

CHRIST CHURCH

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

"Growing by God's Grace as a Family of Faith, Fellowship, and Ministry"



THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 4, 2026 | 10:30AM

*"We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus
as we worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually."*

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church gladly welcomes all people. Our clergy, staff, and parishioners are delighted to assist you in learning more about our worship and our community. Restrooms are located in the Parish House to the left of the church. Ushers are available to assist you as needed. If this is your first time visiting with us today, please complete a visitor card (*located in the pew*) and place it in the offering plate. Clipboards containing materials for children are available in the Narthex.

Nursery care is provided next door in the Parish House; however, all children are welcome in our services.

Christ Church is an active and vibrant parish in the heart of Downtown Macon since its founding in 1825. We are a forward-looking parish that values our heritage, liturgy, and outreach to the greater community. To learn more please visit us online via our website at www.christchurchmacon.com. The Parish Office is open from 9a–4p Monday through Thursday. You can reach us by calling (478) 745-0427.

We Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christ Church welcomes all people and no matter where you are on your faith journey, you have a place here. We hope to see you soon.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Choral Evensong

Sunday, October 4
6:30 pm in the Church

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 11
8 am & 10:30 am in the Church

Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place

Thursday, October 15
10:30 am in the Lower Level Activity Room

The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 18
8 am & 10:30 am in the Church

Compline

Sunday, October 18
6:30 pm in the Church

Holy Eucharist & Healing

Every Wednesday
Noon in the Church

Compline

Every Wednesday
8:45 pm on Facebook

THE ENTRANCE RITE

OPENING VOLUNTARY: *Fidelis* (from *Four Extemporizations*) Percy Whitlock (1903–1946)

The People stand.

HYMN IN PROCESSION: All creatures of our God and King Hymnal, 400

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY BCP, p. 355

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.

THE GLORIA Hymnal, S 236

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The People sit.

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 5:1–7

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it

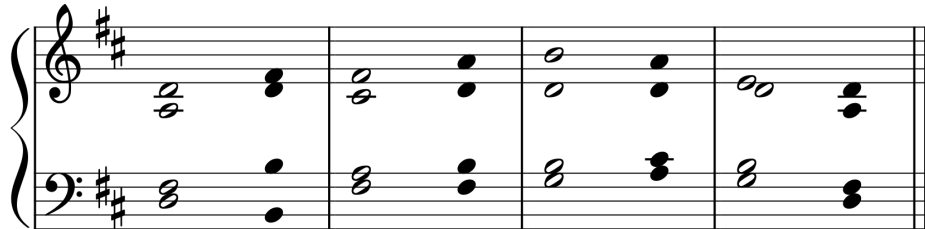
shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

Psalm 80:7–14



THE EPISTLE

Philippians 3:4b–14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my

Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE: O love how deep, how broad, how high Hymnal, 448 vv. 1–3

The People remain standing.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23–32

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?”

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was

speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE: O love how deep, how broad, how high Hymnal, 448 vv. 4–6

The People sit.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

The People stand.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 358

The People kneel.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: Dear Brothers and Sisters, the law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul! So let us appeal to our Lord God, saying, “Let the words of our mouths and meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.”

Loving God, you command us to have no other gods before you: give your Church such singleness of mind that we might not be distracted by the busyness of our lives but may strive to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. Please add your own prayers of praise and thanksgiving.

Silence may be kept

Intercessor: Let the words of our mouths and meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

Intercessor: Loving God, you command us to keep a holy Sabbath: make us generous stewards of this planet that it may be renewed and refreshed.

Silence may be kept

Intercessor: Let the words of our mouths and meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

Intercessor: Loving God, you command us to covet nothing that belongs to our neighbor: give us kind and generous hearts for those with whom we share our neighborhoods. May a loving spirit rule this region.

