



Christ Church Charlotte

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024 · 8:45 AM & 11:15 AM
Holy Eucharist, Rite II and Holy Baptism

Welcome to worship in your Spiritual Home.
Special greetings to our visitors! We invite you to chat with one of our clergy, check in with a greeter,
or email visitor@christchurchcharlotte.org so we can connect with you.

This bulletin is designed for use with the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and Hymnal in your pew rack. Text in **bold italics** is read aloud or sung by the congregation. Text in *regular italics* provides directions or details.

Prelude Introduction and Toccata

William Walond

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn 492 Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness

Finnian

The Opening Acclamation (*standing*)

BCP 299

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

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

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us— and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

At the 8:45 am service, Children may now follow the banner for Children's Chapel in room M212. They will return during The Peace.

Sequence Hymn 644 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

St. Peter

The Gospel: John 10:11-18

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am

the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

After the Gospel is read,

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Reverend Connor Gwin

A moment of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Presentation and Examination of Candidates

BCP 301

The Celebrant says,

The Candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Then the candidates unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by the Parents and Godparents, as follows
Parents and Godparents: I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all infants and young children have been presented, the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents,
Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?
Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children,

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

BCP 304

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, he was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

BCP 305

The Celebrant then says to the congregation,

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader: Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says,

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

BCP 306

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptisms (seated)

BCP 307

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then pours water upon the candidate and says,

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of Holy Spirit. You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace *(standing)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Offertory Anthem Greater love hath no man

John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Who his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we,
being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;

that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath

called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren,

by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy,

acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Presentation Hymn

Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host;
praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. O__ praise him, O__ praise him,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

The Great Thanksgiving *(standing)*

BCP 367

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, faces them and says

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

This Proper Preface is said by the Celebrant,

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 S-125 Holy, holy, holy Lord

Richard Proulx

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

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues,

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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 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 ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Communion

All are invited to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Wine is served from a common cup, from which you may drink or intinct. Gluten free wafers are available at the altar rail.

Communion Hymn 576 God is love

Mandatum

Communion Motet Psalm 23, Anglican Chant

E.G. Monk

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Postcommunion Prayer (*kneeling or standing*)

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn 304 I come with joy to meet my Lord

Land of Rest

The Easter Dismissal

BCP 366

Clergy: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude Ye Boundless Realms of Joy

C. Hubert H. Parry

The following children will receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at 8:45 am:

Collins Anne Alberghini, daughter of Anne Stuart Mitchener and Ross Alberghini
Quinn Joseph Cajka, son of Kylie and Drew Cajka
Henry Pearce Crumbliss, son of Arlie and Bruce Crumbliss
Ellie Pierce Luhrs, daughter of Katherine and Adam Luhrs
Crawford McAulay Walton, daughter Cameron and Chad Walton
William Graham White, son of Alex and Chris White

The following children will receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at 11:15 am:

Martha Anne Arey, daughter of Anne and Vincent Arey
Kathryn Avery Boyle, daughter of Tricia and Adam Boyle
Mack Lewis Hamilton, son of Taylor and Moore Hamilton
Noah Mark Muller, son of Anne Massie and Andrew Muller
Margot Sue Muren, daughter of Amanda and Jack Muren
Aiden Cooper Patel, son of Mary-Kate and Rakesh Patel
Elizabeth Tribble Ralston, daughter of Nancy and Harris Ralston

Parish Intercessions: April 21, 2024

We pray for the Church, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Sam and Jennifer, our Bishops; Metlha, Bishop of Botswana; Orlando, Bishop of Costa Rica; and in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Australia

We pray for people of all religions, that we might share a spirit of respect, understanding and cooperation for the welfare and peace of the world

We pray for the leaders of all nations, for Joe, our President; Roy, our Governor; Vi, our Mayor; the Congress, the Courts, and all in authority

We pray for those in harm's way, for the U.S. Military, First Responders, and for those affected by natural disasters and acts of violence

We pray for our community partners in mission and outreach including the Girl Scouts at Rama Road Elementary School

We pray for the sick in body, mind or spirit including John Rodgers, Tommy Lyle, Leila White Thomas, Linda Hammond, Fran Redic, Linda Stultz, Reaves Thompson, Grace Bailey, Louise Comeau, Ann Stewman, Mozelle Griffith, Kenneth Bauer, Phil Thompson, Sandy Akers, Cyteria Knight, Rebecca Schriber, Robert Pressley, Dale Hogue, Tom Chandler, Marshall Wyker, Karah Prokay, Kent Carpenter, Ann Venuto, Joe Turner, Ann Lockhart, Anna Clifford, and Judy Atwell

