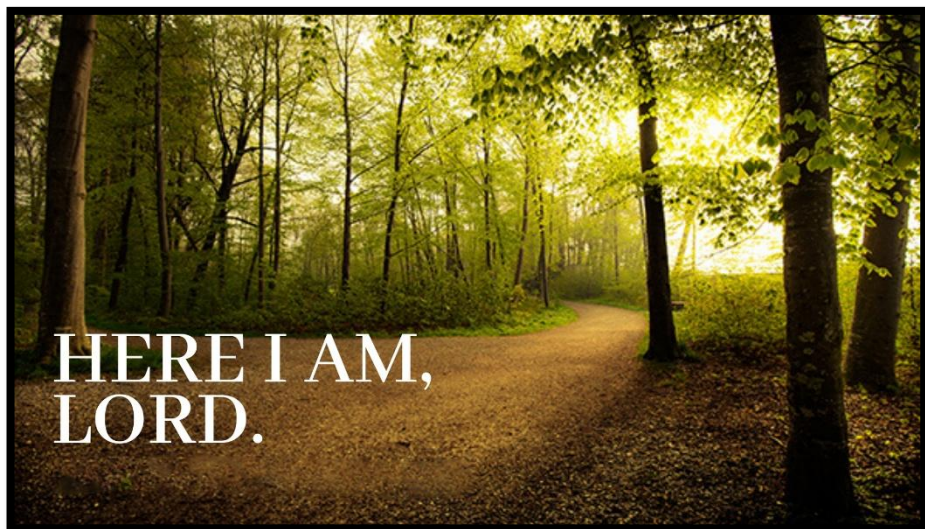




Pastor: Rev. Tara Tetzlaff
Music Director: Terryl Dietert
Guitar | Visuals: Paul Mayeshiba
Video: Richard Tremarello
Liturgist: Julie Oren

August 24, 2025

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*

Prelude

Healer of Our Every Ill - Smith

Words of Welcome

*Song of Welcome

Love and Justice

1 Love and justice, peace and power
Show us how to live each hour
Raise us up and set us free
Show us how to live and be

2 Love and justice, peace and power
Challenge us to give each hour
Raise us up and set us free
Help us be all we can be

3 Tell your neighbors, tell your friends
Here's a place hope never ends
Love and justice, peace and power
God is with us in this hour
God is with us in this hour

*Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 50)

ONE: The Lord is our rock and our refuge.

MANY: God is our fortress in times of trouble.

ONE: The Holy One saves us from the hand of the wicked.

MANY: God delivers us from our foes.

ONE: Christ heals us from our infirmities.

MANY: The Spirit frees us from the chains that bind us.

ONE: Rest in the Source of our refuge and our strength.

*Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Eternal God, you knew us before we were conceived. You called us as your own while we were still in our mothers' wombs. Keep watch over us, we pray, for we long to return to your ways. Restore our confidence in times of doubt, for we yearn to be the people you would have us be. Grant us the confidence to go forth unafraid, that we might bless the world through your presence in our lives. Amen.

Words of Grace

*Opening Hymn

Lord, Speak to Me

Hymn #593

Story on the Steps

God's Big Plan (Genesis 11:1-9)

by Elizabeth F. Caldwell and Theodore Hiebert

First Reading: Psalms 71:1-6 (CEB)

I've taken refuge in you, Lord.

Don't let me ever be put to shame!

Deliver me and rescue me by your righteousness!

Bend your ear toward me and save me!

Be my rock of refuge

where I can always escape.

You commanded that my life be saved

because you are my rock and my fortress.

My God, rescue me from the power of the wicked;

rescue me from the grip of the wrongdoer and the oppressor

because you are my hope, Lord.

You, Lord, are the one I've trusted since childhood.

I've depended on you from birth—

you cut the cord when I came from my mother's womb.

My praise is always about you.

Second Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (CEB)

"Before I created you in the womb I knew you;

before you were born I set you apart;

I made you a prophet to the nations."

"Ah, Lord God," I said, "I don't know how to speak

because I'm only a child."

The Lord responded,

"Don't say, 'I'm only a child.'

Where I send you, you must go;

what I tell you, you must say.

Don't be afraid of them,

because I'm with you to rescue you,"

declares the Lord.

Then the Lord stretched out his hand,

touched my mouth, and said to me,

"I'm putting my words in your mouth.

This very day I appoint you over nations and empires,

to dig up and pull down,

to destroy and demolish,

to build and plant."

Sermon*"Vocational Living"*

Rev. Tara

Hymn of Response*Here I Am, Lord***Hymn #559**

Prayers of the People

(see Weekly Newsletter for details)

- For those experiencing trials or ongoing health concerns, including:
Nicole, Bart, Tom, Dulce, Laurel, Bill, Blair, Joe, Kozy, Stacy, Karl

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Invitation to Generosity

What an abundance of gifts we have to offer: musical talent, the melody of laughter, the use of our hands in cooking and repairs, the use of our minds in problem solving, curiosity, compassion, patience, urgency, spiritual reservoirs, financial resources, obedience and courage to act. All these gifts, and others which bear our personal marks, are symbolized in our offering for the work of the church. Let us commit ourselves in service as we worship God with our offerings.

