

# Christ Church

an Open & Affirming Congregation  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST



## **April 19, 2026** *Third Sunday of Easter*

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Gross  
Music Director: Terryl Dietert  
Guitar/ Visuals: Paul Mayeshiba  
Video: Richard Tremarello  
Liturgist: Doris Mayeshiba

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*Welcome to Christ Church!* We are so glad you are here this morning! Whether you are a "first-timer," a regular, or somewhere in between, it is a joy to have you here with us this day. May you be blessed by God's Word in worship today! If you are a **first-time visitor**, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the offering plate, and then make your way to the Chapel (in the back) after worship where we have a small gift for you.

*\*Please stand as you are able*

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

*When the Poor Ones*

Olivar/Manzano

\*Call to Worship

One: Siblings in Christ, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

**All: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.**

One: We gather to share our lives in common.

**All: We give what we can to all who have needs so that all people, no matter who they are, may regard us with goodwill.**

One: We devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

**All: For in this way, God will add to our numbers every day.**

\*We All Sing

*The Church's One Foundation*

**#544**

\*Opening Prayer

One: Let us pray together.

**All: Loving God, we pray that your Holy Spirit will strengthen us to be devoted to the teaching of your Word, that through it we may hear your voice and follow it to eternal life. Amen.**

\*The Peace

One: The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: I invite you to pass the peace of Christ to those near you, in whatever way you are most comfortable.

\*Response

*Gloria, Gloria*

**#240**

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!**

**Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia! Alleluia!**

Time for The Young and The Young at Heart

**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 forever.**

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Therefore, let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

**We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:**

**You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.**

**You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.**

**You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.**

**You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.**

**You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.**

**Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

*Jeanette, Jill U's long-time friend*

*Family and friends of Sarah Hillmert*

*From the Prayer Box: Anonymous and Patrick*

*Joan A's grandson, Blair*

## The Lord's Prayer

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## Calling for Our Best

One: Today we are invited to become deeply attached, close, and loyal members of the body of Christ. As it is written in the wisdom book of Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, that "Two are better than one, because if they fall, one will lift up the other; but for the one who is alone and falls, there is not another to lift that person up." So, let our offering lift one another up in God's love that abides in times of sadness, loss and grief. Let our offering be a thanksgiving of God's love that abides within us times of hopefulness, forgiveness, unity, and peace. And let us accept God's invitation to be ever-present in times of deep despair, and in times of great joy. Now, we offer ourselves in gratitude and with generosity, as the beloved community of God.

SCAN TO DONATE



Offertory

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

Anon.

\*We All Sing

tune: *Old Hundredth*

**O morning of our hearts, we sing;  
our endless alleluias ring!  
Amid the shadows of our gloom  
new hope, new life, an empty tomb! Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**All: Loving God, we give you thanks for all that we have and ask for a special blessing on the gifts we have offered to help meet the needs of your beloved community. May they nourish and strengthen this community to grow spiritually, emotionally, and physically. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

\*We All Sing

*We Are the Church*

**#550**

\*Benediction

\*Response *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* (chorus only, 2X) **#5**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah**  
**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah**  
**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah**  
**Hallelujah, halle-lu-jah**

\*Postlude *The Church's One Foundation* Wesley

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## **THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH**

### **Today**

Sunday School at 9:30am  
Creation Care 101 during Coffee Hour

### **Wednesday, April 22**

Bible Study, 1pm

### **Thursday, April 23**

Handbells, 9:30am

**Greeters:** Chuck Terlinden, Bob Polachowski

**Counters:** Danette Volz, Renolle Volz

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY: Sunday School** | Sunday School class is held the third Sunday of the month for children in grades 1 through 8. Upcoming Sunday School class dates are: **today** and **May 17**. The end-of-the-year Sunday School celebration will be **June 7** and will be held in the game room. There will be no Sunday School class in July or August. Watch for information about Rally Day in September. For more information, contact *Michael Key* or *Pastor Bob*.

