

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 First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

8:00 & 10:00 am

**omitted at 8:00 am*

***Prelude**

An Advent Prelude

Charles Callahan

***Hymn in Procession #57**

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

Helmsley

The Invitatory

Light One Candle

Natalie Sleeth

Junior Choir

*Light one candle for hope, One bright candle for hope,
He brings hope to every heart, He comes, He comes!*

*Light one candle for joy! One bright candle for joy!
Ev'ry nation will find salvation in Bethlehem's baby boy.*

*Light one candle for peace, One bright candle for peace,
He brings peace to every heart, He comes, He comes!*

*Light one candle for love! One bright candle for love!
He brings love to every heart, He comes, He comes!*

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.**

Trisagion

8 am (said three times)

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People **Have mercy upon us**

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
 mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,
 Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy
 up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
 Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. 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.**

The First Lesson

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.

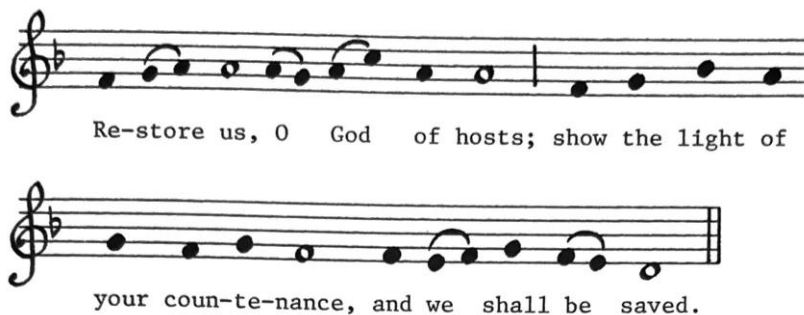
You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-2, 4, 14, 16-17

8 am: spoken; 10 am: led by choir



- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us. [ANTIPHON]
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted. [ANTIPHON]
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name. [ANTIPHON]

The Second Lesson

1 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.**

***Sequence Hymn #61**

Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us

Wachet auf

***The Gospel Acclamation**



Cantor Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

People **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Verse *Show us your mercy, O Lord, * and grant us your salvation.*

People **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

The Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

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 to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Chris Streeter

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

Let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

A brief silence

We pray for the church, that as the advent candles glow more brightly, our hearts may be awakened to see the presence of Jesus Christ in our midst.

God of hope, hear our prayer.

Grant that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace.

God of hope, hear our prayer.

We ask your blessing upon our Christ Church family. May we continue to be a sign of your loving presence and hope, even when hope seems in vain. Keep us mindful and responsive to the community beyond these walls and give us strength to serve all your people. We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week.

God of hope, hear our prayer.

Healing God, we pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, because of illness, troubles or addictions, and all whose struggles are known to you alone. Guard them with your healing presence, and restore them to health and wholeness in your good time and way.

God of hope, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who have died, and all those whom we love, but see no longer. Grant to the departed eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them.

God of hope, hear our prayer.

O God our Maker, you have put a restlessness in our souls and a thirst for a deeper knowledge of you in our hearts. Turn us now in the right direction. Give us the grace to realize that there are no easy answers to our questions and no shortcuts to our goals. As we move toward Christmas, help us to search our own lives, that we may be ready to receive the new life that is coming into the world. **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

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

The Rev. Chris Streeter

*Offertory Anthem

O Thou the Central Orb

Charles Wood

O thou, the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the Most High, eternal light
Of this our wintry world; thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith: hope soars above.