Silence may be kept

Intercessor: Let the words of our mouths and meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

Intercessor: Loving God, you desire that your people be not afraid: Pour on the sick, suffering, and struggling the abundance of your mercy. Bless them with goodness and healing, especially Al, Angie, Bailey, Becca, Bill, Bob, Bonnie, Brenda, Catherine, Christy, Claire, Dan, Dave, Dennis, Ed, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Ellen, George, Gibson, Gracie Marie, Griffin, Hadley, Helen, Jaime, JB, John, Kay, Kristie, Lee, Libby, Lisa, Lowe, Margaret, Martha, Matthew, Nancy, Pat, Patricia, Pete, Phil, Pud, Rodney, Sammy, Tommy, Trisha, William, and Wright. We also pray for those serving in the military: Alivia, Austin, Cameron, Donald, Georgia, Joe, Lorraine, Sam, and Theodore. Please add your own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept

Intercessor: Let the words of our mouths and meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

Intercessor: Loving God, you have made us your own: may we, and those who have run the race of faith before us, attain the resurrection from the dead through the abundant mercy of your Son. We remember this day Lee Percy Oliver, Jr., Katherine Carmichael Oliver, and Charles Alfred Discher, for whom the altar flowers are given in loving memory and to the glory of God.

Silence may be kept

Intercessor: Let the words of our mouths and meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.

The Celebrant will conclude with a suitable Collect

The People remain kneeling.

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION OF SIN

BCP, p. 360

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

The People stand.

THE PEACE

The People sit.

WELCOME & PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

We come together as the Body of Christ, we partake in the Body of Christ, to go out into the world to be the Body of Christ. All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you do not wish to partake, you are invited to receive a blessing by crossing your arms at the altar rail. If you are unable to come to the altar, please notify an usher and the elements will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer for healing, please remain at the rail after receiving Communion with your hands in an attitude of prayer and our prayer ministers will pray with you and anoint you with oil for healing.

THE OFFERTORY

The People stand.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY: “Make me a channel of your peace” Sebastian Temple (1928–1997)
arr. Martin Baker (b. 1967)

Sung by the Choristers and Christ Church Choir

*Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred let me bring your love,
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.*

*Refrain: O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

*Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life let me bring hope,
where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

*Make me a channel of your peace:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION: For the fruit of all creation

Hymnal, 424

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP, p. 369

For this Sunday, children are invited forward to experience the celebration of the Eucharist from around the altar. Parents of small children, please remain with them.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS: Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal, S 127

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.

The People kneel.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BCP, p. 371

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

BCP, p. 371

THE GREAT AMEN

BCP, p. 372

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM: Christ our passover

Hymnal, S 169

Cantor or Choir 1. All
My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord. My
2. *Cantor or Choir*
Lord. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in
All
them. My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

During Communion, please observe a holy and respectful silence to allow for private prayer.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION: Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face Hymnal, 318

The People kneel.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER BCP, p. 366

THE BLESSING

The People stand.

HYMN IN PROCESSION: Now thank we all our God Hymnal, 397

THE DISMISSAL

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: *Marche Triomphale (Now Thank We All Our God), Op. 65, No. 59*
Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

CELEBRANT, GOSPELER, & PREACHER

The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

VERGER

Russ Henry

ALTAR GUILD

Peggy Puryear
Charlotte Way

ACOLYTES

Ray Ross, *crucifer*
Kate Butler, *clergy cross*
Arbour Hair, *torch*
Avery Svare, *torch*

HEALING PRAYER MINISTER

Virgil Warren

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sally Hatcher
Gene Hatcher

USHERS & GREETERS

Corinne & Wil Harper
Alex & Ware Sanders
Lane & Tim Sheridan
Ben & Jamie Walden

FLOWER GUILD

Rebecca Grist

AUDIO/VISUAL TECHNICIAN

David Cline

THE CHRIST CHURCH CHOIR

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Parish Office Hours | Monday—Thursday 9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm | Closed Friday

