

Christ Church United Methodist

July 2, 2023

(in-person) 9 am

(live-streamed & in-person) 11:15 am

Communion Sunday / 5th Sunday After Pentecost

Order of Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant

PRELUDE

Clarion Call

Michael Joy

Jubilate Ringers; Shawn Dawson, conductor

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Throughout Jesus' journeys, he often went to a solitary place to pray;
pouring his heart out in conversation with his Father.

People: We, like Jesus, are gathering for this time of worship bringing our
open hearts for dialogue with God.

Leader: God is faithful and present and hears our all our prayers.

People: In this worship, may each of us journey with Jesus authentically and
with willing hearts.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

America the Beautiful

Hymn 696

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

***INVITATION**

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live
in peace with one another.
Therefore let us confess our sin before God and one another.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

People: Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Let us all pray silently and confess our sins to God.

(All pray in silence)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Now hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners.

That proves God's love for us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

O I Want to Know You More
Mark Berlin, solo; Daniel Light, piano

Stephen Fry

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Hymn 95

***SCRIPTURE**

Mark 1:35-39

(9:00) Troy Lovett
(11:15) Ross Johnson

SERMON

Praying in the Dark

Liz Curtis Higgs

***SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION** *(turn to page 24 in the hymnal)*

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, forever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

9:00/11:15

Aria from Goldberg Variations
Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him
Lina Barrett, piano

J.S. Bach
arr. Lina Barrett

9:00/11:15

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful
In the Lord I'll be ever thankful. In the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Taizé

11:15

Largo from Sonata in G Minor
Elise Ashkettle, cello

Henry Eccles

9:00/11:15

Air (from Suite No. 3)
Shawn Dawson, organ

J.S. Bach

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*CLOSING HYMN

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Hymn 496

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,
and bids me at my Father's throne make all my wants and wishes known.

In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief,
and oft escaped the tempter's snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share
of those whose anxious spirits burn with strong desires for thy return!

With such I hasten to the place where God my Savior shows his face,
and gladly take my station there, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! thy wings shall my petition bear
to him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless.

And since he bids me seek his face, believe his word, and trust his grace,
I'll cast on him my every care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Festival Postlude In G
Shawn Dawson, organ

W. Eugene Thayer

***Announcements are located on the following pages*

THIS MORNING

The flowers in the Chancel area are given by Jef Conner in loving memory of her husband, Stew Conner and her parents, Julia and James Fish.

The rose banner honors the birth of Rosemary Elizabeth Muntis, daughter of Shelby and Frank Muntis, born June 21. She is the granddaughter of Allison and James Spurgeon and great granddaughter of Tony McAfee.

Spiritual Practice: Hearing God's Word

Weekly Sermon Companion

Sunday, July 2

Mark 1:35-39

HIGHLIGHTED VERSES

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. Mark 1:35 (NRSV)

- "...rising up a great while before day, He went out and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed" (KJ21)

And Simon and his companions hunted for him. Mark 1:36 (NRSV)

- "Simon and those who were with him pursued him" (NABRE)

When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." Mark 1:37 (NRSV)

- "they found Him and said, 'All the people are looking for You'" (NLV)

He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do."

Mark 1:38 (NRSV)

- "and he said to them, 'Let's go on to the neighboring villages so that I may preach there too. This is why I have come.'" (CSB)

And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons. Mark 1:39 (NRSV)

- "So he traveled throughout the province of Galilee, preaching in the synagogues and releasing many from the power of demons" (TLB)

NOTES

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME THROUGH TODAY'S MESSAGE?

Weekly Bible Study

Week of July 2 - 8

DAILY PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord, please guide me as I embark on this journey with you—making prayer a priority and resting in the certainty that you always listen. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Monday, July 3

In the morning, while it was still very dark... Mark 1:35

Many people begin their day with prayer, but Jesus started even earlier, “well before sunrise” (CEB). What might happen if you got up earlier than usual each day this week—10 minutes? 20 minutes?—and followed the Lord’s example, spending the first moments of the morning with your heavenly Father?

Tuesday, July 4

...he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. Mark 1:35

Rather than praying with his disciples, Jesus went to “a secluded place” (NASB), where “he could be alone” (NIRV). Do you prefer to pray alone or with others? Aloud or in silence? What benefits might be found in a time of solitary prayer?

Wednesday, July 5

...Simon and his companions hunted for him. Mark 1:36

After the sun rose, and the disciples realized Jesus was missing, they began “looking anxiously for Him” (AMP), until they “tracked him down” (CEB). Even knowing he will never leave you or forsake you, sometimes you may struggle to sense his presence. What steps can you take to reconnect with him?