We pray for those who long to have children and for the expectant mothers in our parish including Emma Gwin, Sarah Knowlton, Suzi Akers, Anne Howard Wright, Leah Brady, Mary Carlisle Crehore McMahan, Brooke Adams, Jaclyn Foster, Emily Marr, Katy McCarthy, Mary Close, Sara Salisbury Reddy, Gracie Epler, Claudia Pitt, Courtney Apgar, Kristi Reid, Anne Carroll Ratcliffe Mascavage, Brittany Laffond and Ashley Clementi

We give thanks for the birth of Henderson James Rothrock, son of Mimi and Cole Rothrock

We pray for those who have died and their families including David Paul Roselle, father of Art Roselle; Joseph Starke Ratcliffe, Sr., father of Starke Ratcliffe

Musical Notes

John Ireland: Greater love hath no man

"Greater Love Hath No Man" by John Ireland, composed in 1912, is a well-known choral masterpiece that captures the solemnity and sacrifice of war. The texts are biblical and are taken from the Song of Solomon, the Gospel of John and various letters of Peter and Paul. With its lush harmonies and evocative melodies, the piece conveys both the anguish of conflict and the nobility of selflessness. Through powerful choral passages, Ireland paints a poignant picture of courage and compassion, reminding listeners of the enduring power of love amidst adversity. "Greater Love Hath No Man" stands as a timeless tribute to the human spirit and the ultimate sacrifice made in the name of love and duty.



Today

Nursery Care 8:30 am - 12:30 pm, Nursery Suites

Children's Chapel, 8:45 am, M212

Children's Sunday School, 10 am, Various Rooms

Middle School Sunday School, 10 am, Youth Room

8th Grade Confirmation, 10 am, St. Francis A

Starting Point, 10 am, Parlor - Are you looking to find faith and friendship or ways to connect with the community? Do you want to renew your commitment to Christ Church? Or perhaps you simply want to know more about worship and other opportunities? We invite you to join us for Starting Point, a gathering for anyone who wants to start or restart their faith journey. Spend some time with members of the clergy, staff, vestry, and others to hear what's happening at Christ Church, ask questions, and discover areas of interest that will connect you to your spiritual home. Please contact Kathryn Saunders at saundersk@christchurchcharlotte.org with any questions.

Clergy Panel: Songs of Resurrection, 10 am, All Saints' Hall - Nothing lifts our spirits like the right song at the right time. Join The Reverends Chip Edens, Connor Gwin, and Scottie Stamper, Director of Contemporary and Family Worship, Charles Milling, and parishioner and concert violinist, Peter DeVries as we hear and discuss "*Songs of Resurrection*" and how music heals what nothing else can.

Family Matters: Children and Family Ministry Listening Session, 10 am, M213 - What types of programming and activities are you hoping Christ Church might offer your children? Your family? Parents of children (birth - 5th grade) are invited to attend a listening session to share their needs, wants, hopes, and dreams for Children & Family Ministry at Christ Church. Plan to attend one of two sessions today or April 28, at 10 am.

Soul Care: Dialogue Not Debate, 10 am, M207 - What conversations challenge you at work or with a loved one? What makes those conversations tough for you? Join The Reverend Allen Pruitt and John Bennett to learn skills and techniques to help us "love our neighbors as we love ourselves." John is a friend to Christ Church, engaged in consulting and executive coaching focused on helping individuals and organizations thrive through change.

The Weekly Word: Come Holy Spirit, 10 am, M204 - Is it a dove? Is it a flame? Is it a ghost? Jesus promised his disciples that an "advocate," a "comforter" would come to them after he ascended. Wayne Ballard will lead us as we explore what happened on Pentecost 2,000 years ago and how the Spirit is alive in our world today (Acts 2:1-11). The Weekly Word is an adult Bible study that follows the same lessons as our children's Sunday school, for a parish-wide Bible study across generations.

Sunday Brunch Buffet, 11 am - 1 pm, Blue Room - Join your family and friends for brunch! \$14 adults; \$10 seniors; \$7 children ages 4 -10; children 3 and under free. \$55 family maximum. No reservations needed.

Graduation at GoodNews - Graduation season will be here soon! Come by and see us at GoodNews and let us help you find the perfect gift for your favorite graduate! Our store hours are Sunday, 9:30 am - 1 pm, and Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm.

Yoga for the Spirit, 3:30 - 4:45 pm, M212 & Zoom - Offered every Sunday by parishioner Joyce Cmiel. The class is slow flow in nature with attention to the breath and mindfulness. All are welcome. Contact Joyce at joycecmiel@aol.com for Zoom link and more info.

Upcoming

There is always a lot going on!
View all events and find registration links at christchurchcharlotte.org/calendar.