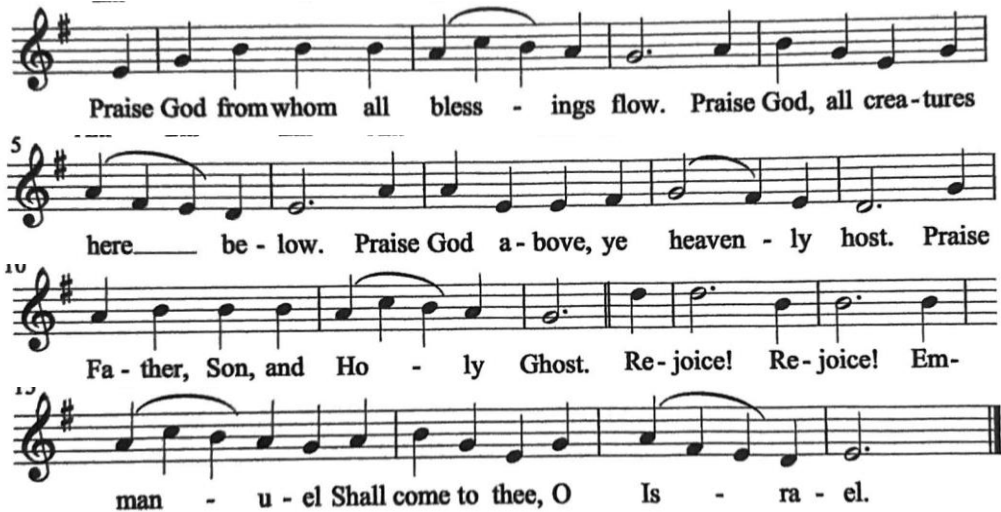
Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine;
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.

Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin:
Our nature all shall feel eternal day
In fellowship with thee, transforming day
To souls, erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

- Henry Ramsden Bramley

*The Doxology



The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B



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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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; 10 am: S-124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.


Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

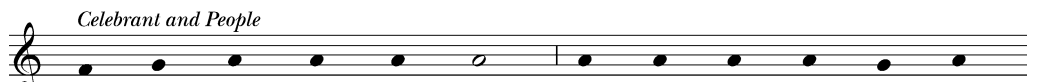
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant




There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People



We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -



rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

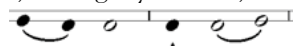
Music: Ambrosian anaphora chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation

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 
ev - er. A - MEN.

The Lord's Prayer

8 am: spoken; 10 am: sung

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Music: Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Fraction

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

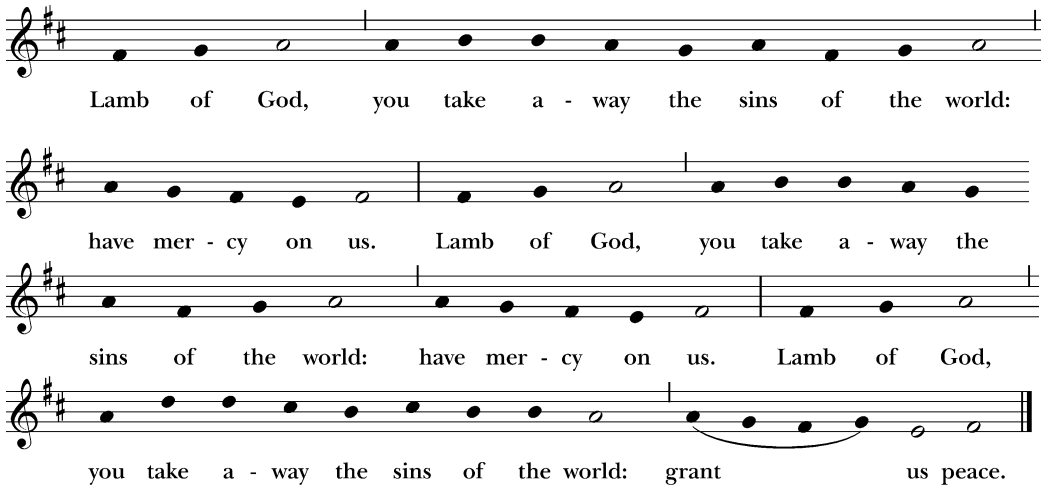
Agnus Dei

8 am: spoken

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, **grant us peace.**



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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

Meditation II

Gilbert Martin

*Communion Hymn #68

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers

Llangloffan

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 #73**

The King shall come when morning dawns

St. Stephen

The Dismissal

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

***The Voluntary**

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland

Johann Walther

An Advent Prelude – Charles Callahan, 2012, Birnamwood Pub. (MorningStar)

