

Blessing and Sending

Let us go in the name of Christ to love and serve the world.
Thanks be to God.

Our Mission

Christ Church exists to lead people into a deeper relationship with Christ and His Church, through community, for the city.

Connect to Christ Church

We are so happy you are worshipping with us and would love to connect with you! We invite you to the side yard immediately after the service for coffee hour.

If you are new, please complete the Connect Card in the pew rack and give the card to Pastor Andrew. Visit the Welcome Table in the foyer or our website, christchurcheastbay.org, to learn more about our church.

Worship Arts Opportunities

Do you sing or play an instrument? Are you interested in participating on our Sunday worship teams? Please contact our Worship Arts director Eric Gilbert (eric@christchurcheastbay.org) for more information.

Christ Church Kids & Youth

Come to the check-in table in the entrance of the Sanctuary for information on our wonderful programs and childcare for our toddlers, kids and youth on Sundays, and more!

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Gospels Reading Plan: New Year's Day to Easter

Let's begin the year by reading through the four Gospels, the ancient biographical pictures of one and the same man, Jesus of Nazareth. How do these narrative portraits of the historical Jesus tell us the ultimate and universal meaning He has for the Christian faith? Let's read and find out together! Full schedule and resources can be found at the Welcome Table and at christchurcheastbay.org/worship.

Week 1 - January 1

Sunday - Matthew 1	Thursday - Matthew 5
Monday - Matthew 2	Friday - Matthew 6
Tuesday - Matthew 3	Saturday - Matthew 7
Wednesday - Matthew 4	

* Wonderful Wednesdays Begin on January 4

1st & 3rd Wednesdays (Jan. 4, 18): Philippians with Jonathan
2nd Wednesday (Jan. 11): Evensong & Prayer
6:00 pm dinner, 7:00 pm program for all ages

Come study the Paul's letter to the Philippians, which focuses on the love of Christ, the greatest love anyone can ever know, as the fuel of our discipleship. We will be using the videos, handbook, and reading plan from Discipleship Explored. Please join the Philippians community group on the website under the Connect tab, and don't forget to * register for dinner and childcare by Monday each week.

* Loaves and Fishes: Serving Our Unhoused Neighbors

Next Saturday, January 7, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Meet in the church kitchen with Bill Barnes to make and serve lunches to our unhoused neighbors.

"Un-Deck" the Halls

Next Sunday, January 8, after the service

Join us after the worship service to put away the garlands, wreathes, and lights that have made our church so beautiful for Advent and Christmas!

* Women Reading Women Book Group

Monday, January 9, 7:00 pm

If "make new friends" or "read more" is a New Year's Resolution, please join us for a monthly fellowship and book discussion of female-authored books, hosted by Maria Francis. This month we're reading *The Inheritors: An Intimate Portrait of South Africa's Racial Reckoning* by Eve Fairbanks. See details on the * Events page or email maria@christchurcheastbay.org.

* High School Retreat

January 14-16, Lake Tahoe

Registration is now open for our CC high schoolers to sign up for our winter retreat in Tahoe. The theme this year is "The Way of Jesus." More details can be found on the * Events page.

*** Register and see details for events marked by an asterisk by using the Church Center app or this QR code:**



Gathering

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive.
Unless the Lord does raise the house, in vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain: tell me what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn; all glory be to Christ.

Chorus

All glory be to Christ, our King, all glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, all glory be to Christ!

His will be done, His kingdom come, on earth as is above.
Who is Himself our daily bread, praise Him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price.
We'll take a cup of kindness yet; all glory be to Christ.

"All Glory Be to Christ"

Words: Dustin Kensrue, ARR. Kings Kaleidoscope
Music: AULD LANG SYNE, Scottish folk song, ca. 1799
©2012 Dead Bird Theology (ASCAP), It's All About Jesus Music (ASCAP)

Call to Worship - Luke 1

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
because He has come to His people and redeemed them.

*He has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of His servant David
as He said through His holy prophets of long ago,*
**to give His people the knowledge of salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,**

*because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven*
**to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace.**

Ancient of Days

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall,
There is still one King reigning over all.
So I will not fear, for this truth remains:
That my God is the Ancient of Days.

