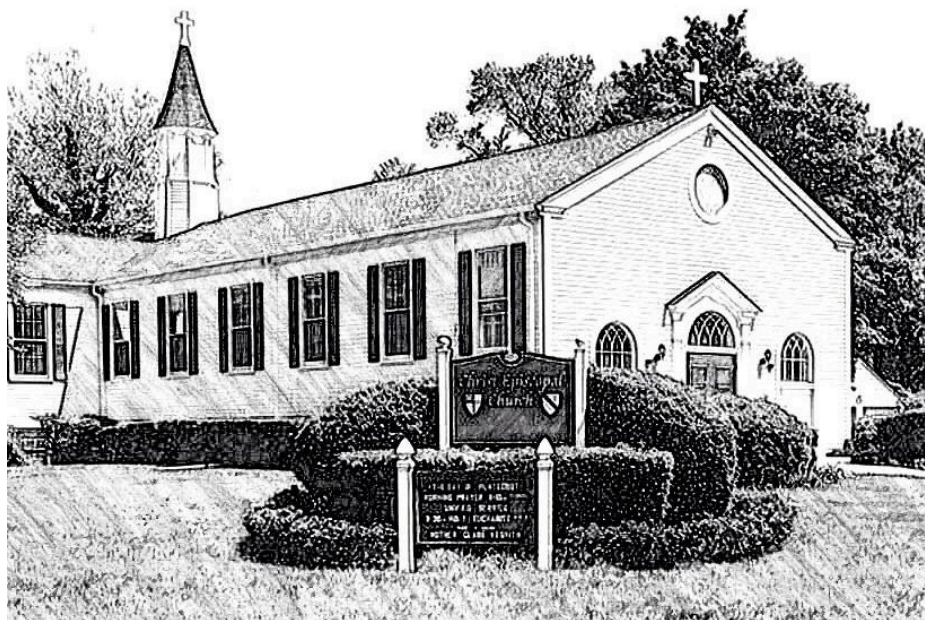


Christ Episcopal Church



*Held in the Hands of God...
Reaching out our Hands to others*

**The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Rooted in Abundance: Annual Stewardship Ingathering**

November 19, 2023

Christ Episcopal Church
12 Prospect Street
Babylon, New York

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Annual Stewardship Ingathering

Proper 28, Track 2, Year A

November 19, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) page 355

[We ask that during the service you mute all electronic devices]

Prelude

The congregation please STAND

Processional Hymn

Hymnal 632

O Christ, the Word Incarnate

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

BCP p 355

Song of Praise

Hymnal S278

Glory to God in the highest

Collect of the Day

see following pages

First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

see following pages

Second Lesson: 1st Thessalonians 5:1-11

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia*

Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me bears much fruit.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon

Mother Nesmith

Nicene Creed

BCP p 358

Prayers of the People

Response Because we are Rooted in Abundance

Confession and Absolution BCP p 360

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn Hymnal 655
O Jesus, I have promised

Offertory Response Hymnal 380, v3
Doxology

Eucharistic Prayer B BCP p 367

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy Lord* Hymnal S124

The Lord's Prayer BCP p 364

The Breaking of the Bread BCP p 364
Fraction Anthem *Be known to us Lord Jesus* Hymnal S171

Communion Hymn *music insert*
Here at this table

Post Communion Prayer BCP p 365

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings, Announcements

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn Hymnal 680
O, God our help in ages past

Dismissal

Postlude

*Please join us for a festive Coffee Hour
following today's worship service*

**The Lessons appointed for the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 28, Track 2, Year A**

The Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.. *Amen.*

Old Testament: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Psalm 90:1-8, 12

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought
forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are
like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and
flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and
withered.

7 For we consume away in your
displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your
wrathful indignation.

8 Our iniquities you have set before
you, *
and our secret sins in the light of
your countenance.

12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to
wisdom.

The Epistle: 1st Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Prayer List for Sunday, November 26, 2023

Let us offer prayers of healing, comfort and strength

Bill D., Bob C., Karen, Lydia, Mama Clare, Phil B., Sandy M., Sr. Joy, Michelle and Brianna and family, Dottie Z and Angela, John, Joseph, Joanne, Frank, Courtney, Ken, Bob L., Nick, Lisa, Diane, Carol, Jason, Kaya, Timothy, Mthr. Vivian Lam. For the people of Israel, those who are being held as hostages, and the innocent Palestinians in Gaza.

We pray for all who are struggling economically during this time, for those who are unemployed and under-employed, those searching for employment, those who are hungry and food insecure, and those who are homeless or fear eviction or foreclosure, those looking for housing.

