Christ Church

an Open & Affirming Congregation
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



November 8, 2026

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Gross
Choir Director: Gary Aubry
Musicians: Sue Cribb, Pam Kothrade
Tech Team: Paul Mayeshiba, Richard Tremarello
Liturgist: Randene Wick

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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *My Tribute* Crouch

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day God has made.

All: We rejoice and are glad in it.

*WE ALL SING *This Is a Day of New Beginnings* **#355**

*OPENING PRAYER

One: Let us pray together.

All: Heavenly Parent, you defend us from harm and nurture us toward life. Help us to be your people, extending love and care to others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*THE PEACE

One: The peace of 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 *God Welcomes All* John Bell

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

GIFT OF MUSIC *We Gather Together* Sanctuary Singers

SCRIPTURE READING Micah 6: 8

[God] has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

SERMON "Beyond Our Walls: Caring, Justice, and Mercy" Pastor Bob

The United Church of Christ's Marks for Faithful and Vital Local Churches—Part One

*WE ALL SING *As a Fire Is Meant for Burning* **#551**

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

*Statement of Faith — Steve Garnaas Holmes

We believe in God, Creator of all, who is creating even now, bringing all things into existence, whose Word is made flesh in all Creation, whose presence is embodied in all living beings.

We follow Christ, who perfectly embodied God's love. He taught and healed; he fed the hungry and embraced the outcast. He was at one with all Creation: even the seas upheld him, and the wind and the waves listened to his voice. He was crucified, but even in death life blessed him: God raised him from the dead, the Ruler of Life.

We live by the Holy Spirit, the breath of life in us and all creatures: the power to love, to forgive, to create, to give life. We trust in this grace that makes us one with all Creation. And by the power of that Spirit, we devote ourselves in covenant faithfulness to humble reverence and grateful service to all Creation, in the name of Christ. Amen.

Welcome and Reception

One: Let us, the members and friends of Christ Church, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

All: **We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

- *Prayers for **Immanuel UCC and the family of Pastor Rich Vincent***
- *Pray for **Dean K, Judy B, Nancy K, Jan N,** and **Jacob O** for health & healing*
- *Continued prayers for **Joan A's grandson, Blair***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALLING FOR OUR BEST

One: With what shall we come before God this day?

All: **We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. We walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.**

SCAN TO DONATE

OFFERTORY *Prayer* Verdi

*WE ALL SING *Doxology* tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God, above you heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: Let us pray.

All: We trust you Sovereign God, to multiply the blessings these gifts represent, as we pour out your love and grace to those who long to hear your word to them, to see your power at work within them, to feel your comfort beside them, through the generous gifts of your Spirit. Amen.

*WE ALL SING *Community of Christ* **#615**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *The Lord Is My Light* Frances Allison



Congratulations to our new members!

Aaron Lynch
Thomas Lynch
Jaqueline Velasco-Lynch

And welcome to **the family and friends** of the Lynch Family. We are so glad you could join us today! God bless you all!

THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH

Today
Coffee Hour – Chuck Terlinden
Thanksgiving Bag donations DUE

Monday, Nov 9
Book Study, 1pm
Social Concerns Meeting, 5:30pm

Tuesday, Nov 10
Quilting, 9:30am
Council Meeting, 6pm

Thursday, Nov 12
Finance Meeting, 11am

NEXT SUNDAY
Pick-up Thanksgiving Bags for Delivery
Holiday Photo Op

Greeters: Joyce Zieman
Counters: Janet Key, Joyce Zieman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Photo Op | Sunday, November 15 | Christmas is just around the Corner! In preparation for the holiday, have your picture taken with our Christmas themed backdrop by our in-house photographer, Paul Mayeshiba. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Lenox Street bulletin board, so we know how many people are interested. Photos will be taken during the coffee hour after the worship service. Everyone will receive one print of your photo AND/OR your photo can be emailed to you. Other activities for the day:

- Write postcard messages for the upcoming holiday church events to be mailed to new residents in Bay View
- Select some Christmas cards to send
- Enjoy Apple cider, assorted cookies and bars, quick breads, and bakery

