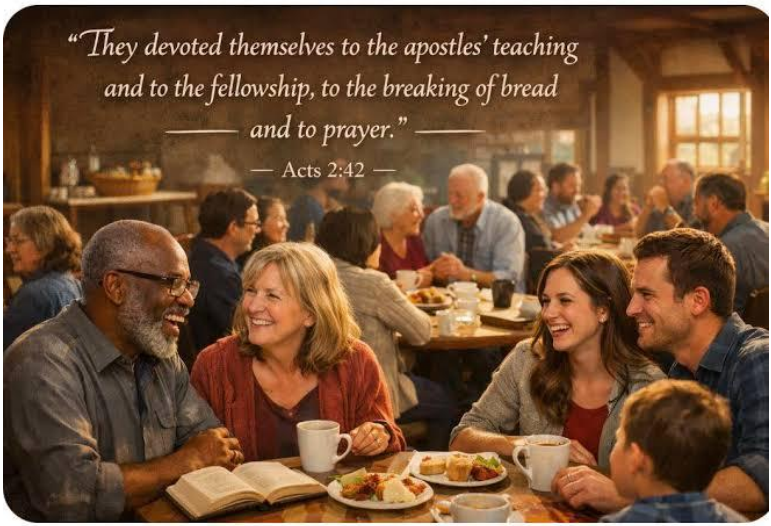
Christ Church

an Open & Affirming Congregation
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



November 22, 2026

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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 *Gather Us In* Marty Haugen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *If I had Word* Scott Fitzgerald

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Loving God, we are your people, the Body of Christ.

All: We are one in your Spirit.

One: All over the world we gather—all different, all beloved.

All: We are all connected; we all are gifted, and we all need each other.

One: In the unity of your love, we worship together with those who are different from us, and with our unseen siblings nearby and around the world.

All: With one voice we praise you; we thank you; we worship you.

*WE ALL SING *The Church's One Foundation* **#595**

*OPENING PRAYER

One: Let us pray together.

All: Holy One, your Spirit makes us the Body of Christ. By your grace, overcome all separation, barriers and divisions; that we may truly join one another, honor those who are different, and worship as one. Lift up all our gifts and give voice to all our languages, that our worship of you may be complete. We pray in the spirit of Christ, who makes us one. 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 *Thankful* Sanctuary Singers

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

SERMON "It Takes Community" Pastor Bob

*WE ALL SING *In Christ There Is No East or West* **#600**

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

A Centering Prayer (responsively)

Everlasting God, this day revives in us memories of loved ones who are no more. What happiness we shared when they walked among us. What joy, when, loving and being loved, we lived our lives together.
Their memory is a blessing forever.

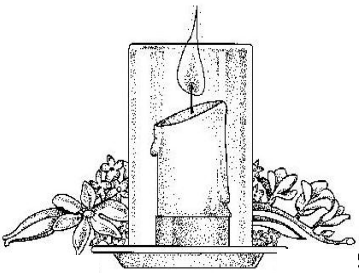
Months or years may have passed, and still we feel near to them. Our hearts yearn for them. Though the bitter grief has softened, a duller pain abides. The links of life have been broken, but the links of love and longing can never be broken.
Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

We see them now through the eyes of memory, their faults forgiven, their virtues grown larger. So does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight. We remember them with gratitude, and we bless their names.
Their memory is a blessing forever.

And we remember as well the members who but yesterday were a part of our congregation and community. May we prove worthy of carrying on the traditions of our faith, for now the task is ours.
Their souls are bound up in ours forever.

We give you thanks that they now live and reign with you. As part of that great cloud of witnesses, they surround us with their blessings, and together we offer hymns of praise and thanksgiving.
They are alive forevermore. Amen.

