



October 4, 2026 World Communion Sunday

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Gross

Music Director: Terryl Dietert

Visuals: Paul Mayeshiba

Video: Richard Tremarello

Liturgist: Chuck Terlinden

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 *Variations on the tune "Aurelia"*

arr. Currie

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From the mountains and rivers, the deserts and seas, to every corner of the earth, we come.

All: From north and south, from east and west, God calls us home.

One: Today we join with all creation—with wind and water, plants and animals—and with siblings of every language and culture.

All: We feast at one table, bound together in the love of Christ. Let us worship God!

*WE ALL SING *All Creatures of Our God and King (vs. 1,2,5)*

#23

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Creator God, you fashioned the universe in wisdom, but we have neglected the earth and divided your people.

All: Forgive us, O God. We fail to see your image in our neighbors and in the fragile web of life around us. Mend our divisions, heal our planet, and restore our unity.

(Silent reflection)

One: Hear the good news: God does not give up on creation. In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and made one.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Will you greet your neighbors with a sign of Christ's peace, and we send our love and peace to those worshipping with us online.

*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

Break the Bread – Sleeth

Sanctuary Singers

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 19: 1-6

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
yet their voice goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.

SERMON

"Communion with the World"

Pastor Bob

*WE ALL SING

Heavens Are Telling

Tune: Morning Has Broken

**Heavens are telling, galaxies singing,
your Word compelling, "Let there be light."
All living beings shine with your glory;
all we are seeing is your delight.**

**God, your love flows in every direction,
filling and blessing every dark place.
Even the shadows shine with your presence,
even the darkness hums with your grace.**

**Everything moving moves by your Spirit:
flight of the birds and dance of the stars,
migrating whales and flow of the river;
breath of the wind is breath that is ours.**

**Bless every creature, bright with God's glory;
bless every feature, fin, fur and wing.
Each is completing God's wondrous story;
each is God's greeting; praises they sing.**

*STATEMENT OF FAITH

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

• *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: For the sake of those in need, for the care of the church in proclaiming Christ's birth, and for all God calls us to do, we gather our tithes, offerings, and commitment to serve in Christ's name.

OFFERTORY

How Can I Keep from Singing Lowry

SCAN TO DONATE



*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: These gifts, O God, are first from you, signs of your bounty meant for all your children. We joyously give you thanks for all that we have and are and ask your blessings on our offerings. Turn our lives to your will as we receive and as we give, for the sake of your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

One: Come to the table of grace...

One: Creator God is with us!

All: God is with us now!

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to God!

One: Let us give thanks to the Holy One!

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

One: It is right and good...we lift our voices in praise
and thanksgiving!

*We All Sing

#737

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy Lord!**

**Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora.
Mi corazone te sabe decir: santo eres Señor.**

The congregation may be seated.

Distribution

We serve both bread and gluten-free wafers, wine and white grape juice. Come forward via the center aisle, take a piece of bread or wafer and eat, then move to the right or left to take a cup of wine or grape juice and drink. Return to your seats via the outside aisles.

Post Communion Prayer

Holy One, we thank you for this bread of life and this cup of love. You have reminded us that we are not separate—from you, from one another, or from the world you have entrusted to our care. Help us go from this table to extend life in community, to share the love of Christ, and work for the restoration of creation. Amen.

*WE ALL SING *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises* **#709**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Toccata* Peeters

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THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH

Today

Coffee Hour – Janet & Michael Key
BVCC Donations
Neighbors in Need Special Offering

Monday, Oct 5

Book Study, 1pm

Wednesday, Oct 7

Choir, 7pm

Friday, Oct 9

"A Community Sing", 7pm

NEXT SUNDAY: Town Hall Meeting

Greeters: Peggy Carew

Counters: Mark Pfeifer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neighbors In Need Mission Offering is TODAY | Neighbors in Need supports justice and compassion ministries. This offering is tasked to help the church advocate for a society where all people have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives. When you give to Neighbors in Need, you make sure the United Church of Christ continues to be a leader for justice. Two-thirds of the offering supports justice projects across the church, and one-third supports the Council for American Indian Ministries.

This offering is transformative because it calls us to collective justice—not isolated programs and pitches, but a genuine ecosystem of people who work collaboratively across issues and geographies to bring about social change. Our gifts also represent our faith in God's ability to multiply what we have. Jesus' ministry was full of abundance, but not because he started with overwhelming resources. Rather, what was offered in community became enough to meet the needs of the day. We hope you will give to this worthy mission. *Pam Kothrade, Stewardship*

Laundry Ministry | There has been an amazing response to the laundry ministry. There are bins of hygiene products that have been donated as well as quarters and laundry supplies. Through the project it is apparent there is a continuing need for the laundry ministry. (The bagged lunches will not be continued at this time.) **Sept 1–Nov 22 (every other Sunday)** there will be a need for two Soap Hosts. Please sign up to volunteer for one or more Sundays using the SignUp Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAEAB2CA2FAC25-65588418-dilaundry#/>

Want To Have Some Fun? | One of the most fun events our church participated in last year was joining our neighborhood in distributing candy during the annual Halloween trick or treating. It was so much fun seeing all the kids in their costumes. We will be doing this again in conjunction with the neighborhood trick or treat on **Sat, October 31 from 5–8pm**. We're looking for folks to help distribute candy and if we have enough people, we can take turns going inside to warm up. It was rather cool last year!

So, please see the sign-up sheet on the Lenox bulletin board and let us know if you can help...and of course you being in costume would be all the better!

Last year we decided to do this almost at the last minute, but you all responded to our call for candy in overwhelming fashion! We had so much candy left over, it was part of our Sunday coffee hour for weeks to come. This year, while we're still asking for your help with donating candy, we're stressing moderation! One bag from each person who wants to donate will be more than enough. This is another great opportunity to be visible to our neighbors outside of our building. Any questions, see *Julie Oren*. Hope you can join us!

THANK YOU!

Fall is here! The colors of the Season are evident in our sanctuary. Thank you **to Julie, Joyce, Randene, and Joan** for enhancing the beauty of our Sunday morning worship service!!!

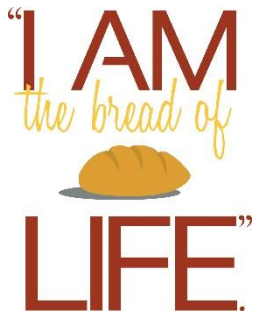
Formal Search for a Settled Pastor

The formal search for a settled pastor is about to begin. The work and events of the past several months have helped lay the foundation for beginning this important process.

The search process will be different from our recent searches. **Two teams will be established**, with some overlap in participants.

- **The first team**, consisting of **3–5 individuals**, will work with Pastor Bob to develop and write the church profile. This profile will introduce Christ Church to prospective candidates.
- **The second team**, consisting of **5–7 individuals**, will review applicants and participate in the interview and discernment process, ultimately making a recommendation to the congregation for a vote to become our next pastor.

We are actively reaching out to members of the congregation who may be interested in participating, with an immediate focus on forming the **Church Profile Writing Team**. If you are interested in helping with this important ministry, please contact Pastor Bob, or any member of the Church Council. *Jim Wick*



Monthly Activity	August	YTD
Contributions & Other Income	\$7,124	\$127,013
Expenses	\$17,859	\$158,874
Budgeted Amount	\$18,051	\$144,413
<i>Last week’s offering: \$1,683</i>		

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