Chorus

None above Him, none before Him,
All of time in His hands.
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand.
All the power, all the glory,
I will trust in His name;
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul,
He is here with me; I am not alone.
O His love is sure, and He knows my name.
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Though I may not see what the future brings,
I will watch and wait for the Savior King.
Then my joy complete, standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days.

Words & Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren, Jesse Reeves
©2018 CityAlight Music

O God Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home!

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719
Music: ST. ANNE, attr. William Croft, 1708

Prayer & Confession

Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Let us together confess our sin against God and neighbor:
Lord Jesus, if You had not limited all Your majestic greatness into the cramped quarters of human nature, we could not now know the limitless power and privilege of being Your children! If You had not been blind in the womb, we could never have had the scales drop from our eyes. If You had not come to die, we could never have received endless life. If You had not been torn, we could never have been mended. Forgive us, Lord Jesus, for not quieting the fears of our hearts with the knowledge of Your immeasurable love for us—shown through Your incarnation, death, and resurrection—and for failing to love others as You have loved us. And now Father, through the power of Your Holy Spirit, may we adore You for the gift of Your Son, for He is our hope and our health and our life.

Silence is kept for private confession of sin

Assurance of Pardon

Hear, receive, and rest by faith upon the promises of God to all those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ alone for all their confidence before God:

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity.
(Joel 2:12-13)

Thanks be to God.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

*Children are dismissed at this time.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son,
Glory be to the Spirit, Three in One.
As it was in the beginning,
It will be forever, Amen. Amen. Amen.

From "**Gloria Patri**" (3rd c. Christian text); Music: Karl Digerness ©2009 City Church SF Music

The Lord’s Word

The Gospel Lesson

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

mt 3:1 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea **2** and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” **3** This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him.’” **4** John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. **5** People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. **6** Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. **7** But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? **8** Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. **9** And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. **10** The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. **11** “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me

comes One who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **12** His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will clear His threshing floor, gathering His wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” **13** Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. **14** But John tried to deter Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?” **15** Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented. **16** As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him. **17** And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated

Teaching

Series: The King and the Kingdom
Title: Baptismal Identity: You Are My Beloved
Preacher: Rev. Jonathan St. Clair

The Lord’s Supper

Let us confess our faith from the Apostle’s Creed.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. 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. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Preface (Prayer of Praise)

(Sung)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory,
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

He Took, Blessed, and Broke

Words of Institution

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast.

And now as our Savior taught us, so we pray:

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.

He Gave

Invitation

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Nunc Dimittis (Come, Lord Jesus)

Lord, now let me depart in peace,
For I have seen Your salvation.
A light in the darkness for weary ones;
Your glory among all the nations.

Refrain 1

Come, Lord Jesus, come, Emmanuel, God With Us,
Light of the World, given all for love.
Glory to God in the highest! Glory to God in the highest!

For us and for our salvation,
Promise of Old from on high,
Wrapped in the garb of humanity;
The Word who would suffer and die.

Silently now You descend to us,
Bidding our sorrows to cease.
Beautiful Savior, now flesh and blood,
Bringing us life and peace.

Refrain 2

Come, Lord Jesus, come, Emmanuel born to us.
Myst’ry revealing the Father’s love.
Glory to God in the highest, glory to God in the highest,
Glory to God in the highest!

Words & Music: Eric Gilbert ©2009 Christ Church East Bay Music (from “Song of Simeon,” Luke 2)

Prayers of the People

Prayers offered for the Church, our city, and our world

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Let us offer our thanks to God, and ourselves to His service.

Loving God, we are mindful of the supreme gift that You gave us in a manger at Bethlehem. We humbly offer our gifts of service and possessions in joyful thanksgiving for the love You have shown us. Hear our prayers and accept these gifts for the sake of Your Son who was born to us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thou Who Wast Rich

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender,
Sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising,
All for love's sake becamest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising
Heavenwards by Thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising,
All for love's sake becamest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship Thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,
Make us what Thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship Thee.

Words: Frank Houghton, 1934; Music: Traditional French Carol ARR. Eric Gilbert ©2009 Christ Church East Bay Music

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King!
Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground.
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719
Music: Lowell Mason, 1836