Sunday, October 4: The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (Spoken) — *Church*
- 9:30 am Service with a Saint Service Project — *Great Hall*
- 9:30 am Christ Church Choir — *Church*
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (With music) — *Church*
Children's Communion Around the Altar — *Church*
Lemonade on the Lawn — *Cloister Garden*
- 11:30 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*
- 5 pm Sunday Evening Supper — *Great Hall*
- 5:30 pm Alpha Course — *Cloister Room*
- 5:30 pm Adult Bible Study — *Youth Sunday School Room*
- 5:30 pm EYC — *Youth Suite*
- 5:30 pm Knitting Group — *Parlor*
- 5:30 pm Choir School of Macon — *Choir Room*
- 5:30 pm Christ Church Choir Rehearsal — *Church*
- 6:30 pm Choral Evensong — *Church*

Tuesday, October 6

- 6 pm Alpha Marriage Course — *Great Hall*

Wednesday, October 7

- 9 am Women's Bible Study — *Parlor*
- 10:45 am Wise Women's Bible Study — *Cloister Room*
- 12 pm Holy Eucharist & Healing — *Church*
- 8:45 pm Compline — *Facebook*

Thursday, October 8

- 7:10 am Men's Bible Study — *Cloister Room*
- 6 pm Christ Church Choir — *Choir Room*

Friday, October 9

Parish office is closed

Saturday, October 10

- 11:30 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*

Sunday, October 11: The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (Spoken) — *Church*
- 9:30 am Christ Church Choir — *Church*
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (With music) — *Church*
Lemonade on the Lawn — *Cloister Garden*
- 11:30 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please send announcements to communications@christchurchmacon.com)

Choral Evensong

TONIGHT at 6:30 pm

The choir will be presenting their first Choral Evensong of the program year this evening at 6:30 pm in the Church. This will conclude today's Sunday Evenings at Christ Church in place of the Compline service. Evensong is a beautiful part of the Anglican worship tradition that pairs choral music with the liturgy of the Evening Prayer service.

Alpha Marriage Course Begins This Week

Starting Tuesday, October 6 from 6–8 pm

While opposites may attract, sharing a life together can be a challenge! Don't miss this opportunity to strengthen your marriage for a happier, healthier relationship that lasts a lifetime. This course covers topics like: The Art of Communication, Resolving Conflict, The Power of Forgiveness. We have been using the premarriage version of this course for several years and couples have loved it! Set up like a date night with tables for two, you enjoy dinner together as you watch the talk and discuss the questions in your workbook during the breaks in the talk. We meet the following Tuesday nights: Oct. 6th, Oct. 27th. Nov. 3rd, Nov. 17th Nov. 24th, Dec. 1. This course begins each night at 6:00 in the Great Hall with the exception of Nov. 3rd which begins at 5:30. It is possible to make up a class on your own if you have to miss one. To learn more or to sign up please email cynthia@christchurchmacon.com.

Newcomers Welcome Party

Friday, October 16 at 5:30 pm

If you have started attending Christ Church in the last six months, we want to welcome you! You are invited to a newcomers party hosted by Cynthia & Chet Knapp (964 Park Place). Come to meet new people and learn about the opportunities for fellowship, study, and service available at Christ Church. The party will be held on Friday, October 16 beginning at 5:30 pm. Staff, vestry, and ministry heads are encouraged to come and meet the newest members of our community.

All Hallows' Eve Service & Carnival

Wednesday, October 28 at 5:30 pm

You're invited to celebrate All Hallows' Eve with us on Wednesday, October 28! The service begins at 5:30 pm in Jones Chapel, followed by a costume parade, dinner and carnival games. If you would like to volunteer to help run a carnival game or setup/takedown, email Rachel at rachel@christchurchmacon.com. **We are also collecting donations of candy to give out as prizes for the carnival games. There is a collection basket in the lobby of the Parish House in front of Christ Church Central or you can drop candy off at the Parish Office during the week.**

Memorial Names for All Saints' Day Service

Please submit by Sunday, October 25

Sunday, November 1, is the Feast of All Saints, the day in which we remember and celebrate all those who have gone before us in faith, especially our own loved ones. If you have lost a loved one since the previous All Saints' Day (November 2, 2025), please send their names to tim@christchurchmacon.com. They will be printed in the bulletin and read aloud during the Eucharistic Prayer. Please submit all names by Sunday, October 25, 2026.

