

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

SUNDAY ♦ JANUARY 31, 2021 ♦ 9:45 AM



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY

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. Allen Wakabayashi

DEACON: The Rev. Ted Foley

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Polly Moore

ORGAN/PIANO: Andrew Van Buskirk

CHOIR PARTICIPANTS: John Columbus, David Corbitt, John Jowett, Cathy O'Neill,
Helene Phillips, Eileen Schilling

LECTOR: Pam Quatse

INTERCESSOR: Cathy O'Neill

PRELUDE

Nimrod (from Variations Op. 36)

Edward Elgar

OPENING HYMN

Holy Spirit, Ever Living

Hymnal 511

*Holy Spirit, ever living as the Church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving through her in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the Church the mind of Christ;
thee we praise with endless worship for thy fruits and gifts unpriced.*

*Holy Spirit, ever working through the Church's ministry;
quickenings, strengthening and absolving, setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age, and soul to soul,
in a fellowship unending thee we worship and extol.*

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 and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 lesson is read by the Lector.

THE FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A Reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses summoned all Israel and said to them, "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.'" The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The following is read by the Deacon; said by all

PSALM 111

- 1 Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.
- 5 He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- 6 He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.

- 8 They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.

The lesson is read by the Lector.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

A Reading from Paul’s First letter to the Church in Corinth.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able and face the Gospeler.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Deacon Jesus and his disciples went into Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

REFLECTION

The Rev. Allen Wakabayashi

HYMN

O Spirit of Life

Hymnal 505

*O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God, in every need Thou bringest aid,
Thou comest forth from God's great throne, from God, the Father and the Son;
O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God.*

*O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God, increase our faith in our dear Lord;
Unless Thy grace the power should give, none can believe in Christ and live;
O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God.*

*O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God. Make us to love Thy sacred Word;
The holy flame of love impart, that charity may warm each heart;
O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God.*

*O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God, enlighten us by that same Word;
Teach us to know the Father's love, and His dear Son, who reigns above:
O Spirit of Life, O Spirit of God.*

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 Intercessor is the “Leader”; the “people” is read by the Lector

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE — *The Season of The Epiphany* —

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader With all of our hearts and with all of our minds, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Son of God, show us your presence.”

Gracious God, give strength to all your people as they work and witness in your world. Unite us in your truth and love, and help us to show our love to others. Make Christ Church an example of your love and mission. Let us pray,

People *Son of God, show us your presence.*

Leader We pray for justice and peace among all peoples. Give us strength to work for justice in our own communities. Let us pray,

People *Son of God, show us your presence.*

Leader We thank you, God, for the blessing of this beautiful earth, for the spiritual gifts you have given us, for the Holy Baptism of Caroline Klina, for those blessings we now name(wait)....., and for all the blessings in our lives. Let us pray,

People *Son of God, show us your presence.*

Leader We ask your mercy and justice for all who are hungry, thirsty, homeless, oppressed, in prison, or in any kind of trouble. Let us pray,

People *Son of God, show us your presence.*

Leader We ask your mercy for those affected by natural and man-made disasters; for those who are sick and suffering; for those who struggle to care for a loved one; for those who are in pain or distress; for those who are serving our country; for those listed on our parish prayer list, especially Bill & Ann, for those we name at this time...(wait)..., and for all others who need healing.

Let us pray,

People *Son of God, show us your presence.*

Leader We pray for all who have died, especially for Will & Jean, for those who died serving our country, for those we name at this time(wait)...., and for all who have died in the hope of rising again.

Let us pray,

People *Son of God, show us your presence.*

Priest O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(BCP 815)

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 an additional closing collect.

THE CONFESSION *The people kneel, as able.*

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

The following is 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 Deacon

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.*

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.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please also read “Parish News” beginning on page 10 of this bulletin for additional information and current news.

THE BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people

CLOSING HYMN

It Is Well With My Soul

Hymnal 530

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*My sin O the joy of this glorious thought
My sin not in part, but the whole is nailed to the cross,
And I bear it no more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll:
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend,
“Even so” it is well with my soul!
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia



PARISH NEWS

(Titles in Red indicate a New or Updated Item)

THANK YOU FR. ALLEN FOR BEING TODAY'S PRIEST! “Fr. Allen serves as the Chaplain for the Episcopal Church at Princeton. Fr. Allen is married to his wife (also a priest in the Diocese), Mtr. Diane Mumma-Wakabayashi. Fr. Allen is in his 2nd year serving as the Episcopal Chaplain at Princeton. Prior to that, he had served for many years as a Campus Minister and a local church pastor outside of the Episcopal Church context. He was born and raised in Chicago.”



The **2021 CHRIST CHURCH PARISH DIRECTORY** which includes contact information for all active parishioners, is available to Christ Church parishioners either electronically or in hard copy, upon request.