Let us offer prayers of thanksgiving

We give thanks for and pray for all those involved in feeding ministries and homeless ministries, especially for our Nourish Babylon volunteers and all those who support the various feeding ministries in the Babylon area. The altar flowers and gifts are offered in thanksgiving for all who serve in worship as we celebrate Welcome Home Sunday.

Let us celebrate with and pray for this week's birthdays

Don Krivohlavy (11/23) Blossome Whyte (11/24)

Let us celebrate with and pray for this week's anniversaries

Let us pray for those who have died

We remember all who have died as a result of gun violence and racial violence and all who have died in the war in Ukraine and in Israel and Gaza.

Assisting Our Worship

9:00 am

Eucharistic Minister:

Lector/s:	Annette Lepsis
Server/s:	Hannah Boning, Eden Verni-Vazzano
Greeter:	Vikki Boning
Coffee Hour Coordinator:	Vera Langstone

Announcements

Status of Roof Repair

We have been asked to submit a letter to the bishop's office that reconstructs a timeline leading up to the ridge beam failing, and we are gathering information for that currently. We cannot contemplate next steps with how to proceed until we have given and received more information.

Sunday School – 1st and 3rd Sundays, Pre-K through 5th Grade

Children's Sunday School starts at 9:45am; the children will come up to join the service at the time of the passing of the Peace. Michael Vazzano is teaching and Annette Lepsis is assisting.

Adult Bible Study – continues on Tuesdays, Nov. 21 & 28, 7pm

We are using *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* by Amy-Jill Levine. We have a few copies of the book available through the office for \$20 each. The group will meet online through Zoom.

Advent Study and Quiet Day – please see separate flyer

Thanksgiving Outreach – Ingathering today

Thank you to all those who have given gifts of food and grocery gift cards for assisting others to have a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

Annual Financial Stewardship Campaign – Today

We will offer our completed pledge cards today as we recall this year's theme *Rooted in Abundance*. We have offered thematic reflections each week as we journey through this season of our life in the church together. Please join us downstairs in Miller Hall following the service for Coffee Hour. Thank you to Vera for coordinating and all those who have shared tasty goodies!

Community Thanksgiving Service – This afternoon, 4pm

Please join with other churches in the Babylon community as we gather for our annual interfaith Thanksgiving Service and Fellowship at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at 4:00pm today. There is a joint choir from our churches, and refreshments following the service. A free-will offering will be received during the service with all proceeds benefiting our local food pantries.

Altar Flowers & Gifts

Each week, gifts of flowers at the Altar, Sanctuary Lamp, Wine, Bread and Candles can be made in thanksgiving or in someone's honor or memory. Please see the binder in the back of the Chapel for additional details, or contact the office at 631-661-5757. Altar flowers and gifts are needed next Sunday, November 26. Altar gifts during December.

Digital Giving Options

Scan this QR code to access our online giving site:



Scan this QR code to learn more about stewardship and fill out an online pledge card:



All Are Welcome

Christ Episcopal Church of Babylon represents and celebrates the diversity that is Long Island. We welcome everyone and believe that there should be no outcasts in the Episcopal Church. Our welcome knows no boundaries of marital status, age, race, ethnicity, cultural or religious background, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic condition, and physical or mental ability. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Episcopal Church.

This is God's House...

and we are blessed by the gift of your presence with us. In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please let the priest know by crossing your arms in front of your chest when you come forward. Gluten-free bread is available; please ask at the communion rail.

Handicapped Accessibility

Our building is equipped with a lift located in the Sanctuary Annex, and a handicapped bathroom located on the lower level. For full access of the building both upstairs and downstairs, please ask a Greeter for assistance.

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Healing Service, 1st Sundays following the Eucharist

The 10:00 a.m. service is also livestreamed

In-person Sunday School is suspended for the present time.

Church Officers and Vestry

Diane Gaidon, Warden (2024)

Kathy Hannan (2025)

Michelle Taormina, Treasurer

Martha Richardson, Clerk

Michael Vazzano (2026)

Jackie Barnes (2025)

Vikki Boning (2024)

Blosome Whyte (2026)

Annette Lepsis (2025)

Michael DeBlasio (2024)

Martha Richardson (2026)

Debbie Szala (2025)

Vera Langstone (2024)

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island

The Very Rev. E. Clare Nesmith, Rector

Dr. Christopher Hopkins, Minister of Music

Ms. Marie Rivera, Parish Administrator

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

and by appointment

Christ Episcopal Church

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www.christchurchbabylon.org

Find us on Facebook: Christ Church, Babylon, NY