

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

Let's Read Isaiah! - Fall 2022 Reading Plan

Join us in a a reading plan that will walk us through the book of Isaiah until Christmas. Check the Worship page of the website for a link to the full plan and recommended resources, or find copies at the Welcome Table.

Week 11 - December 11

- Sunday - Isaiah 55:1-13
- Monday - Isaiah 56:1-12
- Tuesday - Isaiah 57:1-21
- Wednesday - Isaiah 58:1-14
- Thursday - Isaiah 59:1-19
- Friday - Isaiah 59:20-60:22
- Saturday - Catch-up day

Year-End Giving Campaign — Would you make a gift?

Please consider a special gift this Advent to help us reach our \$330,000 giving goal for December. Reaching this goal puts us on sure financial footing for 2023 and enables us to continue serving faithfully in our community. For more information, scan the QR code below and tap "Give," or go to christchurcheastbay.org/ways-to-give.

Service of Lessons & Carols

This Evening at 5:00 pm, reception following

This special evening service is a wonderful occasion for inviting friends and coworkers to experience the beauty of Christ and His Gospel in word and song. Childcare offered for infants, toddlers, and preschool.

Livestream

If you can't make it or want to share with friends far away, use the regular Sunday morning link to tune in to the service

Lessons & Carols Reception - Can you help?

We will have a reception following our Lessons and Carols service, and we are asking folks to bring something bite-size, savory or sweet, on a disposable tray. We're also seeking setter-uppers and cleaner-uppers. Please * register to let us know how you can help.

Advent Prayer Time

Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

Join Jonathan for a time of prayer in the Sanctuary (no dinner or childcare this week).

Youth Christmas Party

Friday, December 16, 6:00-9:00 pm, Community Hall

More details will be sent out via email to parents. Questions? Contact Amy Hao (amy@christchurcheastbay.org).

Christmas Eve Worship Service


Saturday, December 24, 5:00 pm

On this night we stand in awe that "the Word became flesh," that Almighty God became a powerless baby to be our Savior. Let's begin our Christmas celebrations by worshipping together with classic carols, a nativity lesson for kids, prayers, Scripture readings, a brief message, and candle-lighting. Infant/toddler care only with quiet-fun Christmas packets for 3 year-olds to grade 5 to use in the service if they want. Bring your friends and family!

Looking Ahead

- Jan. 4, 18: * Wonderful Wednesdays - Study Philippians with Jonathan
- Jan. 8: Un-Deck the Halls after the service
- Jan. 9: * Women Reading Women
- Jan. 11: * 2nd Wednesday Evensong & Prayer
- Jan. 14: Loaves & Fishes

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





Gathering

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in Heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

"Once in Royal David's City"
Words: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; Music: Henry J. Gaunt, 1849

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

God our Father, You gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age a son called John. He grew up strong in spirit, prepared the people for the coming of the Lord, and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us, who have been baptized into Christ, to be ready to welcome Him into our hearts, and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Light who is coming into the world.

The third candle is brightened

Lord Jesus, Light of the world, John told the people to prepare, for You were very near. As Christmas grows closer each day, may our own hearts grow in anticipation, and may we be ready to welcome You now. Amen.

What Child is This?

What Child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain 1
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings, salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Refrain 2
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Text: William C. Dix, 1865
Music: GREENSLEEVES, 16th Century English Melody

Confession and Petition

Come, Emmanuel.
Come to be God With Us.

Come and cheer us in Your drawing near.
Come and bring light to darkness, gladness for mourning, hope for despair.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great Light – the Light who was the Word in the beginning, come to dwell with us, to heal us from our diseases and save us from our sin, to dry our tears of grief and sadness, to restore us once more.
For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.

On those living in the land of deep darkness a Light has dawned – the Light that shines in the darkness of our hearts, revealing our sin and rebellion; the Light that shines on the brokenness and frailty of humanity, revealing the yoke of iniquity we bear, and our desperate need for a Deliverer; the Light that will scatter darkness, and establish righteousness, justice, and peace.

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.

Silence is kept

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:

"I have sinned, I have perverted what is right, but I did not get what I deserved. God has delivered me from going down to the pit, and I shall live to enjoy the light of life."
(Job 33:27-28)

Thanks be to God.

