

# THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(PROPER 11)

SUNDAY ♦ JULY 19, 2020 ♦ 9:45 AM



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY

[www.christchurchtomsriver.org](http://www.christchurchtomsriver.org)

## **HOW TO LISTEN IN TO THE LIVE TELE-SERVICE**

**DIAL: 712-770-5505**  
**ACCESS CODE: 189853 #**

**WELCOME! AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FROM YOUR HOME FOR TODAY'S SERVICE!**

**WHILE WE ARE NOT ABLE TO PHYSICALLY COME TOGETHER TODAY FOR WORSHIP, WE APPRECIATE YOUR SPIRITUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS SERVICE.**

**WE THEREFORE INVITE YOU TO REPLICATE MANY OF THE SAME PRACTICES THAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY DO IN A SUNDAY WORSHIP. FOR EXAMPLE, WE INVITE YOU TO SPEND SOME TIME IN QUIET PRAYER TO PLACE YOURSELF BEFORE THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

**DURING THE SERVICE, WE INVITE YOU TO PERFORM THE SAME GESTURES THAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY DO IN CHURCH (SIGN OF THE CROSS, BOWING, ETC.).**

**ALSO, IN THOSE PLACES IN THE SERVICE WHERE THE PEOPLE WOULD NORMALLY SAY A PRAYER (SUCH AS, THE COLLECT OF WELCOMING) OR RESPONSE (SUCH AS, "AND ALSO WITH YOU"), PLEASE SAY IT ALOUD.**

**YOUR PHONE IS MUTED BUT OUR VOICES WILL RISE TOGETHER IN AFFIRMING OUR FAITH. THANK YOU.**

### **TODAY'S MINISTERS**

**CALL HOST:** Joanne Gwin

**PRIEST:** The Rev. David Snyder

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Polly Moore

**ORGAN/PIANO:** Andrew Van Buskirk

**CHOIR PARTICIPANTS:** David Corbitt, Cathy O'Neill

**LECTOR:** Jeff Genthe, Matthew Genthe

**INTERCESSOR:** Cathy O'Neill

**PRELUDE**

*Slow Melody*

Felix Mendelssohn

**OPENING HYMN**

*Praise To The Living God!*

Hymnal, 372, vs. 1,3,4

*Praise to the living God!*  
*All praised be His name, Who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same!*  
*The one eternal God ere aught that now appears:*  
*The First, the Last, beyond all thought His timeless years!*

*His Spirit floweth free, high surging where it will:*  
*In prophet's word He spoke of old, He speaketh still.*  
*Established is His law, and changeless it shall stand,*  
*Deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, on land.*

*Eternal life hath He implanted in the soul;*  
*His love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.*  
*Praise to the living God!*  
*All praised be His name, Who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

*The people standing, as able, the Priest says*

*Priest* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Priest* 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.

*People* *Amen*

*The following is read by the Lector; said by all*

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

*All* 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**

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Priest* Let us pray. Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Amen*

*The following is read by the Intercessor; said by all*

## **THE COLLECT OF WELCOMING**

*All* Almighty and gracious God, we are your church, serving your mission. Lead us forth beyond our walls to seek out all people in our community, to invite and love them as Jesus would. Empower us to welcome to Christ Church all who are hurting or in need, all who are searching for you or for answers to life. Open our eyes to recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives. Transform us all into disciples of Christ. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*The following is read by the Lector; said by all*

## **PRAYER FOR THE SELECTION OF A RECTOR**

*All* Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for Christ Church that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The people sit as the lessons are read.*

## **THE FIRST READING**

*Genesis 28:10-19a*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel. The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*The following is read by the Intercessor; said by all*

**PSALM 139:1-11, 22-23**

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me;  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before  
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit?  
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there;  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me  
and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,  
and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day;  
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart;  
try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me  
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

**THE SECOND READING**

*Romans 8:12-25*

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Church in Rome.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole

creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. The Word of the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

*Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.*

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

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

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

*Priest* Another parable Jesus put before the crowds: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!” The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

## **REFLECTION**

The Rev. David Snyder

## **HYMN**

*We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*

Lift Every Voice & Sing 220

*We are climbing Jacob's ladder, we are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
We are climbing Jacob's ladder, soldiers of the cross.*

*Every round goes higher, higher, every round goes higher, higher,  
Every round goes higher, higher, soldiers of the cross.*

*Sinner, do you love your Jesus? Sinner, do you love your Jesus?  
Sinner, do you love your Jesus? Soldiers of the cross.*

*If you love Him, why not serve Him? If you love Him, why not serve Him?  
If you love Him, why not serve Him? Soldiers of the cross.*

*All stand, as able, as the Priest says the following*

## **THE NICENE CREED**

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.