Apollo5 in Concert

Tuesday, November 3 at 7:30 pm

The British vocal group Apollo5 will be in concert at Christ Church on Tuesday, November 3 beginning at 7:30 pm. They last visited Christ Church during our Bicentennial year in 2025 and it was a truly captivating show encompassing a wide variety of sacred, secular, and traditional pieces. The concert is free and open to the public.

Writers Needed for Advent Devotional Book

This Advent, we will be putting together our third annual book of daily Advent devotions written by members of Christ Church. This year we have selected a variety of Scripture readings that explore the themes of the Advent season. At the sign up list, you can see what days are available, which scripture was chosen for each day, and an example verse from each day's passage. We are looking for short devotions on the scripture of the day of between 300-500 words. Scan the QR code to be taken to the sign up list. Advent is fast approaching, so please sign up by October 18 and submit your devotion by November 15.



NEWCOMERS WELCOME PARTY

Friday, October 16
5:30 PM

At the Home of
Cynthia & Chet Knapp



All Hallows' Eve

SERVICE & CARNIVAL

Wednesday, October 28 @ 5:30 pm



service in Jones Chapel followed by
hotdog supper, costume parade
& carnival games

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH: OCTOBER



WEEKEND LUNCH

AT CHRIST CHURCH



The Weekend Lunch program has served the needs of downtown Macon since the mid-1990s. What started as an opportunity to help feed the homeless, hungry, and less fortunate in a safe and enjoyable environment has since grown into a program that delivers far more than a meal to our community.

In addition to providing meals, we also offered clothing, warm jackets, school supplies, shoes, water bottles in hot weather, containers of food to local ministries as well as family meals for special occasions and always prayers for and with our guests.

As a volunteer, your time and talents are greatly appreciated. If you are interested in volunteering, please email hal@weekendlunch.org or visit www.weekendlunch.org.

VESTRY

Jed Hill, *Senior Warden*
Rob Wilkin, *Junior Warden*
Steve Welsh, *Treasurer*
Chris Hair, *Clerk*

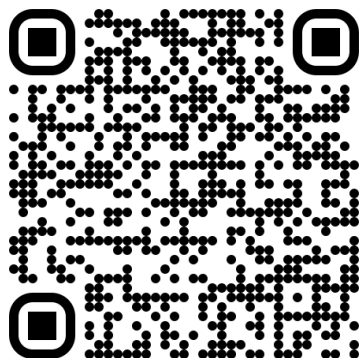
William Baxley
Jan Beeland
Margaret Boltja
Christine Hoskins

Keri Jones
Molly Muse
Jeff Powers
Nancy Wilkerson

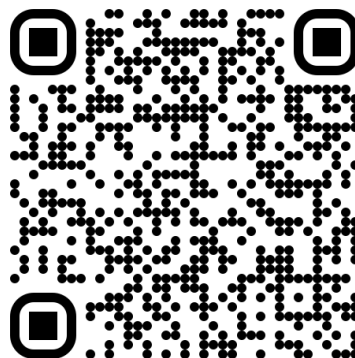
CLERGY & STAFF

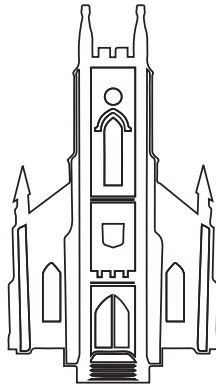
The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*
The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, *Bishop of Atlanta*
The Rev. Cynthia C. Knapp, *Rector*
The Rev. Harriette J. Simmons, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Dr. John F. McCard, *Priest Associate*
Hope Westervelt, *Director of Youth Ministries*
Rachel Horkan, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Jonathan A. Poe, *Director of Music & Liturgy*
Lacey Chaney, *Associate for Children's Music*
Nidia Svare, *Parish Administrator*
Timothy Hoskins, *Director of Communications*
Laurel Eady, *Parish Bookkeeper*
Hal Brickle, *Director of Weekend Lunch Ministry*
Robert Hubbard, *Sexton*
Markisha Carter, *Assistant Sexton*

Scan to donate online:



Fill out a visitor card:





CHRIST
CHURCH
EPISCOPAL