Thursday, July 6

...Everyone is searching for you. Mark 1:37

When the disciples located Jesus, they told him, “All do seek thee” (YLT). His ministry had only begun, and already “the whole city was gathered around the door” (Mark 1:33), waiting to be healed of various diseases. Think of someone you know who may be searching for Jesus. How could you help that person? And when might you do so?

Friday, July 7

... so that I may proclaim the message...that is what I came out to do. Mark 1:38

Though people marveled at his miracles, Jesus understood his primary calling was to “preach...that is why I came from the Father” (AMP). What spiritual assignment has God given you to do during this season of your life?

Saturday, July 8

Pray first, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and teach you, then read tomorrow’s Scripture passage in preparation for Sunday’s worship service in the Chapel.

Matthew 14:1-13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Building Hours

In observance of Independence Day, the church will be closed Tuesday, July 4.

We are pleased to welcome Max Childers as our newest member of the Children's Ministry Team! She will be our **K-5th grade coordinator** when Janet Hagerty retires. Max is a recent graduate of Centre College, having completed her bachelors in English with additional focus in Classical and Environmental Studies. Max interned with us for two summers, developing a children's eco-stewardship program and helping to lead the Youth Ministry. We are **delighted to have Max's energy, love of God and her deep respect and care for children as part of the CCUM staff!** Max will begin on July 9.

Reminder: In celebration of summer, Christ Church will be **worshiping in the Chapel for the month of July!** Worship times and Sunday school will proceed as normal. We look forward to praising the Lord with you there!

Have three or more generations of your family been a part of Christ Church? We want to know who you are! Please visit ccum.net/family to let us know! Deadline is July 31.

The Raleigh Ringers | Sunday, July 9 | 4 pm | Sanctuary

Christ Church United Methodist **Sanctuary Concert Series** is excited to welcome The Raleigh Ringers. Founded in 1990, The Raleigh Ringers is an Emmy-nominated, internationally **acclaimed concert handbell choir** based in Raleigh, North Carolina. The group entertains audiences with **unique interpretations of sacred, secular, and popular music** (including renditions of familiar rock-'n'-roll tunes), in addition to original compositions. Admission to the concert is free.

Booked For Lunch is a **monthly book club for women** of all ages! We believe novels provide a powerful avenue for thinking more deeply about God and the world. We **meet the 2nd Thursday of every month at 12 pm**—bring a lunch and join us! The **next meeting is Thursday, July 13**, discussing *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. The list of future books can be found at ccum.net/women.

"I have a question..." | Monday, July 12, 19 and 26 | 6 – 7:30 pm

Have you ever read the Bible and thought, "I have a question..."? Maybe you've wondered: *Why is there so much violence? How is God both wrathful and righteous? Why did Jesus tell people not to talk about his miracles? What's Paul's problem with women?* If so, join Sarah Aten and Shelah Woodruff for **meaningful conversations** about **what the Bible has to say and how we make sense** out of its more challenging passages. Register at ccum.net/classes. Childcare available upon registration.

Do you play Pickleball? Our Gymnasium Pickleball courts may be **reserved** daily during the summer from 8 am to 5 pm for \$5 an hour. Call or email Keri Mitchell: keri@ccum.net, (502) 882-9966 to reserve your time.

Backpacks for Lighthouse Academy | Sundays, July 16 and 23

Christ Church is once again supporting our friends at Lighthouse Academy at Newburg by providing backpacks filled with basic school supplies to get their students off to a great start this school year! **Empty backpacks will be available for pickup in Memorial Hall and Gathering Hall** on July 16 and 23 with a list of requested school supplies attached. Please **fill the backpacks and return to the church by July 30**. For more information on Lighthouse, contact Bobbi Allison at bwallison7@icloud.com.

VBS needs your help! Please consider donating snacks to fuel our kids (and helpers!) at Vacation Bible School this summer. Please sign up at ccum.net/VBSSnacks and drop donated items off Sunday, July 9 at the bin at the Front Desk.

Men's Morning Coffee | Tuesdays | 7 - 8 am | Fellowship Hall

We invite you to come join other men on Tuesday mornings anytime between 7 - 8 am. **Stop in grab a coffee and donut**, connect/reconnect with old and new friends and listen to a short devotional.

Men's Ministry: Just for Men | Wednesdays at 7:30 am via Zoom

Join Rev. Mike Porter, Director of Men's Ministries and Discipleship, as he shares scripture and discussion for men during these trying times. Drop-in to our weekly gathering. If interested, please email katie@ccum.net to be sent the Zoom link.