Membership Committee: Peggy C, Mary Ann M, Andy O, Sue P, Randene W

DONATIONS DUE TODAY - Thanksgiving Bags | We will be delivering Thanksgiving bags to the 9 members on our Share and Care list. Donations would be appreciated and can be placed in the Pine Room **by November 8**. Suggestions include *Thanksgiving decorations, kitchen towels, candy, notepads, crackers, cookies, seasonal napkins or anything that might brighten someone's day*. We are also looking for volunteers to deliver the bags. Please contact a Social Concerns member if you can assist. The bags will be available **November 15** for you to deliver prior to the holiday. Thanks, *Social Concerns Committee: Peggy C, Debbie H, Mary Ann M, Jan N, Sara R, Vicki T, Randene W*

Remembrance Ritual | On **Sunday, November 22** we will be remembering those who have died in the last year. If you would like someone's name included in the memorial, please submit that name to the office **by November 15**.

Hanging of the Greens | Sunday, November 29 following service

Christmas Gift Donations | We will be collecting gifts to donate to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. These gifts will help make it a merry Christmas for individuals and families in need, providing new and unwrapped gifts. Please consider donating to this worthwhile project. Suggested items include new toys, especially for older children, and teens, squishes or other sensory toys, watches, jewelry, earbuds, perfume or cologne, lotions, soaps and loofahs, women's robes and slippers, women's and children's pajamas, wallets, authentic sports team apparel including hats, sweatshirts or warm outerwear, 2027 planners or calendars, $25 Amazon gift cards, and gift bags or tissue paper to wrap gifts. The Rescue Mission is requesting gifts be donated by the beginning of December. Please drop off any gifts in the chapel **by November 29** so we can deliver them on time. Thanks in advance for your donations to make the holidays special for men, women and children in our community who are struggling. If you have any questions, please contact a Social Concerns member. With Grateful Hearts, *Social Concerns Committee: Peggy C, Debbie H, Mary Ann M, Jan N, Sara R, Vicki T, Randene W*

Christ Church Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner Gathering | Fri, Dec 4 at 6pm
Joe's K-Ranch, 4840 S Whitnall Ave, Cudahy, WI | *Everyone is welcome!*
Let's gather as a church family to enjoy an evening of good food, fellowship, and friendship as we celebrate the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons together. We have scheduled this gathering before the busiest days leading up to Christmas, giving everyone an opportunity to relax, reconnect, and enjoy time with those of us that are part of the Christ Church faith community.

The gathering will take place in the lower level of Joe's K-Ranch, which is accessible by stairs only.

Because the restaurant is expecting several large groups that evening, we may have a limited menu of five or six selected dinner entrées. More information about the menu will be shared as it becomes available.

We hope you'll join us for this special opportunity to celebrate the season and strengthen the friendships that make Christ Church such a welcoming community. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the Lenox St bulletin board.
Jim Wick

Endowment Grants | Applications are due **by December 6**. Please ask any member of the Endowment committee if you have questions: *Tom D, Joan G, Sarah R, Jackie B, Randene W*

Advent Brunch | Sunday, December 6 at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall
Join us for brunch as we pause for reflection during a busy holiday season. There will be time for us to gather and socialize while eating a variety of foods and desserts. Our speaker, Mary Gross, wife of Pastor Bob, will speak on the topic: " Loving Your Neighbor by Being a Catalyst for Change." She will share how churches dream boldly and try new things in partnership with others in local communities. Through a Catalyst Grant which is available from the Wisconsin Conference UCC, there are many ways our congregation can enrich the lives of others in our community.

We look forward to your participation and as always guests are welcome. A sign-up sheet to attend is on the Lenox Street bulletin board and donations toward the meal are welcome. A separate sheet is posted for salad and dessert donations. All are welcome, including trans and non-binary people. Please sign up **by Sunday, November 29**. *Social Concerns Committee: Peggy C, Debbie H, Mary Ann M, Jan N, Sara R, Vicki T, Randene W*

Baptism

Monthly Activity	September	YTD
Contributions & Other Income	$16,056	$143,070
Expenses	$16,545	$165,341
Budgeted Amount	$18,051	$162,465
Last week's offering: $2,766		

Christ Church UCC
915 E Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-481-3530 | office@uccmke.org

Website: uccmke.org
Facebook: facebook.com/christchurchbayview
Instagram: instagram.com/christ_church_uccmke
Livestream: youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI

If you should need pastoral support, please contact **Pastor Bob** at 440-506-3258 or pastor@uccmke.org