Meditation II – Gilbert Martin, 1993, Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

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Serving in God's House Today

8:00 am

Lector: Walter Kiechel

L.E.M.: Andy VanOrden

Ushers: Bill Habermann

10:00 am

Lectors: Alex Zander, Patricia Taggart,

Walter Thies

L.E.M.: MaryAnn Risley

Ushers: Nick Pachnos & Pauline Josephs

Joining us in worship & fellowship on November 26, 2023

8:00 am: 24

10:00 am: 94

For those who are ill: Jason, Lorraine, David, Rick Jr. Valarie, Petra, Anthony, Paul, Carolane, Gladson, Jeanne, Clive, Lauren, Tricia, Mary, Val, Gizelle, Marie, Carolyn, Tom, George, Margaret, Tricia, Lauren, Gus, Lisa, Kourtney, Faith, Linda, Peggy, Lynn, Maura, Evan, Chelsea, Jennifer, Susan, Jake Donna, Cindi, Megan, Walter, Dottie, Thomas, Lauren, Judy, Stevie and Kevin.

For those with child: Kelly, Ellari **For those serving in the armed forces:** Parker, Dean and Nicholas. **For those we hold in our hearts:** Jim, Becky

We rejoice with... Kathi Hoffman, Katie Reilly, Julia Charlton, Josh Szelstra, Evelyn Polcer, Jennifer Rowe, Ray Regenthal, Lindsay Hoffman and all who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

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

*The Altar Flowers are given by Catherine Caggiano to the Glory of God
and in beloved memory of Angelo Caggiano.*

*The Altar Candles are given to the Glory of God by Joseph & Deborah Mello
in loving memory of Arlene Mello mother of Joseph Mello.*

Announcements & Events:

Service of Lessons & Carols – Sunday, December 17 at 7:00 pm



Mark your calendars now for our annual service of Lessons and Carols. This powerful liturgy includes nine Bible stories interspersed with Christmas carols which depict the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah and the birth of Jesus. It features our own Senior and Youth Choirs, accompanied by organ, string

quartet, and oboe. This is a perfect service to invite friends, family and neighbors to attend with you!

Christ Church Calendar: Week of December 3, 2023

Sunday Dec. 3 – The First Sunday of Advent
8 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II, spoken)
9 am Church Breakfast
9:30 am Sunday School
10 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II, with music)
 Coffee & Fellowship Following
11:45 am Sunday Brunch in a Bag
3pm Sussex County Oratorio Society Concert

Monday Dec. 4 (Church Office Hours: 8am to 1pm)

Tuesday Dec. 5 (Church Office Hours: 8 am to 1 pm)

Wednesday Dec. 6 (*Church Office Hours: 8 am to 1 pm*)

Thursday Dec. 7 (*Church Office Hours 8am to 12pm*)

7am-4pm Family Promise Holiday Celebration

10 am Thursday Morning Worship

Friday Dec. 8 (Office Closed)

7am-4pm Snow date: Family Promise Holiday Celebration

Sunday December 10 – The Second Sunday of Advent

8 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II, spoken)

9 am Adult Bible Study & Journey

9:30 am Sunday School

10 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II, with music)

Coffee & Fellowship Following

11:45 am Sunday Brunch in a Bag

3pm Snow date Sussex County Oratorio Society Concert

Christ Church, Newton Leadership

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

The Rev. Christopher M. Streeter, Priest-in-Charge

cstreeter@christchurchnewton.org
585-730-0904: pastoral emergencies

Nick Pachnos & Mary Ann Risley, Wardens

Karrie Miller, Parish Administrator

Luz Quintero, Sexton

Joseph Mello, Director of Music/Choirmaster

Diana Greene, Organist

Deborah Mello, Youth Choir

Sue Mittelstadt, Children's Ministry

Alex Zander, Altar Guild

Beth Batastini, BSN, RN-BC, Faith Community Nurse