THANK YOU POLLY FOR 20 YEARS! On February 1st, Polly Moore will be the Music Director of Christ Church for 20 years. We are so blessed to have her talents and dedication. An email Acknowledgement PowerPoint Presentation was sent out to the parish on 1/29 including reflections from current St. Raphael Choir members and photos over the years. It was a large file attached, so if you did not receive in your email, please inform NicoleStrada@ChristChurchTomsRiver.org

UPDATE FROM DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE: If you were not able to attend the Annual Meeting last Sunday, then you did not hear the exciting news! The Vestry, with the approval of the Bishop, have called a New Rector! The Letter of Agreement is in the works. When that is officially completed, we will be able to provide more details to you! We thank the Discernment Committee members for their many hours of dedication over the past two years. Let us continue to pray for this exciting new chapter at Christ Church.

SOUPERBOWL OF CARING: According to Fox Sports, SuperBowl Sunday is the second largest day for food consumption in the United States (Thanksgiving is first). According to ABC, Americans will consume somewhere around 11.2 million pounds of potato chips, 8.2 million pounds of tortilla chips, 3.8 million pounds of popcorn, 3 million pounds of nuts and 1 billion chicken wings on game day. That's a lot of food and a lot of money being spent for it. Recognizing how much Americans spend on snack food for the big game, Christ Church will participate in a project called **SOUPERBOWL OF CARING**. This is a national effort to “tackle hunger”. Please consider a monetary donation to the Christ Church Food Pantry and Café through this project. Your donations will help Christ Church continue to provide food and toiletries to parishioners and neighbors in need. Please donate here: <https://map.tacklehunger.org/donate?site=recXtL1I4SKOu693Q>

DEACON TED'S QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “The soul that is united with God sees the world with God’s eyes. That soul, like God, sees what otherwise is rendered invisible and irrelevant. It hears the whimpering of starving children and does not let itself be diverted from real misery, becoming one with God in perceiving and understanding as well as in acting.” (Dorothee Solle)

THE FOOD PANTRY (updated 1/26/20) is going strong and remains open to anyone in need every Tuesday from 9:30am - 12pm. The following are items asked for that we are currently out of now: **Honey Bunches of Oats — Sardines — Mustard — Turkey Gravy — Canned Mushrooms — Canned Corn — Cream of Chicken Soup — Chicken Broth — Egg Noodles — Beef Ravioli.**

If you would like to donate, please leave items on the table marked 'Donations' outside the lower door during Food Pantry open hours. Any questions, please text or leave a message for Claire at (732) 600-5709. Thank you! Please share and encourage any individual or Family in desperate need of food to visit us.

WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS! If you are able to help 1,2 (or more) Tuesday mornings per month, please also contact Claire. She is happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

WEEKLY FINANCES: During the year 2020, we have budgeted \$5,635 to come from pledges and loose offerings each week. For the week ending January 22, 2021, we received \$6,957 in pledges.

2021 PLEDGES & OFFERING ENVELOPES: To date, we have received 91 pledges for 2021, totaling \$192,200.84. Thank you to everyone who has turned in their pledge cards. Offering envelopes for those of you who requested them on your pledge cards will be available for pickup at the door Monday through Thursday next week (February 1-4) between 9 a.m. and noon.

CURRENT SCHEDULE OF CHRIST CHURCH SERVICES:

SUNDAYS, 9:45 AM — LIVE WORSHIP TELE-SERVICE *

Recordings of this Service are posted on the Church Website and Facebook page for listening at your convenience. The bulletin for this service is emailed weekly.

WEDNESDAYS, 10:00 AM — LIVE HEALING PRAYER TELE-SERVICE *

The bulletin for this service is emailed weekly.

FRIDAYS, 7:00 AM – LIVE MORNING PRAYER TELE-SERVICE *

This service can be followed on page 80 of your Book of Common Prayer or at <https://www.bcponline.org/>

FOR THOSE WHO PREFER LISTENING IN SPANISH, The Sunday Gospel Reading, a Reflection and Prayers are available weekly on our Facebook page or WhatsApp. To join the WhatsApp group of Christ Church contact Deacon Jose: jmcantos5@hotmail.com

*** TO LISTEN TO A LIVE TELE-SERVICE:**

(It is suggested that you call-in a few minutes prior to the start time of a service)

Dial: 712-770-5505 and Enter Access Code: 189853#

If you have any difficulty, please email or call the church office (leave a voicemail).

PHONE ANGEL MINISTRY - The pandemic is presenting us many challenges. One particular challenge that people may be struggling with is a sense of isolation. Although Christ assures us that we are never alone, sometimes we need just to hear a familiar voice. Christ Church has formed the ministry of "Phone Angels" to be that familiar voice. Phone Angels will be calling people in the parish to make those connections and see how you are coping. If you are interested in becoming a Phone Angel please contact Deacon Ted or the Church office.