ADULT LEARNING & FELLOWSHIP

Clergy Class: The Bible and the Afterlife - "Where will you go when you die?" We've all seen this question on a billboard or bumper sticker, but what does the Bible really say about the afterlife? On Sunday, April 28 at 10 am (All Saints' Hall and online), The Reverend Dr. Suzanne Henderson will explore the ways biblical writers used terms from Gehenna to Hades, from resurrection to heaven. Together, we'll consider what it means to live as resurrection people both here and in the hereafter.

Women's Mahjong - Women of all ages and stages are invited to play Mahjong on Tuesdays, 10 am - 12 noon, in the Green Room. Stay for soup and salad (\$8), served at noon. This is a chance for fun and fellowship with old and new friends. Visit christchurchcharlotte.org/events/womens-mahjong to sign up. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 23. Questions? Contact Scottie Stamper stamper@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Sages Conversation and Lunch: Sacred Spaces: A New Building and Renovations - Christ Church is growing, not only in membership and attendance, but our physical space is expanding too! Join us on April 24, at 10:30 am in the Blue Room, when our guest speaker will be Director of Facilities Jason Scofield. Don't miss this opportunity to hear (and see) Jason's in-depth updates on the exciting plans for our Church home. Registration for lunch (\$10) is required at christchurchcharlotte.org/events/sages.

Renaissance Community Dinner: Feed Your Soul, Please Your Palate - The Renaissance Community (55 and up) is invited for our spring gathering, "Feed Your Soul, Please Your Palate," on Monday, April 29 at 5:30 pm. We will begin with a wine and cheese social hour (non-alcoholic beverages available), followed by a delicious, healthy dinner custom-prepared by Chef Andrea. Our guest speaker will be parishioner and Licensed Dietician Nutritionist, Ginny Cobb, who will discuss creative ways to take advantage of and enjoy healthy summer foods. Visit christchurchcharlotte.org/events/renaissance-community-dinner to register.

Italy Pilgrimage: Instruments of God's Peace, October 1-12 - Travel with us to Florence and Assisi! Francis of Assisi is remembered as a peacemaker for his love of the whole creation, his ministry of service, and work for church reform. This pilgrimage will explore these themes and consider how we experience inward peace and build a more peaceable world. Visit christchurchcharlotte.org/events/italy-pilgrimage for details. Register by April 30!

Great Concerts for Great Causes: Ben & Friends - On Friday May 3 from 6:30 - 9 pm, join Director of Music Ben Outen and the Christ Church Friends of Music for a very special evening of entertainment and fellowship, featuring music from Broadway, Grand Opera, and The Beach Boys. The first in a series of concerts supporting charitable causes, this concert will raise funds for the youth pilgrimage to Spain. We are honored to support our youth as they venture into the world to learn and proclaim the Gospel, laying a foundation for the future of our Church. To learn more and register visit christchurchcharlotte.org/events/great-concerts.

Women's Evening Bible Study (WEBS) meets weekly on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 7:30 pm in M206. We are studying *An Overview of the Minor Prophets*. Women of all ages and stages are invited to participate at any time - no registration needed. Please reach out to Scottie Stamper at stampers@christchurchcharlotte.org with questions.

Men's BIG Breakfast - Men of all ages are invited to the monthly Men's BIG Breakfasts and conversations, which usually take place on the first Wednesday of each month. Come as you are for a deeper dive into what makes life big, especially for men. This year's theme is *Stronger Together*. Cash donations for breakfast can be made at the door (\$12 suggested). Come as you are and bring a friend! Please email Rosalyn Lackey to let us know you are coming. The next Men's BIG Breakfast is Wednesday, May 1, at 7 am in the Blue Room. Questions? Call 704-714-6940 or email Allen Pruitt at pruitta@christchurchcharlotte.org.

Education for Ministry (EfM) Intererst Meeting - All adults are invited to learn more about EfM at Christ Church on May 5 at 11:15 am in M207. Education for Ministry (EfM) is a Bible study and theological reflection group that connects the study of scripture with our real lives. EfM has a rich history at Christ Church, and currently has two active groups, including four trained mentors. Participants commit to meet weekly, September through May, for four years. After completing the course most people feel more equipped for ministry in the world, whether through a particular vocation, living out one's Christian faith in the secular workplace, serving others, or teaching Sunday School.

Young Adult Summer Backpacking - We're excited to share an amazing summer opportunity for young adults! July 28 - August 3, take a weeklong backpacking trip through the beautiful Sangre de Cristo Mountains with young adults from across the country, led by Owen Copps, who grew up at Christ Church and now serves as young adult director at St. Michael's in Colorado Springs. Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in Colorado runs this trip; registration is open to anyone ages 18-35. Learn more at <https://www.rainbowtrail.org/compass-points/adult-open-trip-2/>. You can contact Owen at owen@stmikeschurch.com or 980-406-8124 with any questions.