We Remember



Jerry Goebel
Gloria Henke
Sarah Hillmert
Leone Krueger
Fred Passow
Jackie Struck
Cynthia Teigen (Sister of Julie Oren)
Richard Rossmiller (from Chuck Terlinden)
Old friends gone too soon (from Andy Oren)

Prayer Song *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful (2x)* **Hymn #448**

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

- *Please pray for **Joy** (Julie's sister-in-law) and **Kelly** (friend of Gaeths) who have cancer*
- *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: God is a generous giver of gifts that flow like a river from the fountain of life. Bring offerings and tributes with thanks and praise.

SCAN TO DONATE



OFFERTORY *Our God is an Awesome God* R. Mullins

*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 offer our gifts with grateful hearts. Bless them and our lives to your service. Amen.

*WE ALL SING *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds* **#393**

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Prelude in C Major* *J.S. Bach*

The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, and Statement of Faith are by Steve Garnaas-Holmes and used with permission.

MARKS OF FAITHFUL AND VITAL CHURCHES

3. SHAPING CHURCH COMMUNITY
CELEBRATING that all people are made in the image of God and practicing an ongoing commitment to inclusion and accessibility. RELATING to one another with gentleness, kindness, and compassion, with sympathy, empathy, and healthy, life-affirming behaviors. WELCOMING the stranger into community and celebrating the transformation they bring to the Local Church.
DEVELOPING healthy boundaries in relationships with one another and with pastoral leadership.
INSPIRING a culture of generosity and faithful stewardship, including the financial support of the church.
CREATING and tending to faithful approaches to conflict.

4. ORGANIZING COMMUNITY WITH INTENTION
ASSESSING the congregation's ministry to celebrate areas of vitality and discern areas needing attention or strengthening.
STEWARDING the resources of the Local Church wisely, using financial best practices and procedures for accountability, balancing needs for transparency and confidentiality.
MAINTAINING transparent organizational policies that communicate roles, responsibilities, and expectations for staff and volunteers. SUPPORTING employees with just and generous compensation and benefits, in conversation with Conference compensation guidelines. BALANCING transparency and confidentiality appropriately in financial and policy decisions as well as employment related decisions. IMPLEMENTING safe conduct and abuse prevention practices and policies to foster a healthy environment for all people, particularly vulnerable individuals and children.

THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH

Today
Coffee Hour – Membership
Remembrance Sunday

Monday, Nov 23
Book Study, 1pm

Tuesday, Nov 24
Quilting, 9:30am

Wednesday, Nov 25
Handbells, 9:30am

NEXT SUNDAY
Christmas Gift donations DUE

Hanging the Greens after worship service

Sunday School Christmas Program practice

Greeters: Jill Unglaub

Counters: Peggy Carew
Jill Unglaub

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

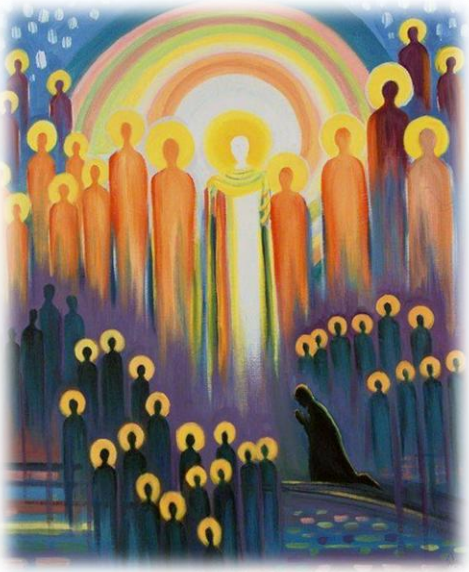
We hope you'll join us for this special opportunity to celebrate the season and strengthen the friendships that make Christ Church such a welcoming community. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the Lenox St bulletin board.
Jim Wick

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*

Monthly Activity	October	YTD
Contributions & Other Income	$23,349	$166,420
Expenses	$16,496	$181,837
Budgeted Amount	$18,051	$180,516
Last week's offering: $1,780-3		





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Livestream: youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI

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