Room  
11:00 AM CCEP Worship Service in the Chapel  
12:00 PM Pastoral Ministries Team meeting in the Conference Room  
7:00 PM CCEP Board of Trustees meeting in the Conference Room  
Planned Giving Committee meeting in the Commons Room  
7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting in Room 211/212
- Wednesday: 8:45 AM CCEP Parents Association meeting in the Commons Room  
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel  
6:30 PM Parenting Class in the Conference Room  
Senior High Small Group meeting in the Youth Annex  
7:00 PM Christ Church Choir rehearsal in the Church
- Thursday: 6:30 AM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel  
7:00 AM Breakfast/Bible Study in Room 211/212  
4:15 PM St. Nicholas Choir rehearsal in the Chapel  
7:00 PM Vestry meeting in Room 211/212  
7:30 PM St. Cecilia Choir rehearsal in the Chapel

## COFFEE HOUR – TODAY

All are welcome to attend our expanded Coffee Hour this morning following the 9 AM service. Adults and children are invited to gather for coffee, tea, juice, and cookies in Parish Halls B and C from 10 to 11 AM.

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## WHAT'S NEXT? PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE – TODAY

If you are feeling your age and concerned about planning for the future, what's next? What is your stumbling block concerning planning ahead? Is it leaving your home? Getting rid of years of belongings? Knowing you won't live forever? Wondering how long you should drive? Managing your finances? In a quandary of how to proceed? Join us for a bowl of soup after the 11:00 AM service today to talk about "what's next?"

February 7, 2010

## **JALONGA TRIP ORIENTATION MEETING – TODAY**

Plans for the next Dominican Republic trip scheduled for June 19-26 are well under way! The trip will be open to rising 10th, 11th, and 12th graders and those who have just graduated from high school. Join us for an orientation meeting today at 1 PM in Parish Hall A with trip details and expectations. *This orientation is mandatory to all going on the trip.* Parents are encouraged to attend. Those traveling to the Dominican Republic will be expected to participate in service, fund-raising, team-building, and a pre-trip retreat. Questions? Contact Jennifer or Lynne at 655-3379.

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## **BILL PERKINS TO PREACH AND PRESENT PROJECT – FEBRUARY 14**

Next Sunday, February 14, Bill Perkins, Director of Friendship House, will preach at our 8, 9, and 11 AM services. During the Adult Enrichment Hour, Bill and his wife, Marcy, will present Friendship House's newest project—renovation of a house to expand their Women's Transitional Housing and Employment Program. Christ Church recently contributed a gift of \$100,000 toward the project with the intent of forming an ongoing partnership to help renovate the house as well as participate in the ongoing programs to mentor women transitioning from incarceration to a productive, independent life. Please join us to learn of the opportunities to participate in these efforts.

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## **CHORAL EVENSONG – FEBRUARY 14**

Join us for the service of Evensong from *The Book of Common Prayer, 1662* for the Last Sunday after the Epiphany next Sunday, February 14 at 5 PM in the Church, featuring music by Byrd and Wesley.

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## **J2A PILGRIMAGE FUND-RAISER – FEBRUARY 15**

Please keep those youth preparing for their pilgrimage in your prayers while they continue planning their travels to Italy. The next Charcoal Pit Pilgrimage fund-raiser is scheduled for Monday, February 15 from 5 to 9 PM at the Concord Pike location. Visit [www.christchurchde.org/christianed/youthgroup.asp](http://www.christchurchde.org/christianed/youthgroup.asp) for the flyer you'll need to present with your bill that evening.

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## **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER – FEBRUARY 16**

Join us for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, sponsored by the Parish Life Committee and the J2A youth. We will serve in two seatings—from 6:00 to 6:30 PM and again from 6:45 to 7:15 PM on Tuesday, February 16 in the Parish Hall. Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent. Since Lent is a time of abstinence—traditionally of meat, fat, eggs, and dairy products—Shrove Tuesday's menu was designed to use up all the fat, eggs, and dairy products that would otherwise spoil during this period. The cost is \$3 for children and \$8 for youth and adults. This is a fund-raiser for the youth's Holy Pilgrimage this summer. To ensure we arrange for adequate supplies, please reserve your tickets at [rsvp@christchurchde.org](mailto:rsvp@christchurchde.org) or by calling 655-3379.

