

CHRIST CHURCH

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ASPEN



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 3, 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

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, Arr. Victor Labenkse

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 57, *Lo! he comes, with clouds descending*
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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, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and 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 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil--
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Presider: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

**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 FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN

Hymnal 68, *Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!*

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THE GOSPEL (*Please stand*)

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 13:24-37

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

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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 CONFESSION

Celebrant says: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

The Priest, stands and says: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE *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.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Selections from Mozart's Sonata in A Major, K 331
Giving QR code located on the back page of the bulletin*

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal 380 vs. 3, Praise God from whom all blessings flow
© 1985 by The Church Pension Fund

**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 Beethoven: Arietta from Sonata no. 32, Op. 111

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 66, Come, thou long expected Jesus**
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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 Selections from Mozart's Sonata in A Major, K 331

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PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

**Presider:** The Rev. Dr. Bill Lupfer  
**Director of Music:** Mandy Gessler  
**Piano and Organ:** Mandy Gessler

|                        |                               |                  |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Acolyte</b>         | 8:00 a.m.                     |                  |
|                        | 10:00 a.m.                    | Warren Klug      |
| <b>Reader</b>          | 8:00 a.m.                     | Phyllis Townsend |
|                        | 10:00 a.m.                    | Eric Pelander    |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>     | 8:00 a.m.                     | Katrina Gallant  |
|                        | 10:00 a.m.                    |                  |
| <b>Greeter/Usher</b>   | 8:00 a.m.                     | Stoney Davis     |
|                        | 10:00 a.m.                    | Bob D'Alessio    |
| <b>Fellowship Host</b> | <b>First Sunday Breakfast</b> |                  |

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THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!

In-Person Services are at 9:00A.M.

The Live Broadcast will at 9:00A.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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The Sunday News Page

December 3, 2023, THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

12/8 Madeleine Larson

HOLIDAY BASKETS 2023– extended!

Christmas is soon upon us and now is the time to think about the Christmas Gifts for those in need, that my have nothing to look forward to on Christmas Day. This year choose a Christmas gift tag from tree in the Narthex. Bring the new unwrapped gift with the tag attached and place in the wooden box under the coat rack in the Narthex no later than **Wednesday, December 6.** Remember giving is not just about making a donation, it's about making a difference.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & MUSIC FUND DONATIONS

You are invited to make a contribution to the Christmas Flowers or Music Fund in Thanksgiving or in Memory of loved ones. Donor names and memorials will be listed in the Christmas Eve Bulletins. Suggested donations are \$50 for the flower fund and \$50 for the music fund. Forms can be found on the table in the Narthex. **The deadline is Sunday, December 10.**

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Celebrate the Christmas Miracle during the **Sunday, December 10, 10:00 A.M.** service with the annual Children's Christmas Pageant. For more information, please contact Heather at heather8401@yahoo.com or Joy at joy@strykerbrown.com.

LESSONS & CAROLS

The annual Lessons and Carols Service will be **Friday, December 15** at 7:00 P.M. A holiday service of music and liturgy, featuring Aspen's most beloved musicians. The service runs approximately 1 hour.

HOLIDAY SAVE THE DATES:

Lesson & Carols - Friday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m.

4th Sunday of Advent– Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Day– Monday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

ON-GOING AT CHRIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

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.