CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED



WELCOME!

We are glad you are with us today as we worship God and receive Christ's presence given to us in the sacrament of bread and wine. This service is offered by livestream to those who cannot assemble with us. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 4, 2025 10:30 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Service Music from *The Christ Church Mass*, Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Voluntary Sarabande from Suite for Organ

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand, as able, and sing

Entrance Hymn 182 Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

(blue) Hymnal 1982

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant 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.

All sing

God's Paschal Lamb

from Wonder, Love, and Praise



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Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of

bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives

and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated for

The First Reading Acts 9:1-6

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

At the conclusion the People respond, "Thanks be to God."

The Choir sings

Psalm 30 Exaltabo te, Domine

Chant: James Turle (1802-1882)

I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favor for a lifetime.

Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning.

While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.

You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."

Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit?

will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper."

You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

The Second Reading Revelation 5:11-14

I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Hymnal 1982

The Gospel is carried to the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.

The Gospel Reading John 21:1-19

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Once the Book of Gospels has returned to its place of honor, the People may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

The Homily Michael Kurth

Please stand for

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us declare our faith in God:

People 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.

A member of the parish leads

The Prayers of the People

In mercy hear our prayer, gracious God, for the church and for the world.

Pray and praise God from whom all blessings flow. Bless the fruits of the earth, the trees of the forest, and all the animals of the field; let all creation give you praise. That we may see your glory in all the world.

we pray to you, Lord God.

Pray that the whole church may proclaim Christ as the Lord of life. Pour upon us the grace to live in unity and love. Bless Sean, our presiding bishop; Kevin, our bishop; and our clergy; our preschool and parish. We lift up N., and we give thanks for our outreach partner, N. That we may make Christ known in all we say and do,

we pray to you, Lord God.

Pray that nations and peoples may be brought together to live in freedom and peace. Guide us to share the resources of the earth. Guard all those in diplomatic and military service and all who defend and protect the welfare of others. That there may be justice and peace on earth,

we pray to you, Lord God.

Pray for those who live with grief or pain, those suffering from any need or trouble and for those who minister to them. We remember *N*. and those we name now. That we may be agents of your healing grace,

we pray to you, Lord God.

Pray for all who have died and now rest in the hope of eternal life. We remember *N*. and those we name now. That we may entrust them to your never-failing love,

we pray to you, Lord God.

Pray and praise God, from whom all blessings flow. We thank you for the forgiveness we have received in your mercy, for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and the life we live in Christ Jesus, our Lord. That we may share our faith, our hope, and your love,

we pray to you, Lord God.

The Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory and Preparation of the Table

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering. Giving money is a sign that our life serves God's purposes and expresses our gratitude for God's many blessings. The ushers will receive the offering and present it on our behalf. Also, you may give online or text a contribution to (302) 244-5368. For those who give electronically, a card is available in the pews to participate in the act of offering. Newcomers and guests may place the welcome card in the offering plate.

Anthem

Plainsong with Organ Improvisation in Alternatum

We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father everlasting.

To Thee all Angels cry aloud, the Heavens and all the Powers therein.

To Thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of Thy Glory.

Organ Improvisation

The glorious company of the Apostles praise Thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise Thee.

The noble army of Martyrs praise Thee.

The Holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee.

The Father of an infinite Majesty; Thine honorable, true, and only Son.

Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Organ Improvisation

Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man,

Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,

Thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Organ Improvisation

Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the Glory of the Father.

We believe that Thou shalt come to be our Judge.

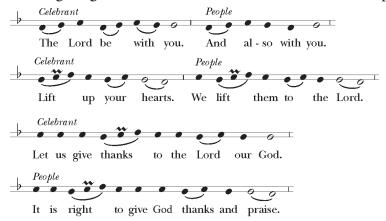
We therefore pray Thee, help Thy servants

Whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with Thy Saints in glory everlasting.