*\* "catholic" here means the universal Church across time and place*

*The "people" is read by the Lector*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Priest* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*Leader* As our God continues to reveal his power in our lives, let us pray to God saying, God of love, hear our prayer.  
God of power, may your Spirit give strength to all your people as they work and witness in your world. God of love,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* God of peace, we pray for peace and goodwill among all nations, an ending to all strife and discord.  
We pray for all the leaders of the world. God of love,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* God of mercy, we ask your mercy for all who are hungry, thirsty, homeless, oppressed, in prison, or in any kind of trouble. God of love,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* God of Creation, we thank you for the abundance and beauty of our planet earth. Grant us the wisdom, ability, and will to care for its resources and creatures wisely. God of love,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* God of grace, we give you thanks for the many blessings in our lives, for those blessings we now name. . . . . And for all blessings. God of love,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* God of Healing, we pray for those affected by natural and man-made disasters; for those who are sick and suffering; we pray for a quick end to this pandemic and for those with and exposed to the virus; for medical professionals, first responders, and emergency workers; for those who have lost their jobs or suffered financial loss; for those serving our country; for those listed on our parish prayer list especially Loretta Coughlin, Pam Becker, Teresa, Marion Shabinaw, Jim Biedzynski, Catherine, Will, Buddy, Anna & Doug, Peter & Grace, and for those we name at this time . . . . . God of love,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Leader* God of life, we pray for those who have died from the COVID-19 virus, for those who died serving our country, for all who have died in the hope of rising again, and for those we name at this time . . . . . God of love,

*People* *Hear our prayer.*

*Priest* Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* (BCP 826)

*The Priest may add a closing collect.*

**THE CONFESSION** *The people kneel, as able.*

*Priest* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*To be read by the Intercessor; said by all*

*All* 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.

*Priest* 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.*



*Please listen to the following prayer read by the Lector*

### **PRAYER IN TIME OF PANDEMIC**

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with all essential workers. Be with all emergency responders, law enforcement, and medical professionals who seek to help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of all people, particularly those who are poor and most vulnerable. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

*Adapted from prayer written by Kerry Weber, America Magazine*

*The following is read by the Priest; said by all*

### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*\*We use the modern translation of Lord's Prayer because it is closer to the Greek original text; particularly for the verse, Save us from the time of trial"since God does not deliberately lead us into temptation.*

### **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER**

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

*The Priest invites the following prayer to be said by all:*

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

*The ministries of Christ Church “thank you” for your continued giving during these times of uncertainty. Your generous donations and pledges keep Christ Church moving forward. Please continue to mail to Christ Episcopal Church (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753) or set up with your individual bank, a bill pay, to be directly submitted to Christ Church. Please contact the Church Office via phone or email with any questions or concerns.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please also read “Parish News” beginning on page 11 of this bulletin for additional information and news.*

## **THE BLESSING**

*The Priest blesses the people*

## **CLOSING HYMN**

*Come, Labor On*

Hymnal 541, vs. 1-3,5

*Come, labor on!*

*Who dares stand idle, on the harvest plain While all around us waves the golden grain?  
And to each servant does the Master say, “Go work today.”*

*Come, labor on!*

*The enemy is watching night and day,  
To sow the tares, to snatch the seed away; While we in sleep our duty have forgot, He slumbered not.*

*Come, labor on!*

*Away with gloomy doubts and faithless fear! No arm so weak but may do service here:  
By feeblest agents may our God fulfill His righteous will.*

*Come, labor on!*

*No time for rest, till glows the western sky, Till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,  
And a glad sound comes with the setting sun, “Servants, well done!”*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*The Priest dismisses the people*

*Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

*People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia*

## **POSTLUDE**

*Triumphal March*

Clarence Kohlmann

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# PARISH NEWS

(Titles in Red indicate a New or Updated Item)

