

Christ Church

an Open & Affirming Congregation
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



July 26, 2026 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Gross

Musician: Pam Kothrade

Visuals: Paul Mayeshiba

Video: Richard Tremarello

Liturgist: Dean Kothrade

Guest Minister: Rev. Richard Crane

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.

GATHERING MUSIC

**Please stand as you are able*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Merrifield

Correll

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 105:1-5

One: O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,

All: make known his deeds among the peoples.

One: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

All: tell of all his wonderful works.

One: Glory in his holy name;

All: let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

One: Seek the LORD and his strength;

All: seek his presence continually.

One: Remember the wonderful works he has done,

All: his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered.

*WE ALL SING

Come, Thou Almighty King

#148

*OPENING PRAYER

One: Let us pray together.

All: Loving God, you and your Reign are the treasure, the pearl of great price which we seek. In the grace of this morning, we quiet our souls and open our hearts to your presence; we still our minds to listen for your Word. Speak your grace to us and create us anew. 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 *You Are My All in All/More Precious* Jernigan/DeShazo
Solo, Terryl Dietert

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

³¹[Jesus] put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

*STATEMENT OF FAITH

Progressive Christian Alliance

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives; whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth; whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all; and, whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, we trust that love. And in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves in the service of others: to seek justice and to live in peace; to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness; to live in the freedom of forgiveness and in the power of the Spirit of Love; and in the company of all the faithful—past, present, and yet to come—so to be the Church, for the glory of God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

• From the **Prayer Box**: *Please pray for **Adullam Outreach** and their ministry leaders; for **family and friends***

• For **Jill U's friend, Nichola**

• From the **Prayer Box**: *for the **Ramirez/Olson family** who are grieving a loss*

• *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: Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that grows into a large tree where birds make their nests. Please give generously so that the kingdom of God might expand in this place, making room for others to find a spiritual home.

SCAN TO DONATE



OFFERTORY *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me - Spiritual*

*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 dedicate our lives to you this day and seal that promise by way of this offering. We give out of the abundance of our hearts, that the treasure of your kingdom may be shared with many. Thank you for giving us grateful hearts and a spirit of generosity for the flourishing of your realm. Amen.

*WE ALL SING *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* **#96**

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE *The Trees of the Field* **#710**

*POSTLUDE *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations* arr. Smith

Welcome and Thank You!

We welcome the **Rev. Richard Crane** as our guest minister this morning and thank him for leading worship and for sharing an inspiring word with us.

THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH

Today
Coffee Hour

NEXT SUNDAY

BVCC Food Donations

Counters: Peggy Carew, Jill Unglaub

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas in July | Christmas is a time of giving. Will you make a gift to our "Christmas in July Offering"? This summer, we are making some much-needed repairs to our boiler and having the east side of our building repaired and repainted. Stewardship has set a fundraising goal of \$5000 to offset these capital expenditures. They hope to have that in **by July 31st**. Please consider making a \$250 gift in recognition of the 250th anniversary of the US. Of course, a gift of any size is greatly appreciated. Look for the Christmas tree in the chapel as it tracks our progress toward our \$5,000 goal! Please note: When offering your Christmas gift, please place it in its own envelope, marked "My Christmas In July Offering", separate from your weekly offering envelope. May the spirit of Christmas inspire generous hearts and joyful giving. Merry Christmas! *Pam Kothrade*

Join Us August 1st at South Shore Farmers Market! | We'll have a tent up from 8am to noon. We'll have information about our church to hand out as well as bottled water. Julie Oren will be doing facepainting beginning at 10am and could use a helper or two. Please come out to the market and spend some time in our booth talking about all that Christ Church does in the community! Any questions see *Jim Wick* or call *Andy Oren*.

Christ Church T-Shirts | If you'd like to order a church t-shirt, please pick an order form from the media racks or from Randene. Turn in your order form and payment to Randene. Orders are due by **August 9**. Thanks, *The Membership Committee*

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND | Summer Baseball Outing 2026

The membership committee invites you to join in the fun and excitement of a **Milwaukee Milkmen** baseball game on **Sunday, August 23** at **1pm** at **Franklin Field**, featuring the Milkmen of the American Association of Professional Baseball as they take on the Cleburne Railroaders. In addition to Fan Appreciation Day, the game features a helicopter candy drop and free donut for the kids. Tickets are **\$23** per person and include a reserved seat in the dugout section plus sandwich, chips, a drink, and a gift. Please sign up at the Lenox St bulletin board and contact Chuck Terlinden for payment arrangement and any questions

School Supplies | We will once again be collecting school supplies beginning in August to donate to local grade schools. There will be a bin in the chapel to place your donations. Please have your donations in **by August 30**. Needed items include *loose leaf paper, Kleenex, rulers, pink erasers, scissors, black or blue pens, glue sticks or 8oz bottles of glue, backpacks, #2 pencils, pocket folders in assorted colors, colored pencils, highlighters, pencil sharpeners, plastic pencil box, 70-page spiral notebooks, 8 count washable markers, and 24 count crayons*. We appreciate you considering donating to assist children in our community. If you have any questions, contact a member of the Social Concerns Committee, *Peggy Carew, Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Jan Nafken, Sara Rogers, Vicki Teal, Randene Wick*

Thank You! | A HUGE thank you to everyone who donated food, quarters and their time for Divine Intervention's Laundry Ministry!!! We were welcomed warmly and helped a very worthy cause. Not only did we provide 20 bag lunches, we gave Tippe \$135.30 for another time to offer this important laundry service. Way to Go Everyone!!! Christ Church has the best members who really care!

There will be more opportunities to help with this project in September. In the meantime, we will still be **collecting quarters** in the jar at the back of the sanctuary. *Social Concerns Committee*



Monthly Activity	June	YTD
Contributions & Other Income	\$7,035	\$97,658
Expenses	\$17,570	\$119,182
Budgeted Amount	\$18,051	\$108,310
<i>Last week's offering: \$3,963</i>		

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