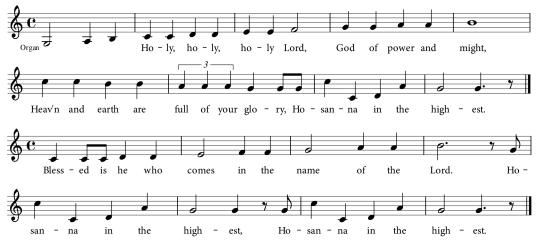
Organ Improvisation (Final)

Please stand and sing



The Celebrant continues the prayer, inviting our praise in the ancient song of the Sanctus.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



The Celebrant continues the prayer, inviting our acclamation of Christ's sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection, saying

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

Celebrant and People

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

The Celebrant continues the prayer, saying

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Celebrant and People

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

The Celebrant concludes

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.



The Celebrant invites the People to say the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

We sing the anthem at the breaking of the bread, which is Christ's Body, broken for us. Please be seated after the sacrament is presented.



All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Christ or a blessing. Come up the center aisle and take your place along the altar rail, kneeling or standing. If you desire a blessing, cross your arms over your chest to indicate your intent. Receive the host in open hands. Gluten-free host is available; let the clergy know your need when they approach you. When you are presented with the cup, drink from it or dip the bread carefully into the cup and consume in both kinds together. If you do not wish to receive the cup, please cross your arms to indicate your intent, but wait for the minister to pass you before you leave the rail. Please use the side aisle to return to your pew. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher to let the clergy know, and communion will be brought to you.

Communion Anthem

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back, guilty of dust and sin.

But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack from my first entrance in,

Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning, if I lack'd anything.

A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here: Love said, You shall be he.

I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear, I cannot look on thee.

Love took my hand, and smiling did reply, who made the eyes but I?

Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame go where it doth deserve.

And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame? My dear, then I will serve.

You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat: so I did sit and eat.

Please stand for

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant In thanksgiving, let us pray.

People Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members

of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People.

People Amen.

All sing

Hymn in Procession 200 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Voluntary Dialogue sur le grands jeux

François Couperin (1668-1733)

Please take your bulletin with you or return it to the table in the narthex as you leave.

We are sent forth to be Christ's blessing in the world. Our prayer is that today's worship has encouraged you in love, strengthened you for service, and filled you with joy. We look forward to your presence again in worship, in service to others, in learning and fellowship.

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED



MAY 4, 2025

IN THE SEASON OF EASTER

THIS WEEK WE LIFT UP...

THE WORK OF OUR OUTREACH PARTNERS. Our Outreach ministry provides the framework for our community to live out its baptismal covenant as a Christian people. We are committed to bringing about God's kingdom through prayer, the giving of resources, education, and opportunities for involvement with our neighbors in need. Last month, the Outreach Committee completed its annual funding allocations process and pledged \$173,500 to 23 nonprofits in our area. For a complete list of the agencies we support, visit our website and consider how you might become involved with one of these partners in our community. For more information about the Outreach Committee, please contact Carol Morley or call the parish office at (302) 655-3379.

PICK UP A BALLOT TODAY OR VOTE ONLINE IN THIS YEAR'S VESTRY ELECTION

In this bulletin, you will find information on this year's vestry nominees. Pick up a ballot after services today and return it to the parish office or <u>vote</u> online by Thursday, May 15. The parish voting list is available online and in the parish office and contains those eligible to vote in the election according to our bylaws. Election results will be announced at our annual meeting on Sunday, May 18.

ITTY BITTY YOGIS AT CCEP & CCCH - MAY 7, 14, & 21

Join with other moms from Christ Church and Christ Church Episcopal Preschool for mom and baby yoga classes. Focus on gentle postures that promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being and breathing practices that help calm the mind and reduce stress while bonding with your infant. Itty Bitty Yogis classes will be held on Wednesdays, May 7, 14, and 21, from 10 to 10:45 AM in Parish Hall C. The cost is \$15 per session. Bring a yoga mat and a blanket for your baby, and RSVP for the sessions you will attend.

LUNCH & CONVERSATION ON CELTIC CHRISTIANITY - MAY 7

Join us for lunch and conversation with Fr. David Beresford this Wednesday, May 7. Lunch will be served in the Parish Hall after the 12 PM Eucharist in the Chapel, followed by conversation on the history, theology, and practice of Celtic Christianity and why it matters today. This spirituality, part of our Anglican/Episcopal tradition, took root in Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Northumbria, and their coastal islands and combines an ethereal spirituality with a connection to the natural world. Bring a friend for worship, conversation, and a light buffet lunch. A suggested donation of \$8 to help defray the cost of lunch is appreciated. This event is sponsored by our Elder Ministry, but all ages are welcome to participate. Please RSVP.