## **THANK YOU! FR. DAVE FOR BEING TODAY'S PRIEST.**

The Rev. Dr. David L. Snyder — Hi...here is what you need to know about me! I am an Episcopal priest, canonically resident in the Diocese of New Jersey. In June 2016, I celebrated the 30th anniversary of my ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament (I was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the *Lutheran Church in America* in June of 1986). I retired as Rector of *St. Andrew's* Episcopal Church in Mt. Holly, NJ on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Prior to my call to St. Andrew's, I served as Interim Rector at *The Church of the Good Shepherd* in Pitman, New Jersey from November of 2014 to November of 2015. I am the "husband of one wife" (Susan) and we celebrated our 45th anniversary in August of 2018. I am the father of four children (Joshua; Rebecca; Timothy and Zachary) and the grandfather of eight (five boys and three girls). Susan and I have lived in Burlington, NJ since July of 2005. I am a graduate of Lock Haven University (Lock Haven, Pennsylvania) with a BSc. in Education (May of 1972). I received the Master of Divinity degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. (December of 1985), and the Doctor of Ministry degree from the Bangor Theological Seminary (Bangor, Maine) in May of 1997. Since graduating from seminary, I have served as Associate Pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Pottstown, PA. (1985-1989); Pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Newington, NH (1989-1997); Pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Nativity in North Conway, NH (1997-1998). I began my formal association with the Episcopal Church in August of 2000 when I was called to serve as the part time Rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bridgton, Maine (2000-2005). At the time, I was the first pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to be called to serve an Episcopal Church following "*Called to Common Mission*" which brought the Episcopal Church and the ELCA together in a "full communion" relationship. In February of 2008, I was officially welcomed into the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of New Jersey. I am currently serving as a member of Project Resource: The Diocesan Stewardship Commission for the Diocese of New Jersey. I am a Trustee of Doane Academy (an Episcopal day school in Burlington, NJ).



**LAST DAY TO RESPOND IS SUNDAY, JULY 19!** **THE COVID-19 CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY IS CLOSES ON JULY 19.** The survey was emailed to all a third time on Wednesday, July 16. **PLEASE**, if you have not already done so, take a moment (less than 5 minutes) to respond to just 10 simple multiple choice questions. The responses to this survey by each parishioner and regular attendee of Christ Church services and ministry groups is vital to the decision making of the Wardens, Vestry, Clergy and Staff in re-opening the building for in person services and ministries.

Those that do not have an email address registered with Christ Church were mailed a hard copy of this survey on June 29. We ask you to please send it back to the Church at your earliest convenience.

If you also would prefer a hard copy, please contact the Church Office. We thank you for your time in completing this short survey. You may access the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6QSJ2B6>

**RE-OPENING CHRIST CHURCH BUILDING:** Please know that your Wardens, Vestry, Clergy and Staff are prayerfully working together to discuss and address the many requirements of the Reentering, Reopening, Reimagining (RRR) Diocesan Task Force in order to safely re-open our Church doors. There are many important steps to accomplish before considering a date to re-open our doors for public use. One first step is the completion of the COVID-19 Congregational Survey (mentioned above) by all parishioners and regular attendees **by Sunday, July 19**. Your collective completion of this Survey will be added guidance as we begin to discuss when it is most safe and appropriate to re-open our building. We appreciate your time in completing this short survey. Please know that virtual / "stay at home" options to listen to LIVE services will remain in place even after the building reopens and future in-person services resume.

**WEEKLY FINANCES:** During the year 2020, we have budgeted \$5,635 to come from pledges and loose offerings each week. For the week ending July 10, we received \$6,167 in pledges. (There were no loose offerings due to there not being any services in church.)

**COVID-19 DISCRETIONARY FUND:** While everyone's life has been impacted by the coronavirus, we have become aware of several people in our parish who have already lost their jobs and income and are in dire need of emergency assistance. Also, as this disaster continues, we expect that more jobs will be affected. For this reason we are setting up a Coronavirus Discretionary Fund. This fund will provide emergency assistance to people affected by this disaster. If you are in need of emergency assistance, please contact one of the clergy (Mother Petrina, Deacon Jose, or Deacon Ted). If you are able to contribute to this fund, please send a check to Christ Church (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753) with "Coronavirus Fund" in the memo. A restricted account has been established specifically for this purpose. May God bless us all. We will get through this together. \*\* As of July 16, the COVID-19 Fund balance stands at: Contributions: \$22,855.50; Disbursements: \$8,391.80

**JOIN US FOR "SERVICE" FROM THE SAFETY OF YOUR HOME!** During this time of "public service suspension" through at least the month of May, your Clergy and Staff are providing multiple times a week live and recorded services via phone and email. The current weekly schedule of live services via phone are:

**Sundays, 9:45am — Wednesdays, 10:00am — Fridays, 7:00am**

We plan to have many of the services recorded and then posted on our website [www.christchurchtomsriver.org](http://www.christchurchtomsriver.org) for access at your convenience. To listen to the live service please: Dial: 712-770-5505 and Enter Access Code: 189853# If you have any difficulty, please email or call the church office (leave a voicemail).