### **TODAY during Coffee Hour: Christ Church Creation Care 101**

With Earth Day right around the corner (April 22), we will be introduced to the Creation Care ministry of the Wisconsin Conference, United Church of Christ. John Helt co-chairs the Conference Creation Care team and will share with us how he became involved with this work, what some congregations are doing to help save the planet, and how Christ Church might join the effort, making Earth Day more than just a day, but a way of life. We will meet after worship in the coffee hour area downstairs on Sunday, April 19. *Sponsored by the Membership Committee*

We received word that there will be a **Memorial Service for Sarah Hillmert** on **Saturday, April 25** at noon at Southside Church of Christ, 1933 W. Grange, Milwaukee. We will pass on more detailed information when it is available.

**Amazing Faiths Dinner Dialogues | Wednesday, April 29** at 6pm

We will be hosting the next Interfaith Amazing Faiths Dinner Dialogues. We will need to provide a soup and sandwich dinner for 35–40 people. If you would be willing to help provide food or serve, please let *Doris or Paul Mayeshiba* know (414-483-9600). The Interfaith team will present the program. We hope you will consider attending and be open to hearing how our neighbors experience the role of faith or spirituality in their lives.

**Join Our Church Revitalization Book Study! |** Are you passionate about the future of our congregation? We invite you to join us for a powerful book study on *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church* by Paul Nixon. This is a vital step in our church revitalization process, and your voice is needed.

**When:** We will gather for 90-minute sessions immediately following worship on: **April 26, May 3, and May 17**

**Who Should Attend?** While this is a crucial event for **church leaders**—including committee chairs, liaisons, and committee members—we strongly encourage **every member** of the congregation to participate. Whether you have held a leadership role for years or are brand new to our community, your perspective is invaluable.

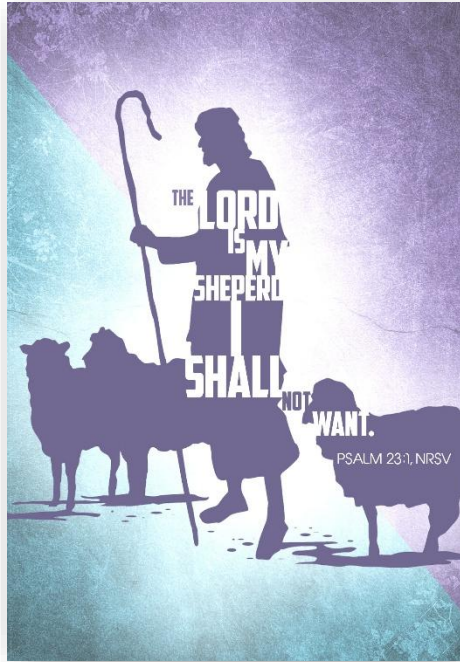
**No Homework Required:** Even if you don't have time to read the book, *you are still welcome!* Come for the fellowship and forward-looking conversation.

**Sign Up:** Please add your name to the sign-up sheet located at the Lenox Door. We hope to see a full room as we dream and plan for our shared future!

*Jim Wick*

*(The books cost the church \$18 each. If you would like to reimburse the church, please place your payment in an envelope marked "Dying Church book" and include it in the offering plate.)*

**Rummage Sale | Saturday, May 16** from 8am–1pm | Christ Church is joining the Bay View Neighborhood Association Rummage Sale. Please continue to bring your donations and put them in the east end of the Music Room. Donation guidelines: "If you wouldn't buy it, don't donate it." Please, NO electronics, TVs, hazardous materials, broken items, oversized furniture, or pianos (nope, no pianos :) See *Newsletter* for additional volunteer opportunities or contact *Michael or Janet Key*



Monthly Activity	March	YTD
Contributions & Other Income	\$13,498	\$46,725
Expenses	\$22,100	\$60,570
Budgeted Amount	\$18,051	\$54,155
<i>Last week's offering: \$2,962</i>		

## Christ Church UCC

915 E Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207

**414-481-3530 | office@uccmke.org**

**Website:** [uccmke.org](http://uccmke.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/christchurchbayview](https://facebook.com/christchurchbayview)

**Instagram:** [instagram.com/christ\\_church\\_uccmke/](https://instagram.com/christ_church_uccmke/)

**Livestream:** [youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI](https://youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI)

If you should need pastoral support, please contact

**Pastor Bob** at 440-506-3258 or [pastor@uccmke.org](mailto:pastor@uccmke.org)