EPISCOPAL BELIEFS & PRACTICES - MAY 7, 14, 21, & 28

Adults interested in being confirmed on June 1 or baptized on June 8 are invited to attend our spring series, Episcopal Beliefs & Practices. Classes take place on Wednesdays, May 7, 14, 21, and 28. Evenings begin with a shared meal at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall, followed by the class from 7 to 8 PM. Together, we will explore life rooted in the Episcopal tradition through a discussion of church history, holy scripture, worship, and doctrine. RSVP for the series.

FLEXIBLE PLASTICS RECYCLING EVENT - MAY 10

Christ Church's Creations Care Team will host our next flexible plastics collection event in the circle drive entrance of the Parish Center on Saturday, May 10, from 9 AM to 12 PM. Bring your clean and dry plastic shopping bags, produce bags, ice bags, Ziploc/reclosable storage bags, bread bags, dry cleaning bags, cereal box liners, newspaper sleeves, bubble wrap, and plastic e-commerce mailers to benefit Bags2Mats for the Homeless. This statewide program turns plastic material into plarn (plastic yarn), and volunteers crochet the plarn into mats for the homeless. Help us help those in our community as we care for our planet by recycling flexible plastics.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP MEETING - MAY 11

This month's Grief Support Group meets next Sunday, May 11, at 12 PM. Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one and are moving through the grief process are encouraged to attend either in person in the Commons Room or online by Zoom.

EASTER LESSONS & CAROLS - MAY 11

Treat your mom this Mother's Day by bringing her to Easter Lessons & Carols next Sunday, May 11, at 4 PM in the Church with the Christ Church Choir, senior Choristers, organ, brass, and timpani. This service brings together many traditional elements of Christian worship in celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. Through readings, carols, and congregational hymns, we recall the prophecies and events leading up to and following Jesus' resurrection and conclude by looking forward to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

8 & 9 AM SERVICES AND ANNUAL MEETING CELEBRATION - MAY 18

On Sunday, May 18, we gather for two morning services at 8 and 9 AM in the Church, followed by the 177th annual meeting of our parish. Join us for worship and then in the Parish Halls where we'll review the past year, look at the year ahead, and celebrate our many blessings. Children are invited to Stay and Play during the meeting (details below), and lunch will be served for all at 11:45 AM.

STAY AND PLAY—A NEW PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN DURING THE ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 18

Bring your children for Stay and Play on Sunday, May 18, during Christ Church's annual meeting. Based on Let Grow Play Clubs, kids organize their own games and fun in unstructured, mixed-age, free play. Stay and Play allows children to choose what to play and who to play with, organize their games, and make their own decisions. While an adult will be present in case of an emergency, they will not be involved in the play that is taking place. This will allow children to work together and have fun without adult intervention. For more information, contact Mason Cruz.

MAY OUTREACH COLLECTION

During May, our outreach collection benefits children and youth in the Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware and in the village of Jalonga, Dominican Republic. Donations of athletic equipment for those 4 and under, baseball gloves, bats, balls, and jump ropes for older children, water bottles, granola bars, pop tarts, and small boxes of cereal may be left in the back of the Church or in the collection bin in the Parish Center circle drive entrance.

A FEW SPOTS REMAIN AT MEMORIAL HOUSE - AUGUST 1-8

Join fellow members of Christ Church for a week of fun and fellowship at Memorial House, the Episcopal Church retreat center nestled in the pines section of Rehoboth—from Friday, August 1 to Friday, August 8. Enjoy homemade meals, nature, and meaningful connections, just two blocks from the beach. For more information or to make a reservation, visit their website.

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS EXPAND

A recent update to our online giving system now allows Apple Pay, Google Pay, PayPal, and Venmo in addition to credit/debit cards and ACH transactions. Visit our <u>website</u> to make an offering. Thank you for supporting our ministry with contributions and pledges for annual giving!