OUR SPIRITUAL HOME

The flowers that grace the altar are generously donated in honor, memory, or celebration of loved ones. We are seeking donors to provide the flowers in the Church and All Saints' Hall in the coming weeks. To sign up or learn more, please contact Mary Neal Harris at maryneal.harris@gmail.com

Simple Presence - Beginning Monday, April 22 at 11 am in St. Francis C, all are welcome to join in a weekly time of centering prayer and other contemplative practices in community.

MVP: Freedom School Warehouse - Our next MVP (Moveable Volunteer Possibility) is with Freedom School at the Latrobe Warehouse on Thursday, April 25 at 1 pm. We will help them prepare for summer programs by grouping items for distribution, taking inventory, and/or sorting books and supplies. Go to signupgenius.com/go/Christ-Church-MVP for details and to sign up.

Spring Parish Day is Sunday, May 19 - Join us for a Festive Eucharist at 10 am in All Saints' Hall, followed by fun, food, and fellowship on the lawn. We will enjoy a delicious lunch, along with live bluegrass music, bounce houses, and much more, as we celebrate the close of the program year and kick off summer! Dress is casual. Questions? Contact Molly Nielsen at nielsenm@christchurchcharlotte.org. To learn more and sign up to volunteer visit christchurchcharlotte.org/events/spring-parish-day.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Southern Soiree is April 26! This evening of fun benefits children's ministries at Christ Church and a portion of funds raised will support Charlotte Bilingual Preschool. Your ticket covers an evening of food and fun, with Southern fare, drinks (non-alcoholic, beer, and wine), live music, and more. Garden party attire is recommended. To purchase tickets or to donate to Children's and Family Ministry and Christ Church Kindergarten visit christchurchcharlotte.org/events/soiree.

Youth Coffee Office Hours - All 6th - 12th grade students are invited to join Alice for a "check up from the neck up" during our Coffee Office Hours! We will be hanging out at Amelie's at Park Road Shopping Center from 3 - 5 pm every other Tuesday. (Next date: April 30)

College and Seminary Scholarships Available - The Christ Church Foundation makes annual scholarship grants to qualified undergraduate college and seminary students. Awards are based on financial need, good citizenship, academic record, and involvement in extracurricular activities. Find more information and download the application at christchurchcharlotte.org/give/#ccf. Deadline to apply is Thursday, April 30 at 5 pm.

Vacation Bible School - VBS invites children, youth, families, and adults of all ages to build on our vision of faith, connection, and well-being. VBS takes place June 24-27 and is for children ages four (by 8/31/2024) through rising 5th graders. Please note that we ask one parent from each registered family to serve in a volunteer role. Find details about registration, fees, and ways youth and adults can serve at christchurchcharlotte.org/events/vbs-register.

Registration Now Open for Family Well-Being Retreat at Kanuga - August 30 - September 1 (Labor Day Weekend), families with children of all ages are invited to our Family Well-Being Weekend at Kanuga! We will provide activities and programs for adults and children aged 5 & up and offer child-care during adult programs for children age 4 and under. There will be time for rest and renewal, too! To learn more and to sign up, please visit <https://christchurchcharlotte.org/events/family-retreat/>. Contact Lindsay Masi at masil@christchurchcharlotte.org with questions.

Christ Church Preschool & Kindergarten has a wonderful half-day Kindergarten program. There are a few spaces available for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are interested or have questions, contact Meredith Sorrell, Head of School, at sorrellm@christchurchcharlotte.org. Students must turn 5 by August 31st to qualify for CCK Kindergarten.

SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

Soul Care: Living Seasonally - Why do we dream about a good home-grown tomato sandwich from fall until summer? Because winter tomatoes just aren't the same! On Sunday, April 28 at 10 am in M207, The Reverend Allen Pruitt leads a discussion about how living seasonally can help us appreciate the gifts God pours out all year long.

Connect With Christ Church christchurchcharlotte.org

The Reverend Chip Edens, Rector
The Reverend Joshua Case
The Reverend Connor Gwin
The Reverend Joan Kilian
The Reverend Emily Parker
The Reverend Dr. Fred Paschall
The Reverend Allen Pruitt
The Reverend Lisa Saunders
The Reverend Elizabeth Walker

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Worship, Sermons & Faith Forum Live or Later: christchurchcharlotte.org/online

To subscribe to our emails,
contact communications@christchurchcharlotte.org

WAYS TO GIVE

Please consider giving to Christ Church during worship services or any time. Visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/offering (for details about Text2Give, in-app giving, and other options).



Give Online