

CHRIST CHURCH

NEWTON, NEW JERSEY

The Episcopal Church in the Heart of Sussex County



St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

Founded in 1769

Chartered on August 15, 1774

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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NEWTON
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 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**

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Cindy Berry

***Hymn in Procession #518** Christ is made the sure foundation

Westminster Abbey

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: WLP 900 (Rutter)

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, _____ and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. _____ Lord God, heav'n - ly

King, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, _____ we wor - ship

you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. _____

p

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the

Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; -

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

f

ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus

mf *f cresc.*

Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

ff *broaden*

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of St. Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; 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

Genesis 1:20-31

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



The vine-yard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Is-ra-el.

- 8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.
- 9 You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land. [ANTIPHON]
- 10 The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
- 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River. [ANTIPHON]
- 12 Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
- 13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it. [ANTIPHON]
- 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name. [ANTIPHON]

The Second Lesson

Galatians 6:14-18

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule – peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me, for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

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

*Sequence Hymn #593

Lord, make us servants of your peace

Dickinson College
Text: Prayer of St. Francis

*The Gospel Acclamation



Verse: *"Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, *
and all these things will be given to you."*

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:25-34

Jesus, said, "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you - you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Candace Sandfort, Assisting Clergy

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.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the life you have given us and for the love and care that surrounds us on every side. Help our eyes open to the beauty of your good creation which we can so easily take for granted. **Gracious and generous God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world and for those elected to govern and lead us. Keep them ever mindful of the needs of those whom they have been called to serve, O Lord, that they might not forget the trust imparted to them by your people.

Gracious and generous God, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for this parish and the joyful witness of its people. Guide us as we engage in ministries which demand our best efforts and reflect your love to the world. We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. Bless them, and make them a blessing to others. **Gracious and generous God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are ill, including those on our prayer list, those in our hearts, and those whose suffering is known to you alone. Be with doctors, nurses and all care partners, that through their ministries the health of your people may be strengthened and your creation glorified.

Gracious and generous God, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those whom we love, but see no longer, including Roger La Carrubba, in whose memory the flowers are given this morning. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Gracious and generous God, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Let us pray together a Prayer attributed to St. Francis:

**Lord make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

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

A period of silence is kept, ended by the Celebrant.

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

To make a donation or to pay your pledge online,
please visit www.christchurchnewton.org
and click on the "Make a Contribution" tab.

Scan the QR Code with your phone
and you will be directed to our online giving portal.



***Offertory Anthem**

O God Beyond all Praising

Holst; arr. Richard Proulx

O God beyond all praising,
we worship you today
And sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder
at ev'ry gift you send,
At blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendor
in time must surely die.
Its fragile bloom surrender
to you, the Lord most high.
But hidden from all nature
the eternal seed is sown,
though small in mortal stature
to heaven's garden grown.
For Christ, your gift from heaven
from death has set us free,
and we, through him are given
the final victory.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

- Matthew Perry

***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. Because you are greatly glorified in the assembly of your saints. All your creatures praise you, and your faithful servants bless you, confessing before the rulers of this world the great Name of your only Son. 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 and Benedictus

8 am: spoken

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.

10 am: S-130 (Schubert)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. 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.
People **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**

Conditor alme siderum

arr. Sam Batt

***Communion Hymn #337** And now, O Father, mindful of the love

Unde et memores

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 #400 (omit *)** All Creatures of our God and King
We will sing Verses 1, 4, 5, & 7

Lasst tuns erfreuen

The Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

***The Voluntary**

All Creatures of our God and King

arr. Lani Smith

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Serving in God's House Today

8:00 am

Lector: John Beasley

L.E.M.: Mitch Hillard

Usher: Mark Dubel

Altar Guild: Julianne Gerdes

10:00 am

Crucifer: Brad Hodgins

Lectors: Eric Dietz, Cecelia Clayton,
Brad Hodgins

L.E.M.: Mark Hoyer

Ushers: Randall Kurie & Diana Riker



**Blessing of the Animals
TODAY – October 4
2 pm on the church lawn.**

Join us on the church lawn
TODAY at 2 pm
as we celebrate the ministry of
St. Francis of Assisi
by blessing those four-legged
and feathered members
of our families.

A Prayer for Animals by Albert Schweitzer

*Hear our humble prayer, O God, for all the earth's animals,
especially for animals who are suffering;
for animals that are overworked, underfed and cruelly treated;
for wistful creatures in captivity that beat their wings against bars;
for any that are hunted or lost or deserted or frightened or hungry;
for all that must be put to death.
We entreat for them all Thy mercy and pity,
and for those who deal with them we ask a heart of compassion,
and gentle hands, and kindly words.
Make us, ourselves, to be true friends to animals,
and so to share the blessings of the merciful. Amen.*

Christ Church Prayer List

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

Amy, Ann, Antonia, Arlene, Betty, Bill, Brenda, Brian, Carolyn,
Carolyn, Christie, Cindy, Dan, Daryl, David, Deanna, Derek,
Ed, Elaine, Elaine, Emily, Erin, Gary, Grace, Harry,
Helise, Jack, Jason, Jay, Jerry, John, Joyce, Kate, Lisa,
Madeline, Mary, Mary, Michael, Mike, Paul, Peggy, Richard,
Ryan, Shelagh, Stacy, Sue, Thomas.

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:

Cameron Kowalski (October 5),
Julianne Gerdes (October 6),
Gail Orcheski (October 9).

The Altar Flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God
and in memory of Roger La Carrubba.

We want to be praying with you!

Please contact the church office to have names added or removed from our prayer list.

Joining us in worship & fellowship on September 27, 2026

8:00 am: 33

10:00 am: 131

Thursday Morning Bible Study

10:00-11:00 am in the Church Parlor

Our **Thursday Morning Bible Study Group**
meets weekly to reflect on the Scripture readings
for the upcoming Sunday.

Join us from 10-11 am in the Church Parlor!



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Faith • Friendship • Fun
Preschool–6th grade

September–June

9:30–11AM

- **Learn** Bible Stories and about Jesus
- **Pray** and grow closer with God
- **Create** through crafts music and activities
- **Connect** with friends, faith and our community



Everyone Welcome!

62 Main Street
Newton, NJ 07860
www.christchurchnewton.org

**Remember that when you
leave this earth, you can take
with you nothing that you
have received - only what you
have given: a full heart,
enriched by honest service,
love, sacrifice and courage.**

- Francis Of Assisi

Christ Church Staff & Leadership

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

The Rev. Christopher M. Streeter, Rector

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585-730-0904: *pastoral emergencies*

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Lyons, Associate Priest

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

Geri Livengood & Mary Ann Risley, Wardens

Jon Sinclair, Director of Parish Ministries

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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