

CHRIST CHURCH

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ASPEN



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

Welcome to Christ Church! We're glad you're worshipping with us today.

Hymns and service music are found in the blue Hymnal 1982. Text of prayers and lessons are included here.

Please join us for refreshments following the service, outside the front steps or in the Rowland Davis Hall (weather depending).

10:00 AM

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
The Book of Common Prayer, pp. 355-366

PRELUDE

The First Noel, arr. Victor Labenske

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be the God: Father, son and Holy Spirit

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 87, *Hark, the Herald Angels sing*
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THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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**

GLORIA

Hymnal S-280, *Glory to God*

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.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Presider: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Priest says: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen. (Please be seated.)*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,

my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,

and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise

to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Presider: The Word of the Lord
People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 147:13-21

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

**For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.**

He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.**

He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?**

He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

**He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE GALATIANS 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN

Hymnal 101, *Away In a Manger*
© 1985 by The Church Pension Fund

THE GOSPEL *(Please stand)*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 1:1-18

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

There In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer

A period of silence will be kept.

THE NICENE CREED, p. 358 *(Please stand)*

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; we ask your prayers for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Kym, our Bishop, and Bill, our Priest; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. We ask your prayers for members of our Christ Church Family, especially this day for Charla, Chip Howe, Lexi, and Betsy Warren. We pray for Jan, Robert, Diana, Brian, and Lynn Murtagh. We pray for the continued development of little Otto.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE PEACE *All stand.*

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

People: **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS / TRAVEL PRAYERS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Once in Royal David's City, arr. Victor Labenske
Giving QR code located on the back page of the bulletin

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 380 vs. 3, *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*
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**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; / Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; / Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(The people remain standing)*

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.**

The Presider proceeds:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...etc. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Tune: Land of Rest

**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.

Hosanna in the highest.

(The people stand or kneel.)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself...etc. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Presider continues: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father...etc. ...All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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. **AMEN.** [*The great AMEN is said as a loud acclamation*].

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Please stand)*

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then the following is said:

Presider: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

THE INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

After the Invitation, members of the congregation will be invited to come pick up the blessed elements, one per person, at the altar rail. Please come up the center aisle and return to your seat via the outside aisle. After everyone has returned to their seats we will all receive communion together.

COMMUNION MUSIC

What Child is This? arr. Victor Labenske

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER, p. 365 *(Please stand)*

Presider and People: **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 99, Go tell it on the Mountain
© 1985 by The Church Pension Fund

THE DISMISSAL

Presider: Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works,
and give glory to God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Angels from the Realms of Glory, arr. Victor Labenske

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## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

***Presider:*** The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer

***Minister of Music:*** Mandy Gessler

***Piano & Organ:*** Mandy Gessler

|                               |            |                |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| <b><i>Acolyte</i></b>         | 8:00 a.m.  |                |
|                               | 10:00 a.m. | Donna Rowlands |
| <b><i>Reader</i></b>          | 8:00 a.m.  | Lynn Russell   |
|                               | 10:00 a.m. | Warren Klug    |
| <b><i>Altar Guild</i></b>     | 8:00 a.m.  | Alison Ford    |
|                               | 10:00 a.m. | Donna Rowlands |
| <b><i>Greeter/Usher</i></b>   | 8:00 a.m.  | Neala Young    |
|                               | 10:00 a.m. | Leone Falcone  |
| <b><i>Fellowship Host</i></b> |            | Leone Falcone  |

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THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!

In-Person Services are at 8:00 A.M & 10:00 A.M.

The Live Broadcast will at 10:00 A.M. at ChristChurchAspen.org

GIVING QR CODE



Open the built-in camera app on your phone. Point the camera at the QR code. Tap the banner that appears, it will connect you to our giving app.

Thank you for your faithful stewardship and valued partnership in ministry.

VESTRY

Lindsay Gorman (Sr. Warden), Joel Shannon (Jr. Warden), Eric Pelander (Treasurer), Diana Rumsey (Clerk), Peter Grenney, Tracy Murtagh, Janice James, and Peter Harrigan.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Janice James, Neal Douthant, Wayne Stryker, Diana Rumsey, Tracy Murtagh and Jay Webster.

"Let your Light Shine through the Joy of Giving"

STAY CONNECTED

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Minister of Music, Mandy Gessler: mandy@christchurchaspen.org

Pastoral Care, The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer: 646-618-1684

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The Sunday News Page

December 31, 2023, *FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS*

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

We are glad you are here. If you are a newcomer, or a visitor, please fill out the *Welcome Card* in the pew or in the Narthex, and give to an usher. We would love to get to know you better.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1/3 Ian Murtagh, 1/3 Patti Webster, 1/6 AJ Smith, and 1/6 Hannah Smith.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

The church office will be closed the week after Christmas: **Tuesday, December 26 through January 1, 2024** Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

CHURCH SKI DAY COORDINATOR

We are looking for a special someone to coordinate church ski days this winter. If you are interested please reach out to Joy Stryker at joy@strykerbrown.com.

FIRST SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Join us after the service at 10:00 A.M. on **Sunday, January 7**. Donations are appreciated and everyone is welcome! Some say it's the best breakfast in Aspen...come along and decide for yourself.

INQUIRER'S CLASS

If you are new to the Christ Church Parish and want to understand how we practice our faith; If you have been attending for a while and want to learn about membership and how to become more involved in the life of the church; or if you are life-long Episcopalian and want to go deeper in your faith and service, this class is for you. The class will take place between services on **Sunday, January 21, 2024**. For more information please contact The Rev Dr Bill Lupfer at wlupfer@christchurchaspen.org.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Save the date!: The Christ Church Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 28, 2024** between services at 9:00 A.M.

ON-GOING AT CHRIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School and the Nursery are available on Sundays at 10:00 A.M.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The sign up for Altar flowers is on the table in the Narthex. The florist fee is \$250 and comes with an inscription in the Sunday News page. You are welcome to make a homemade arrangement or share a day with someone. For more information please contact Siri Mytty, Parish Administrator at siri@christchurchaspen.org.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024

We hope that you will prayerfully consider joining us in making a financial pledge this year. In addition every new pledge will be matched. Your pledge can help us build toward an even brighter future. May you **“Let Your Light Shine through the Joy of Giving.”** If you did not receive a letter in the mail, there are additional pledge cards on the Narthex table.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays at 8 A.M. at the Mountain Chalet

Wednesday mornings at 8:00 A.M. for breakfast and men's Bible Study. Email Warren Klug for details at warrenklug1@gmail.com.