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## **ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 17**

Ash Wednesday opens the season of Lent. We will worship on February 17 in the Chapel at 6:30 AM for those who wish to come before the workday; at 9 AM for those who drive best in daylight; at 11 AM for the students at CCEP; and at 4 PM in a service shaped for children. The Christ Church Choir will sing at the 7:30 PM service in the Church for a solemn choral celebration of the Ash Wednesday liturgy. All services will include communion and the imposition of ashes made from the palms of the previous year. Please join us for one of these occasions for worship.

## LENTEN QUIET DAY – FEBRUARY 20

A Quiet Day will be offered in the Chapel on Saturday, February 20. During the morning, there will be meditations with time for silence and reflection, led by the parish clergy. To benefit from this experience, please plan to attend the entire Quiet Day, beginning at 9 AM and concluding with noonday prayers. To sign up, please contact the Church Office at 655-3379 or [rsvp@christchurchde.org](mailto:rsvp@christchurchde.org).

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## LENTEN SERIES – FEBRUARY 24, MARCH 3, 10, 17, & 24

### 6:15-7:00 PM Soup Supper (optional)

Join us in the Parish Hall for a delicious supper of hot soup and fresh bread with special foods for children. No need to bring anything; just come as you are and bring your family and friends. Please RSVP at 655-3379 or [rsvp@christchurchde.org](mailto:rsvp@christchurchde.org).

### 7:00-8:00 PM Program for Adults

*Those Who Sing Pray Twice: Music in Lent* – Join Ruth Kirk and Bill Owen in Parish Hall A for a discussion of the hymns, anthems, and Psalms of the season, with special emphasis on Psalm singing.

*Christian Reconciliation: Promise of New Life* – Join Russ Bohner and Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly in Parish Hall B for an in-depth exploration of the meaning and practice of Christian reconciliation. Referencing the Bible and Christian Tradition, Russ and Jennifer will lead a discussion of sin, salvation, and the love of God, with special emphasis on the practical elements of confession, apology, forgiveness, and absolution.

### Program for Youth

*Christian Spiritual Practice for Youth* – Join Lynne Jensen and John Crossan in the Parish Hall for supper and then in the Annex for a conversation about and experience of different Christian spiritual practices.

Child care for infants and children through elementary school will be available in the Commons Room. If you would like to use the child care, please RSVP to 655-3379 or [rsvp@christchurchde.org](mailto:rsvp@christchurchde.org).

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## 30-HOUR FAMINE – FEBRUARY 26 & 27

30-Hour Famine is a worldwide movement of students who are serious about serving God and fighting hunger. Eight other Episcopal churches will join Christ Church to participate this year. The students begin fasting after lunch and gather in the Parish Center on Friday, February 26 at 7 PM for games, fellowship, and worship. On Saturday, February 27 they will go out into the community and participate in service projects in Wilmington. The fast will end with Eucharist and a simple supper at 5:30 PM on Saturday. Parents are invited to join us for the Eucharist and supper. Pickup will be at 6:30 PM. Arrangements can be made for those who cannot fast. 30-Hour Famine counts toward school service hours too. All money raised will go directly to Haiti to help feed those affected by the recent earthquake. Contact Lynne Jensen to register ([ljensen@christchurchde.org](mailto:ljensen@christchurchde.org), text 373-5625, or message her on Facebook).

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## FEBRUARY OUTREACH COLLECTION

During the month of February, we will collect personal care products for AIDS Delaware for clients in their program. Needed are: *toilet paper, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, and tissues*. Collection bins are located in the back of the Church and in the Parish Center near the circle drive, and tax receipts are available for your records.

