Christ Church

an Open & Affirming Congregation
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



November 15, 2026

The Twenty-Fifth 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: Doris Mayeshiba

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 *As the Deer/O Worship the King* arr. S. Calloway

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O come, let us sing to God.

All: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

One: Our God is great.

All: A great ruler over heaven and earth!

*WE ALL SING *Soon and Very Soon* **#523**

*OPENING PRAYER

One: Let us pray together.

All: Almighty God, you raised Christ from the dead and established him as Sovereign over every rebellious power. Give us grace to serve him wisely and faithfully that the world may see his glorious inheritance among the saints and recognize the freedom of joyful obedience in Jesus Christ, in whose 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 *Like a River Glorious* Dave Pauly, flutist

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

For we know that, if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be further clothed with our heavenly dwelling, for surely when we have been clothed in it we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan under our burden because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. The one who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a down payment.

So we are always confident, even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to be pleasing to him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive due recompense for actions done in the body, whether good or evil.

SERMON "Swallowed Up in Life" Pastor Bob

*WE ALL SING *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* **#572**

*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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

- *Please pray for **Joy** (Julie's sister-in-law) who was recently diagnosed with cancer*
- *Prayers for **Immanuel UCC and the family of Pastor Rich Vincent***
- *Continued prayers for **Blair** (Joan A's grandson)*

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: Our mission is to be a Christian community committed to love, service, and growth. This is accomplished through our gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Give generously so that God's will might be done on earth as it is in heaven.

SCAN TO DONATE

OFFERTORY *Simple Gifts* Dave Paul, flutist

*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: Living God, we are your people, we carry your presence. Use us and our gifts to accomplish your mission in the world. Multiply our effort to meet every need. This we pray in the name of Christ, whom with you and the Holy Spirit, reign in our hearts and lives, one God now and forever. Amen.

*WE ALL SING *Lead Me, Guide Me* **#498**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Soon and Very Soon* arr. F. Bock

THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH

Today
Coffee Hour – Membership Committee
Pick-up Thanksgiving Bags for delivery
Holiday Photo Op

Monday, Nov 16
Book Study, 1pm

Thursday, Nov 19
Handbells, 9:30am
Choir, 7pm

NEXT SUNDAY
Remembrance Sunday

Greeters: Andy Oren

Counters: Danette & Renolle Volz

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

Thanksgiving Bags | The Thanksgiving bags will be available **TODAY** 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**

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, *Peggy C, Debbie H, Mary Ann M, Jan N, Sara R, Vicki T, Randene W*

Hanging of the Greens | Sunday, November 29 following service

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.

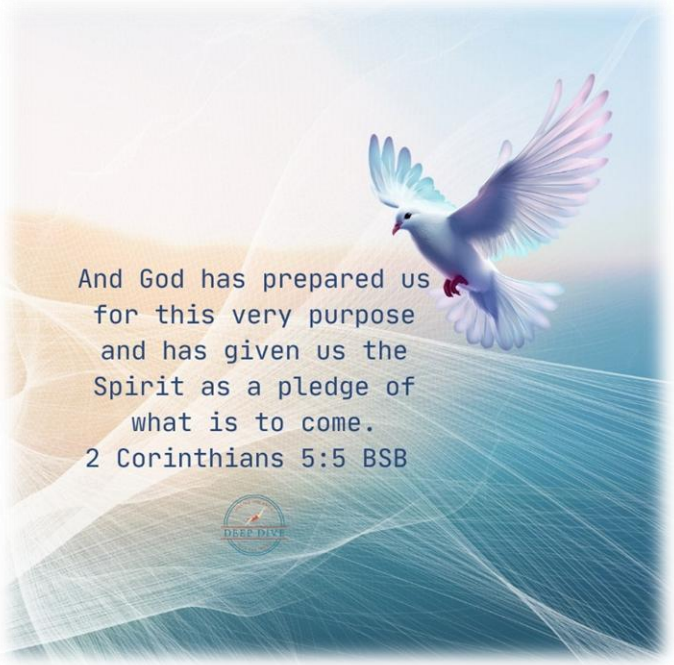
Because the restaurant is expecting several large groups that evening, we may have a limited menu of five or six selected dinner entrées. More information about the menu will be shared as it becomes available.

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*



Monthly Activity	September	YTD
Contributions & Other Income	$23,349	$166,420
Expenses	$16,496	$181,837
Budgeted Amount	$18,051	$80,516
Last week's offering: $1,373		

Christ Church UCC

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