WEAR YOUR CHRIST CHURCH NAME TAG

Help us build community as we get to know fellow parishioners and newcomers by wearing your Christ Church name tag when you come to church. Order yours online or call the parish office at (302) 655-3379. Tags are hard plastic with a magnetic clip, and donations are welcome to offset the \$8 cost to the church.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Rod and Fran Waugh and in loving memory of Sam, Dot, and Bill Melcher Bob and Jimmy Patterson

The flowers in the Chapel are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of David and Wilhelmina Craven Peter Shepard Strange

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED 2025 VESTRY NOMINEES



Shelley Angela Kinsella – Shelley and her husband, Rafael Zahralddin, have been members of Christ Church for over 22 years and cherish the community in which they have raised their two children, Mikel (college senior) and Annabel (10th grade). Their family also includes two dogs and three rescue cats, reflecting Shelley's love of all living creatures. Christ Church is an integral part of Shelley's life. She serves weekly as a Rite-13 youth group leader, has been a parent volunteer for many years for the Christmas pageant, participates in two small church book groups, and helps with the St. Michael's Book Nook. In addition, Shelley has served in multiple church ministries, including the Flower Ministry and Emmanuel Dining Room, as a member

of the Chapel Organ Committee, the Children & Youth Ministry Advisory Team, the Adult Formation ministry, and has assisted with the Green Show, the planning of the Dominican Republic mission trip, and the formation of the Creations Care ministry. In addition to working as an attorney for the Delaware Department of Justice, Shelley has volunteered with Literacy Volunteers, Alternative Court for Teens, the Delaware pro bono Child Advocates program, and served on the Wilmington Ballet and Delaware Symphony Orchestra boards of directors. It is her intention to continue strengthening Christ Church's connection to the community, and she believes that her legal and volunteer experience can benefit the vestry. She is grateful for this nomination and considers it a blessing to be able to serve others. Shelley remains committed to ensuring the well-being of the church and all of its members.



Kendall Drew Meldrum – After moving to the area full time in 2023, Christ Church quickly became a central part of Kendall's family life. Originally from Albany, New York, she and her husband, Sam, have a blended family of five children, and two have been baptized at Christ Church. Sam, a native Delawarean, was also baptized at Christ Church. Their daughter, Genevieve, is currently a student at Christ Church Episcopal Preschool, and their youngest, Fitz, will be joining in the fall. They are regular attendees of the 9 AM ARK service in the Chapel, and their kids are actively involved in Sunday formation. Christ Church has been very welcoming and has made Kendall feel at home. Her involvement in parish activities has been both fulfilling

and impactful. She has been involved in the community through CCEP, including the CCEP Parents' Association. This experience has not only strengthened her connection with other parents but also deepened her commitment to supporting the church community. Professionally, Kendall leads a sales organization at Microsoft, where she has been working since 2017. In her role, she collaborates with U.S. manufacturers to drive their digital transformation initiatives. Kendall holds a B.S. in Industrial Engineering and Economics from Northwestern University and an MBA from Cornell Tech at Cornell University. Additionally, she previously served on the board of the Cornell Johnson College of Business NYC Alumni Club, which provided her with valuable experience in governance and community engagement. Kendall is dedicated to supporting the needs of young families and understands the importance of a strong foundation for young children. Through vestry service, she aims to contribute to the growth and vitality of Christ Church by using her professional skills and personal experiences to improve the parish's outreach and engagement efforts. Kendall is committed to the mission of Christ Church and values the power of community. She is ready to serve and lead and looks forward to collaborating with fellow vestry members to achieve their collective goals for the future.



Robin Penn Moody – Robin is a third-generation member of Christ Church where she was both baptized and confirmed. She and her husband, Jay Downing, were married at Christ Church in 2023. Her sons, George and Henry, were baptized at Christ Church. George was confirmed in 2023, and Henry is presently attending Confirmation class. Robin serves on the Stewardship Committee. She is an attorney and practiced in Delaware for many years in the areas of personal injury, general litigation, and commercial litigation. Robin is also admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and has handled matters in Chester County, Delaware County, and Montgomery County. She is an active member of the Holly Ball Committee and volunteers at Faithful Friends

Animal Shelter. She is also a member of the Colonial Dames where she previously served as a committee member. In the past, Robin held volunteer positions at Rodney Street Tennis and Tutoring Association. Robin received her B.A. in political science from Denison University. Prior to attending law school, she worked on Capitol Hill in the U.S. Senate. In her free time, Robin enjoys tennis, running, and spending time with her family, including her yellow Labrador and two rescue cats. If elected, she hopes to continue and enhance the important work and influence of Christ Church, strengthening its commitment to the work of the Lord. Robin is honored to be nominated for the vestry and looks forward to serving the Christ Church community.