**PEOPLE SERVING TODAY: Acolytes:** 8 AM Taylor Martel. 9 AM Matt Kirk, Maddy Buckley, Oliver Faulkner, Brooke Kelly, Matt Kempner, Maya Krasker; Anne Buckley, Advisor. 11 AM Preston Boyden, Caroline Ashford, Reed Boyden, Spencer Boyden, Henry Moncure, Emily Romano; Steve Boyden, Advisor. **Altar Guild:** Ellie Maroney, Nancy Baiz, Lucy Cluett, Tucker Giddens, Megan Grubbs, Lucinda Laird, Claire Murray, Barbara Petroll. **Coffee Hour:** Beth Duncan. **Eucharistic Ministers:** 8 AM Dale Hunt, Cathy Welsh. 9 AM Caty Anthony, Janet Dill, Alexandra Ergon, Tucker Giddens. 11 AM Sandra Anderson, Ernie Ruppe. **Greeters:** 9 AM Laurie Edinger, Jennifer O'Connor. 11 AM Gary and Athena Jolly. **Lector:** 9 AM Jennifer O'Connor. **Ushers:** 9 AM Chuck, Sandy, Sam, Rebecca, and Peter Durgin. 11 AM Doug Simonton, David Morrell, Dick Parker, Ernie Ruppe.

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### MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of  
Frederick S. and Bessie G. Johnson  
Husband E. and Dorothy K. Kimmel  
Agatha Gay Kimmel  
Ned Kimmel

Christ Church Office, Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
P. O. Box 3510, Greenville, Wilmington, DE 19807-0510  
Phone 655-3379; Fax 655-2259; Preschool 472-0021  
[www.christchurchde.org](http://www.christchurchde.org)

### THE PARISH STAFF

The Reverend Ruth Lawson Kirk, *Rector* ([rkirk@christchurchde.org](mailto:rkirk@christchurchde.org))  
The Reverend Russell Bohner, TSSF, *Senior Associate Rector* ([rbohner@christchurchde.org](mailto:rbohner@christchurchde.org))  
The Reverend Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, *Curate* ([jandrewsweckerly@christchurchde.org](mailto:jandrewsweckerly@christchurchde.org))  
The Reverend Canon Carl Kunz Jr., *Pastoral Associate*  
Keith Dawson, *Business Administrator* ([kdawson@christchurchde.org](mailto:kdawson@christchurchde.org))  
Nadine DiLorenzo, *Saint Nicholas Choir Director*  
Catherine Dolan, *Head of School* ([cdolan@christchurchde.org](mailto:cdolan@christchurchde.org))  
Denise Harris, *Assistant to Head of School* ([dharris@christchurchde.org](mailto:dharris@christchurchde.org))  
David Hearn, *Assistant Organist/Choirmaster*  
Linda Hopkins, *Housekeeper*  
Lynne Jensen, *Minister for Children and Youth* ([ljensen@christchurchde.org](mailto:ljensen@christchurchde.org))  
Sherry Lawton-Fasic, *Parish Administrator* ([slawtonfasic@christchurchde.org](mailto:slawtonfasic@christchurchde.org))  
Millie Miller, *Senior Administrative Associate* ([mmiller@christchurchde.org](mailto:mmiller@christchurchde.org))  
Walt Morris, *Sexton*  
William Owen, *Organist/Choirmaster* ([wowen@christchurchde.org](mailto:wowen@christchurchde.org))  
Jane Rubini, *Administrative Associate* ([jrubini@christchurchde.org](mailto:jrubini@christchurchde.org))  
Don Somers, *Sexton*  
Shannon Tusso, *Administrative Associate* ([stusso@christchurchde.org](mailto:stusso@christchurchde.org))

### THE VESTRY

Andy Johnston, *Senior Warden*; Steve Brodt, '10, *Junior Warden*; Dana Robertson, *Clerk*; Ned Jackson, *Treasurer*; Mark Attix, *Assistant Treasurer*; Wilson Anthony, '11; Barbara Cairns, '12; Ted Cover, '12; Oliver Faulkner, youth rep.; Betsy Field, '11; Wes Jones, '12; Martha Lankford, '11; Gina Pike, '11; Bitsy Robbins, '10; Judy Sargent, '10; Rich Tucker, '12; Ann Wick, '10