SCAN TO DONATE



Offertory

Rock of Ages - Toplady

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost

*Prayer of Dedication

God of power and might, in times of trial, you are our fortress and our refuge. In thanksgiving and praise for your wonderful gifts, we offer you our tithes and offerings, that others might know the strength of your unshakable kingdom. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

Here Am I

(see below)

Announcements

*Benediction

***Benediction Song** *Whatever is True* by Andra Moran & Christopher Grundy

Whatever is true
Whatever is kind
Whatever is noble
Keep this in mind
Know you are held
God's love keeps you close

No matter what,
Know you are loved
Wherever you go

CHORUS

Open your heart,
Open your eyes
Love for a stranger,
Love for a neighbor
Seeking the Christ

Postlude

Toccata in A min - Kobrich

Sources: CCLI License #1905256 | *Worship & Rejoice Hymnal*, Hope Publishing 2001 | *The New Century Hymnal*, The Pilgrim Press | *Sing! Prayer and Praise*, 2011

Here Am I

F#m Bm7 Esus E Dmaj7 A

1. Here am I, where un - der - neath the brid - ges
 2. Here am I, with peo - ple in the line - up,
 3. Here am I, where two or three are gath - ered,

Bm7 A F#m E A D A

in our win - ter cit - ies home - less peo - ple sleep. Here am I, where
 anx - ious for a hand - out, ach - ing for a job. Here am I, when
 read - y to be al - tered, shar - ing wine and bread. Here am I, where

Dmaj7 A Bm7 A

in de - cay - ing hous - es lit - tle chil - dren shiv - er,
 pen - sion - ers and strik - ers sing and march to - geth - er,
 those who hear the preach - ing change their way of liv - ing,

Bm7 A D E Bm7 E D Amaj7 A

cry - ing at the cold. Where are you?
 want - ing some - thing new. Where are you?
 find the way to life. Where are you?

WORDS: Brian Wren (Matt. 25:31-46)

MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon

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NOTES

MISSION MINUTES | Healing Reign | Luke 13:10-17 | The healing of the woman who had been bent over for 18 years is unique, appearing only in the Gospel of Luke. What isn't unique is once again Jesus is breaking the guarded Sabbath rule of not healing on the day of rest and, by doing so, ruffles the feathers of the religious elite.

He doesn't care, though. What matters is someone has been suffering for far too long, and that someone was a woman painstakingly shuffling into the synagogue, wishing only to worship without anyone staring at her. Luckily, those around her were more than happy to look the other way. Our reactions to the disabilities of others are strange, aren't they? We either gawk at them not realizing how uncomfortable our unintentional rudeness is making them, or we try our best to pretend they are not there.

This day, though, the woman's hopes of blending into the crowd are dashed. Jesus saw her. As did everyone else. But the Greek word used for "saw" goes beyond superficial seeing. The Greek word used means that Jesus saw the extent of her suffering that reached deep into her soul. He saw the years of whispers of those wondering what she did to deserve her infliction. He saw the years of social isolation. He saw the loneliness, the hurt and feeling of rejection, of being "different."

Jesus saw her and with the words, "Woman, you are set free," she was stood tall once again.

Many times, we are like that woman, shuffling through life, bent by the weight of our worries and burdens. Many times, we pray just to get through the day without anyone noticing spiritual, emotional, or physical pain we are in.

But Jesus sees us. He *really* sees us. He knows all that we are dealing with, and he will dare to break rules and boundaries to reach us with his healing grace. He will stand up for us, just like he did for that woman when he turned to the synagogue leader, chastising him for allowing a religious rule to keep a child of God from receiving true Sabbath rest—rest from the pain she was experiencing.

So, for all who are bent by the worries and burdens, by emotional or physical afflictions, Jesus sees you. Go to him and listen as he speaks your name. Yes, in Christ, we are set free. In Christ, we can all once again stand tall.

God, thank you for the reminder today that Jesus sees us and knows all that is weighing us down in this world. May this day we experience freedom from our ailments and worries. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Monthly Activity	July	YTD
Contributions	\$6,205	\$63,367
Other Income	\$7,705	\$39,547
Total Income	\$13,910	\$102,914
Expenses	\$12,803	\$114,909
Budgeted Amount	\$14,867	\$104,066

Christ Church UCC

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Facebook: facebook.com/christchurchbayview

Livestream: youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI

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Pastor Tara at **413-429-4252** or **revtaratetzlaff@gmail.com**
or the **Church Office** at **414-481-3530** or **office@uccmke.org**

