

CHRIST CHURCH

NEWTON, NEW JERSEY

The Episcopal Church in the Heart of Sussex County



Founded in 1769

Chartered on August 15, 1774

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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NEWTON

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

8:00 & 10:00 am

**omitted at 8:00 am*

As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship, please keep conversations to a minimum.

*Prelude	Voluntary in a minor Come, Gentle Death	Anonymous (18 th century) J.S. Bach
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*Hymn in Procession #615	Thy Kingdom Come	St. Flavian
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*Invitation to Summer Workshop Series

Throughout the summer months, we offer a Summer Workshop Series in Holley Hall.

All children & youth are welcome to join in this time of formation.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

Gloria 8 am: spoken; 10 am: Hymnal # S-280

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.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136

said responsively

129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
 therefore I obey them with all my heart.
130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
 it gives understanding to the simple.
131 I open my mouth and pant; *
 I long for your commandments.

- 132 Turn to me in mercy, *
 as you always do to those who love your Name.
- 133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
 let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- 134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
 and I will keep your commandments.
- 135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
 and teach me your statutes.
- 136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
 because people do not keep your law.

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

***Sequence Hymn #530**

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Gott sei Dank

Clergy
People

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Clergy
People

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Tricia Lyons, Associate Priest

The Nicene Creed

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

Please stand or kneel

Confident in God's steadfast love through Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of wisdom, guide your church into all truth. Remind us that what unites us is greater than that which divides us. Help us be a light to the world, a true reflection of your grace to all people.

God of love, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the gift of your good creation, and for the joy and love which surrounds us on every side. As we live into these summer months, grant us times of rest and refreshment that our minds, our bodies, and our souls may be turned toward you.

God of love, hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for the gift of this church family: the joy we share with each other in times of celebration, and the support we offer each other in times of challenge and sorrow. Guide us as we continue to live out our call to love you, love our neighbors and love ourselves.

God of love, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are ill or under great stress, including those on our prayer list, and all whose struggles are known to you alone. Surround them with your care and restore them to health and wholeness in your good time and way.

God of love, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those whom we love, but see no longer. Make your light to shine upon them and grant them peace.

God of love, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant may add a concluding prayer.

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

Clergy Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is kept.

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 Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



Welcome & Announcements

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and click on the "Make a Contribution" tab.

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and you will be directed to our online giving portal.



*Offertory Solo

Morning Has Broken
Jessica Caruso, soprano

arr. Cat Stevens

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
Praise for them springing fresh from the world.

Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
Born of the one light, Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day.

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
Praise for them springing fresh from the world!

- Eleanor Farjeon

***The Doxology**

Hymnal #380, vs 3

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.

The Holy Communion
Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**



Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus & Benedictus

8 am: spoken; 10 am: Hymnal # S-129

Celebrant & People

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.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Celebrant & People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. 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 forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, 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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

All are welcome at God's Table

Please come forward, at the direction of the ushers. The bread is received in the open palm. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the priest. The wine, if desired, may be taken from the common cup by drinking (placing your hand gently on the base of the chalice to guide it). If you do not wish to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing from the priest.

*Communion

Arioso

J.S. Bach

*Communion

Air

G.F. Handel

Thanksgiving after Communion

Please stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

*Closing Hymn #447

The Christ who died and rose again

St. Magnus

The Dismissal

Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

*The Voluntary

Psalm XIX

Benedetto Marce

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Thee we adore / Let all mortal flesh ©1996 MorningStar

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*Thank
you!*

A special thanksgiving this morning to
Janet Jenkins
for helping lead our music at 10:00 am!

Serving in God's House Today

8:00 am

Lector: Walter Thies

L.E.M.: Mitch Hillard

Usher: Bill Habermann

Altar Guild: Julianne Gerdes, Randall Kurie

10:00 am

Crucifer: Brad Hodgins

Lectors: Debbie Mello, Geri Livengood,

John Beasley

L.E.M.: Randall Kurie

Ushers: George & Barbara Wink

Christ Church Prayer List

We offer our prayers for those who are ill, including:

Ann, Arlene, Brenda,Carolyn, Cindy, Daryl, Diana, Elaine, Ellen, Gizelle,
Irene, James, Jennifer, Jerry, Joe, John, Karen, Karla, Laura, Lee Ann, Lindsay,
Lisa, Lisa, Lorraine, Lou, Louis, Louis, Madeline, Marie, Marie, Mary, Nancy,
Nate, Paul, Phyllis, Richie, Ryan, Theresa.

We offer our prayers for those serving in the armed forces, including:

Angel, Dean, Jonathan, Michael, Robert.

We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays this week, including:

Ed Kramer (*July 26*), Nick Pachnos (*July 27*), Robert Cusick, Jr. (*July 29*),
Bob Charlton, Jack Humbert, Trish Lutz (*July 30*),
Mike Caruso, Bobbie Grant (*August 1*).

We want to be praying with you!

*Please contact the church office to have names added or removed from our prayer list,
or to add a birthday or anniversary to our list.*

The Altar Flowers this morning
are given to the **Glory of God**
and in beloved memory of **Lewis C. Beatty.**



Christ Church Staff & Leadership

The Rt. Rev. Carlye J. Hughes, 11th Bishop of Newark

The Rev. Christopher M. Streeter, Rector

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The Rev. Dr. Patricia Lyons, Associate Priest

The Rev. Candace Sandfort
& The Rev. Jeanette Hile, Assisting Clergy

Geri Livengood & Mary Ann Risley, Wardens

Lisa Pachnos, Interim Admin. Asst.

Joseph Mello, Director of Music/Choirmaster

Diana Greene, Organist

Deborah Mello, Youth Choir The Rev. Jenny Streeter, Director of Christian Formation

Sue Mittelstadt, Children's Ministry

Luz Quintero, Sexton

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