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**FEBRUARY 7, 2010**

**8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I**

Opening Acclamation	BCP 323
Gloria in Excelsis	
Collect of the Day	164
The First Reading	<i>Isaiah 6:1-8</i>
Psalm 138	BCP 793
The Holy Gospel	<i>Luke 5:1-11</i>
The Homily	Ruth Lawson Kirk
The Nicene Creed	BCP 326
Prayers of the People	328
Confession and Absolution	330
The Peace	332
The Holy Communion	
Offertory	
<i>All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.</i>	
The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer II	BCP 340
The Lord's Prayer	336
The Breaking of the Bread	337
Communion of the Faithful	
<i>Gluten-free wafers available upon request.</i>	
Post-Communion Prayer	339
The Blessing	
Announcements and Dismissal	
<i>People: Thanks be to God.</i>	

## 9:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Prelude <i>Allabreve</i>	J. S. Bach
Hymn 401, vs. 1-3	<i>The God of Abraham Praise</i>
Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
Collect for Purity	
* <i>The Gloria</i>	356
Collect of the Day	216
The First Reading <i>(please be seated)</i>	<i>Isaiah 6:1-8</i>
Gradual Hymn <i>The Lord is My Light (as able, please stand)</i>	printed on insert
The Holy Gospel	<i>Luke 5:1-11</i>
Gradual Hymn <i>The Lord is My Light</i>	printed on insert
The Homily <i>(please be seated)</i>	Ruth Lawson Kirk
The Apostles' Creed <i>(as able, please stand)</i>	BCP 96
Prayers of the People and Confession	printed on insert
The Peace	BCP 360
The Offertory	
Anthem <i>(please be seated)</i>	St. Nicholas Choir
<i>O Praise the Lord, Who Made All Beauty</i>	French carol, Hal Hopson
O praise the Lord who made all beauty. Whose gift of the senses we enjoy. O may we live each day in constant wonder, to see all of life in simple pleasure. O praise the Lord who made all beauty. Sing, "Laude, laudeamus te." Praise Him who makes each day an adventure. Praise Him for eager eyes to see the world. Praise Him for budding flower. Praise Him for stars and moonbeam. Sing, "Laudeamus, Laudeamus, Laude, Laudeamus." Praise Him for sound of voice and music. Praise Him for touch that loved ones share. Praise Him for fragrant springtime. Praise Him for winter's bleakness. Sing, "Laudeamus, Laudeamus, Laude, Laudeamus."	
Presentation Hymn 348	<i>Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation</i>
The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B <i>(as able, please stand)</i>	BCP 367
* <i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i>	
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	
* <i>Fraction Anthem</i>	
Communion of the Faithful <i>(gluten-free wafers available upon request)</i>	
Communion Anthem	
<i>God in His Love</i>	Fred P. Green/Valerie Ruddle
God in His love for us lent us this planet, gave it a purpose in time and in space: small as a spark from the fire of creation, cradle of life and the home of our race. Thanks be to God for its bounty and beauty, life that sustains us in body and mind: plenty for all, if we learn how to share it, riches undreamed of to fathom and find. Earth is the Lord's: it is ours to enjoy it; ours, as His stewards, to farm and defend. From its pollution, misuse and destruction, good Lord deliver us, world without end!	
Communion Hymn 661	<i>They Cast Their Nets in Galilee</i>
Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 365
The Blessing	
Hymn 535	<i>Ye Servants of God</i>
Announcements and Dismissal	
<i>People: Thanks be to God.</i>	

\*from *Mass for Christ Church Christiana Hundred* (1997) by David Willcocks, located in the pew rack