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!

CONVERSATION & COMPLINE continues every other Saturday (2/6) at 7pm via Zoom.

In this sharing, interested members of the parish chat about a given topic, such as what books you're reading, TV shows you particularly enjoyed, or any blessings or challenges which unfolded for you in the last week... and then end the evening with compline. We would love to see you (and your favorite beverage!) at this virtual fellowship

The Discipleship Team also offers **BIBLE STUDY, FOLLOWED BY COMPLINE**, is every other Saturday (1/30, 2/13) at 7:00pm on Zoom. This is the same group that brings you “Conversation and Compline” (mentioned above) on alternate Saturdays. Now we will get together every Saturday and alternate between the two activities. **To Join the above mention Saturday Zoom Meetings:**

1. via internet with (option of both audio and visual) click use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87001507163>

AND ENTER PASSCODE: 123963

2. by telephone (audio only) Dial: 1-646-558-8656 AND enter **Meeting ID: 87001507163 and Passcode: 123963**. Any questions, please contact Gail Miller gailkeatingmiller@gmail.com or 732 814-8357.

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

Join this Zoom Meeting Here! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/94333201452> AND ENTER PASSCODE: 169772

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

And then enter the Meeting ID: **943 3320 1452 AND THEN ENTER PASSCODE: 169772**

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.

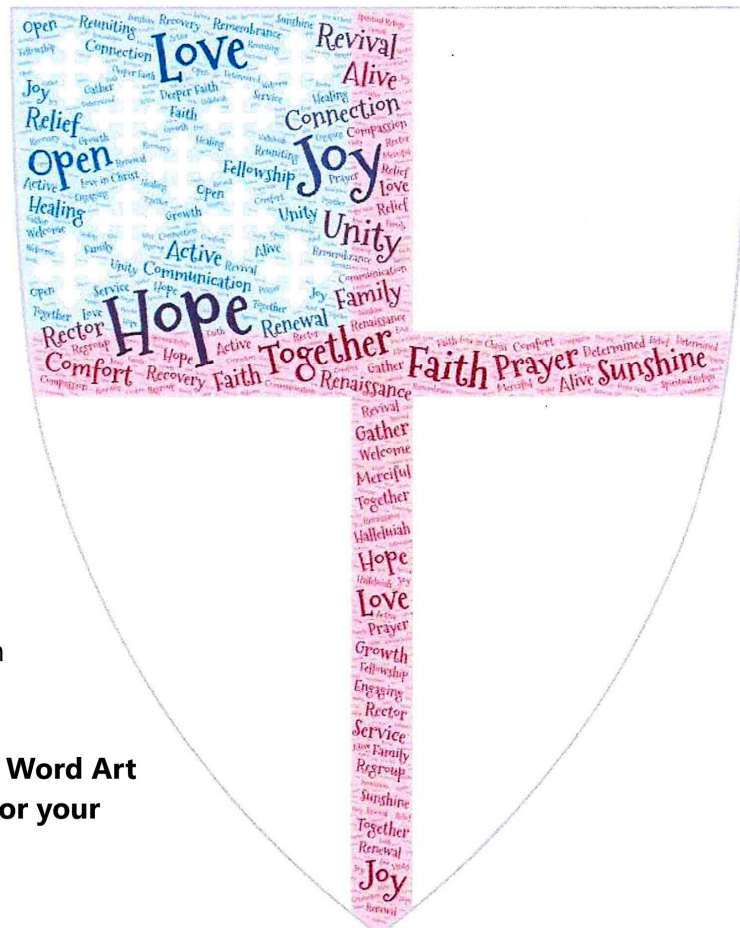
If you do not have or are not comfortable using a computer or internet, you can still participate by calling in on your phone. You will still be able to listen and speak to everyone else participating (but you will not have a visual). We look forward to “seeing” your faces in these virtual Coffee Hours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

COVID-19 DISCRETIONARY FUND: The COVID-19 Fund Committee has been considering the situation of low income families and the possibility of virtual, remote or hybrid learning this year. We want to make sure that all students have the resources to create a healthy and productive learning environment. If you know of a child that has a need for any such items (computer, high speed internet access, books, office supplies, etc.) please contact one of the clergy or leave a message at the church office. *

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 January 28, the COVID-19 Fund stands at: Contributions: \$28,280.50 ; Disbursements: \$16,743.14**

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 January 2021 is \$166 (2 birthdays)!**

2021 VISION FOR CHRIST CHURCH: At the 2021 Annual Meeting on January 23, parishioners participated in an activity: "What is ONE word that describes your VISION for your church in the year 2021?" All submitted words were used to create the below "word art" (the shape of the Episcopal Church shield).



Christ Episcopal Church
Toms River, New Jersey

2021 Annual Meeting Word Art
"What is your vision for your church in 2021?"

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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