**For those who prefer listening in Spanish,** The Gospel Reading, a Reflection and Prayers are posted each Sunday on our Facebook page or WhatsApp. To join the WhatsApp group of Christ Church contact Deacon Jose: [jmcantos5@hotmail.com](mailto:jmcantos5@hotmail.com)

**CONTRIBUTIONS & PLEDGES DURING COVID 19:** Our pews will be empty for the next several weeks, that also means our collection plate is empty. We are asking if you would please continue to send in your pledges even though our weekly worship services have been suspended. Although most of life as we know it has come to a halt, the bills continue to come in and need to be paid. You can help us keep our bills current by keeping your pledge up to date. You can do this by mailing a check to the office (415 Washington St. Toms River, NJ 08753), or you can set up online bill pay through your bank (see your bank for details). Please consider doing this, so that once we are back in church, we can continue moving forward without the worry of how we are going to "catch up". Thank you!

**MONDAY EVENING VIRTUAL "COFFEE HOUR" FROM 7-8PM**

Join this Zoom Meeting Here! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/94333201452> OR

Dial by Phone (audio participation only): **1 646 558 8656**

And then enter the Meeting ID: **943 3320 1452**

For those not familiar with ZOOM, it is a video chat room/meeting space. If you have a phone or computer with video/camera functions, you will be able to join in and SEE the faces of your Church Family as well as show us your face. If you are not interested in being visible, having your video off is an option.

If you do not have or are not comfortable using a computer or internet, you can still participate by calling in on your phone. You will still be able to listen and speak to everyone else participating (but you will not have a visual). We look forward to "seeing" your faces in these virtual Coffee Hours as we take this opportunity to say "Hello!" and "How are you?" If you need any help, please let me know!

**PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW YOU ARE DOING** — We want to hear from you! And know that you are doing “ok” amongst this pandemic. Please leave us a Voicemail or send us an Email!

**FOOD PANTRY:** Thank you for all of your donations Christ Church! The FOOD PANTRY is very well stocked. **Please share and encourage any individual or Family in desperate need of food to visit us on Tuesdays from 9:30am-12pm.**

**BIRTHDAY CLUB:** We all have one day of the year that is just for us; it’s our birthday. We may celebrate in grand style with family and friends singing that special song, eating cake and GETTING gifts; or we may choose to celebrate in a quiet fashion. However you choose to celebrate, it is YOUR special day. The Endowment and Stewardship Committees have come up with another way to celebrate this day. How about GIVING a gift that will KEEP ON GIVING? Each year on your birthday, we are inviting you to join the Birthday Club by writing a check in the amount of your age to Christ Church, which will be deposited into the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is invested with the diocese. By giving to this fund on your birthday, you will be contributing to the day-to-day life of the parish as well as the future of Christ Church. It is truly a gift that will keep on giving! How can you donate? Simply write out a check for the amount of your age, put Birthday Club in the memo and put it in the offering plate, mail it or drop it off to the office mailbox. So that we can all watch our gifts grow, we will update you on what we have received. We look forward to celebrating each of your birthdays! **The current total for the month of JULY is \$149 (2 birthdays)!**

**JEWELRY REQUESTED:** While many of us are spending more hours at home these days, now is a good time to look through that jewelry for any you would like to donate to the Women of Christ Church (WCC). The WCC are interested in all kinds of jewelry, including costume, tarnished and broken. Please set these items aside until the church doors reopen and it is again safe for you to visit the building. There will be a collection bin labeled “jewelry” on top of the mailboxes. Thank you!

**JOIN US IN DAILY PRAYER AT 8:00PM:** Pray, wherever you may be ...at home, at work, in the car...let us pray together for a resolution and end to the COVID-19 pandemic...let us pray for health care workers, first responders, law enforcement and all essential workers... let us pray for our federal and state government officials ... let us pray for those that are sick and those that have died from the virus...let us pray for the families of the victims of the virus and all those who are poor and more vulnerable to the virus...let us pray for New Jersey, the United States of America and the World. There is no right, wrong or specific way one should pray ... pray the "Our Father", the "Prayer in Time of Pandemic" from our Sunday bulletins, or pray using words expressing how your heart feels.

**IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU, WOULD WE KNOW ABOUT IT?** Do the people who care about you know to notify the church right away in case of your hospitalization, or an accident, or an extended illness, etc.? Please give them the church's contact information with clear instructions to contact us right away. We hope to be praying for you during any incidents rather than after the fact. Thank you!!

**THE CHURCH OFFICE IS RECEIVING VOICEMAILS, EMAILS & MAIL:** If you need to reach us for any reason, please 1) Call the church office at 732-349-5506 and leave a voicemail. Voicemails are being immediately received offsite and we are calling you back as soon as possible. Or 2) Email NicoleStrada@ChristChurchTomsRiver.org and she will reply as soon as possible. We are also receiving our USPS mail.

**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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