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

*One star burns in the darkness,
Shines with the promise, Emmanuel.
One child born in the stillness,
Living within us, Emmanuel.*

Chorus

*We're singing glory, glory,
Let there be peace, let there be peace.
We're singing glory, glory,
Let there be peace, let it start in me.*

*One voice speaks for the voiceless,
Hope for the hopeless, Emmanuel.
One love brings us together,
Now and forever, Emmanuel.*

Bridge

*Do not be afraid,
His love is strong enough to save us.
Nothing stands in the way,
His love is strong enough to lead us.*

Words & Music: Chris Stevens, Matt Maher, Rachel Taylor Popadic
©2017 Meaux Mercy, Moody Producer Music, Be Essential Songs, I Am A Pilgrim Songs, Rachel Taylor Music

Passing of the Peace

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

*Children are dismissed at this time

Advent Doxology

Glory to God in the highest
And peace to His people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest,
Goodwill to all people on earth.

Refrain

Gloria, gloria, in Excelsis Deo.
Sing gloria, gloria; amen, amen, amen!
Amen, amen, amen!

Words & Music: Eric Gilbert ©2014 Christ Church East Bay Music

The Lord’s Word

Old Testament Lesson

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Is 61:4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

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Is 62:6 I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the Lord, give yourselves no rest, **7** and give Him no rest till He establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth.

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63:7 I will tell of the kindnesses of the Lord, the deeds for which He is to be praised, according to all the Lord has done for us—yes, the many good things He has done for Israel, according to His compassion and many kindnesses. **8** He said, “Surely they are My people, children who will be true to me”; and so He became their Savior. **9** In all their distress He too was distressed, and the angel of His presence saved them. In His love and mercy He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. **10** Yet they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit. So He turned and became their enemy and He Himself fought against them. **11** Then His people recalled the days of old, the days of Moses and his people—where is He who brought them through the sea, with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who set His Holy Spirit among them, **12** who sent His glorious arm of power to be at Moses’ right hand, who divided the waters before them, to gain for Himself everlasting renown, **13** who led them through the depths? Like a horse in open country, they did not stumble; **14** like cattle that go down to the plain, they were given rest by the Spirit of the Lord. This is how You guided your people to make for Yourself a glorious name. **15** Look down from heaven and see, from Your lofty throne, holy and glorious. Where are Your zeal and Your might? Your tenderness and compassion are withheld from us. **16** But You are our Father, though Abraham does not know us or Israel acknowledge us; You, Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is Your name. **17** Why, Lord, do You make us wander from Your ways and harden our hearts so we do not revere You? Return for the sake of Your servants, the tribes that are Your inheritance. **18** For a little while Your people possessed Your holy place, but now our enemies have trampled down Your sanctuary. **19** We are Yours from of old; but You have not ruled over them, they have not been called by Your name.

The grass withers, and the flowers fade,

but the word of our God stands forever.

*Please be seated

Teaching

Series: Come Down, O Lord!

Title: Where Are Your Zeal and Your Might?

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.

All Praise To You (Noel)

All praise to You, eternal Lord,
Clothed in a garb of flesh and blood;
You chose a manger for Your throne,
While worlds on worlds are Yours alone.

Once did the skies before You bow;
A virgin’s arms contain You now:

While angels, who in You rejoice,
Now listen for Your infant voice.

Chorus 1

Noel, sing “Gloria!” Emmanuel has come to us.
Noel, creation sings highest glory to the King.

You come to us in darkest night
To make us children of the light.
You bid our sorr’wing hearts to cease,
And kiss the world with heaven’s peace.

Chorus 2

Noel, Hallelujah! Jesus Christ is born to us.
Emmanuel, our God is here; praise Him now and evermore!

Chorus 3

Noel, sing “Gloria!” Our Prince of Peace has come to us.
Noel, creation sings highest glory to the King.
Highest glory to the King! Jesus Christ, our Savior King!

Words: Martin Luther, 1524; alt. Eric Gilbert, 2018
Music: Eric Gilbert ©2018 Christ Church East Bay Music

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.

Lord of Advent, accept the offerings we bring this day, the work of our hands, the gifts of our labor, our lives to serve You. Gladden our hearts as we watch for Your coming and help us to share that gladness with all. Amen.

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed, Thou Great and Royal Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captives free,
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth;
Before Him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

O’er every foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest;
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever: that name to us is Love.

Words: James Montgomery, 1821
Music: Eric Gilbert ©2016 Christ Church East Bay Music

Nativity Play