John L. Olsen – John and his wife, Elaine, joined Christ Church in 1985 after relocating to Wilmington. They quickly became involved with the church's young adult group, which met socially and engaged in philanthropic work. John and Elaine taught Sunday school and organized food/refreshments for the Green Show Preview Party. John also served as an acolyte advisor and usher. John and Elaine's three children were baptized at Christ Church. (Bill Lane officiated at their daughter's baptism and marriage—moments John will forever cherish). The family focused on church activities that enabled their children to grow in a loving, faith-based environment, including trips to the Delaware Children's Theatre and Blue Rocks

games, Friday evening church potlucks, and the Christmas pageant. In 2000, the Olsens joined Church of the Advent in Kennett Square, where their children engaged in activities with friends from the Unionville schools they attended. One ministry John found highly rewarding was driving senior members to and from Kendal-Crosslands on the Advent bus. After raising their children, the Olsens returned to Christ Church and essentially "picked up where they left off." John joined the Outreach Committee, which he led in 2023-24, and participates in the Celebration of Life ministry. He is involved with several nonprofit agencies the church supports. In addition, for nearly 20 years the Olsen family prepared and served Christmas Eve dinner for patients and families at the Wilmington Ronald McDonald House. John earned his undergraduate degree from George Washington University and his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He practiced law for 39 years, retiring in 2022 as WSFS Bank General Counsel. John was recognized by the Delaware Superior Court for his critical role in shaping a mortgage foreclosure mediation program that promoted alternatives to sheriff's sales for struggling homeowners. He served on several nonprofit boards and remains on the board of the WSFS Cares Foundation. John possesses strong Christian values, which guide him in his daily life. Joining the vestry would give John the opportunity to use his skills, experience, and compassion to help grow the parish, support the church's many ministries, and assist those in need.



Susan Hess Scott – A strong foundation in the Episcopal faith, planted during her youth at Grace Episcopal Church in Haddonfield, New Jersey, underpins Susan's commitment to service. Following significant life changes after college, she embarked on a journey that broadened her spiritual understanding, exploring traditions such as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the United Methodist Church, and the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Ultimately, her son's encouragement and her own reflective process led her back to her Episcopal roots, and she joined Christ Church in 2022. This homecoming held deep personal significance. Education has been the cornerstone of Susan's professional life, equipping her with a diverse skill set valuable

to the vestry. Possessing a B.A. in Child Development, a Masters in School Counseling, and specialized training in Reading, she currently provides crucial support to students with reading disabilities in private practice. Her leadership and collaborative abilities are evident in her extensive committee work and leadership roles within educational settings. Notably, she led the Lower School Language Arts Committee and developed and presented monthly child development programs for parents at Wilmington Friends School. These experiences underscore her capacity to nurture individuals, facilitate group dynamics, and contribute strategically. Christ Church witnesses Susan's active engagement in its community. She regularly attends worship and various music, formation, and parish life events with her husband, David, son, Chris, and granddaughter, Amelia. Beyond attendance, she actively participates in the Friday Women's Bible Study, assists with the Green Show, and contributes to the Flower Ministry. Susan enjoys spending time cooking, traveling, and sewing/craft projects. Her focus for the vestry centers on building stronger connections between families with young children and the wider parish and enhancing community outreach through meaningful, hands-on interactions. For Susan, vestry service represents a chance to listen attentively and contribute to the flourishing of the Christ Church community. Her lifelong connection to the Episcopal Church, coupled with her professional expertise and dedicated involvement, fuels her enthusiasm for this opportunity.