## 11:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Prelude <i>Allabreve</i>	J. S. Bach
Hymn 401	<i>The God of Abraham Praise</i>
Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
Collect for Purity	
* <i>The Gloria</i>	356
Collect of the Day	216
The First Reading ( <i>please be seated</i> )	<i>Isaiah 6:1-8</i>
Psalm 138 ( <i>sung by choir</i> )	BCP 793
The Second Reading	<i>I Corinthians 15:1-11</i>
Gradual Hymn 661, vs. 1-2 ( <i>as able, please stand</i> )	<i>They Cast Their Nets in Galilee</i>
The Holy Gospel	<i>Luke 5:1-11</i>
Gradual Hymn 661, vs. 3-4	<i>They Cast Their Nets in Galilee</i>
The Sermon ( <i>please be seated</i> )	Ruth Lawson Kirk
The Nicene Creed ( <i>as able, please stand</i> )	BCP 358
Prayers of the People and Confession	printed on insert
The Peace	BCP 360
The Offertory	
Anthem ( <i>please be seated</i> )	Christ Church Choir
<i>They That Go Down to the Sea in Ships</i>	Herbert Sumsion
They that go down to the sea in ships: and occupy their business in great waters; these men see the works of the Lord: and his wonders in the deep. For at his word the stormy wind ariseth: which lifteth up the waves thereof. They are carried up to the heaven, and down again to the deep: Their soul melteth away because of the trouble. They reel to and fro and stagger like a drunken man: and are at their wits' end. So when they cry unto the Lord in their trouble: He delivereth them out of their distress. For he maketh the storm to cease: so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they are at rest: and so he bringeth them unto the haven where they would be.	
Presentation Hymn 348	<i>Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation</i>
The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B ( <i>as able, please stand</i> )	BCP 367
* <i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i>	
The Lord's Prayer	364
Breaking of the Bread	
* <i>Fraction Anthem</i>	
Communion of the Faithful ( <i>gluten-free wafers available upon request</i> )	
Communion Anthem	
<i>The Best of Rooms</i>	Randall Thompson
Christ, He requires still, wheresoever He comes, to feed, or lodge, to have the best of rooms: give Him the choice; grant Him the nobler part of all the house: the best of all's the heart.	
	Robert Herrick, "Christ's Part" (1647)
Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 365
The Blessing	
Hymn 535	<i>Ye Servants of God</i>
Announcements and Dismissal	
<i>People: Thanks be to God.</i>	

\*from *Mass for Christ Church Christiana Hundred* (1997) by David Willcocks, located in the pew rack

### **THE FIRST READING: ISAIAH 6:1-8**

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

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### **THE SECOND READING: I CORINTHIANS 15:1-11**

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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### **THE HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 5:1-11**

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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### 9:00 AM GRADUAL HYMN

from *Songs and Prayers from Taizé*

Calmly (♩ = 66)

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

Sing once through in unison, then two times through as a round between women and men, women starting.

## 9:00 AND 11:00 AM PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O God, who created all things, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in your son Jesus Christ. May your wisdom in its rich variety be known through all faithful people and give your holy church grace to bear the gifts of truth and love to all your children on earth. We pray for our clergy and bishops. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for *N.*; in the Diocesan cycle we pray for *N.* We pray for all who proclaim the gospel to the ends of the earth and for all who seek the truth.

*Show us your light O Lord, and hear our prayer.*

Give your justice to the nations of the world and their leaders, and give your mercy to all whose decisions affect the peace and well-being of the world. We pray for our President, Barack. Open our ears to the cries of the weak, the poor, and the needy, and open our hearts to answer their call.

*Show us your light O Lord, and hear our prayer.*

Bless our parish community and the City of Wilmington, and especially the people and work of *N.*, that in your light we may each become servants, one to the other.

*Show us your light O Lord, and hear our prayer.*

Have mercy on those among us who journey in sickness, fear, or any kind of trouble, especially *N.*, and those who we remember now (*pause*). Send your grace upon them and deliver them from their distress.

*Show us your light O Lord, and hear our prayer.*

We pray for those who have died, especially *N.*, and those we remember now (*pause*), and we pray that they may have rest in that place where there is no pain, but life eternal.

*Show us your light O Lord, and hear our prayer.*

We thank you for all the blessings of this life, remembering them now (*pause*), and for your Son Jesus, who is the light on the road that we travel, our companion along the way, and our journey's end.

*Celebrant:* O God, who sent the light of Jesus among us, hear the prayers of your people, and show us the true light of the glory of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Together let us say:*

*There have been times when we have forgotten to live as children of God. We have been selfish or cruel—hurtful to others and harmful to ourselves. We are sorry for what we have done and for what we have left undone. Please forgive us, and let your mercy bring us new light to begin again.*

*Celebrant:* In the assurance of eternal life given in baptism, know that your sins are forgiven, be strengthened for God's service, and let the light of Christ shine in your hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *Amen.*