Wilmer C. Stith III – Wil was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, where his family was able to walk to the Cathedral of the Incarnation, an Episcopal church in Baltimore City. While there, Wil was baptized, attended Sunday school, was confirmed, and served as an acolyte for 12 years. His mother was Ukrainian, and he spent many Saturdays at "Ukrainian school" and was involved in youth group with the Ukrainian church, where he made his closest friends. Wil attended Gilman School in Baltimore City and thoroughly enjoyed his experience at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. He has worked for M&T Bank or its predecessor banks since college graduation. He received both an MBA from Loyola College in Baltimore and a

a chartered financial analyst (CFA) designation while working. He is an institutional fixed income portfolio manager at Wilmington Trust. After M&T purchased Wilmington Trust, he and his wife, Wendy, were asked to relocate to Wilmington, Delaware. They attended various churches in their first year after relocating and joined Christ Church in 2015. Wil has two adult children, Curtis and Christopher, and an eight-year-old daughter, Grace, who was baptized at Christ Church in 2017. Wil has been a member of the Confirmation class teaching team for three years and enjoys volunteering for the Green Show and other community outreach events and programs the church sponsors. Some of Wil's favorite times at Christ Church have been in the Christ Church kitchen during the Green Show Preview Party, Family Promise dinners, and the youth group's pancake breakfast.



B. Lynette Turner – Lynette was born and raised in Virginia and confirmed at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Orange Park, Florida in 1982. In 1997, she became a member of Christ Church, where she sang in the St. Cecilia Choir and participated in small groups. Currently, she serves on the Outreach Committee and the Elder and Parish Fellowship ministry teams. She is a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, co-facilitator of our Women's Bible Study on first and third Fridays of the month, and is a member of Books, Brew, & Banter. In her community, she has served as secretary and president of the board of her condominium association. In 2011, Lynette retired from Amtrak, having worked in various departments of the corporation. She has gained

vital experience in collaborating with many diverse groups, which enhanced her development of leadership skills professionally and in volunteerism. She received formal training from Hospice of Northeast Florida and served as a Hospice volunteer. Also, she has received formal training for The Stephen Ministry at the Church of the Good Samaritan in Paoli, Pennsylvania. She believes that both organizations helped foster her sense of empathy and compassion. At an early age, Lynette began developing her faith. She considers it a key responsibility to continue to grow our faith in Jesus Christ, both in the Church and in our community. She is very grateful for our clergy's leadership, our church office staff, and our director of music's ability to enrich our music ministry. Having been engaged in various ministries and committees at Christ Church over the years, Lynette appreciates the hard work and support of our parishioners. She strongly believes in everyone using their gifts and talents for the Lord and continuing to nurture our growth now and for generations to come.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Christ Church welcomes you into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

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PARISH CLERGY

The Rev. Ruth Beresford, *Rector*The Rev. Michael Kurth, *Associate Rector/Preschool Chaplain*The Rev. David Beresford, *Interim Associate Rector*The Very Rev. William Lane, *Pastoral Associate*

LAY MINISTRY STAFF

Sheila Abio, Head of School
Bruce Barber, Director of Music
Mason Cruz, Minister for Children & Youth
Jo Harney, Director of Choristers
Cameron Kuzepski, Organ Scholar

ADMINISTRATIVE & FACILITIES STAFF

Sherry Lawton-Fasic, Parish Administrator
Terri Carpe, Finance Manager
Jennifer Fordham, School Administrator
Deb Piper, Philanthropy/Stewardship Associate
Jane Rubini, Administrative Associate
Nigel Sanderson, Livestream Technician
Michael Sayer, Facilities Manager
Deborah Webb, Communications Associate/Graphic Designer
Leroy Folks, Andy Marine, Charles Parfitt-Simpson, Sextons

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Ran Barton, *Senior Warden*; Alexia Wolf, '26, *Junior Warden*Mark Parsells, *Treasurer*; Bob Reardon, *Assistant Treasurer*Jennifer O'Connor, *Clerk*; Alexander Maynard, *Youth Representative*Chuck Arensberg, '26; Audrey Bruce, '25; Cindi Cozza, '27; Barbara King, '27
Ted Ledden, '25; Thorpe Moeckel, '27; Scott Nickle, '26; Eliza Phillips, '25
Jamie Poston, '27; Bart Reese, '25; Jaqueline Whalen, '26

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