

WELCOME *to* CHRIST CHURCH

Thanks for joining us for worship this morning! We gather each week because we believe Jesus Christ is the one true hope for our tired and broken world. So, wherever your walk is with God, we are glad you are here to be part of our celebration of God's generosity to us in Jesus.

Christ Church is an inter-generational congregation rooted in our common faith in Christ and commitment to serving His kingdom. These commitments propel us into the future as we continue our congregation's thirty-year tradition of joyful and reverent worship, dedication to spiritual growth, and passion for advancing the Gospel in Jacksonville and around the world.

If you have any questions about Christ Church, please don't hesitate to ask an usher, a friendly face with a name tag in the lobby, or our pastor, Chuck Colson.

KIDS *during* WORSHIP

This Sunday we celebrate Holy Communion. Children, age 3-1st grade, are dismissed before the Scripture readings and return during the congregational greeting to join us for our celebration of the Lord's Supper. While many of our kids are not prepared to share in the Lord's Table, we believe there is great value to including them in this celebratory feast. This tangible expression of God's grace in Jesus Christ often provokes great discussions for families with even the youngest of children. Additionally, the elders serving the meal pray for all non-communicating children. An optional nursery is provided for younger children (0-3) during the communion portion of the service.

CONNECT *at* CHRIST CHURCH

Through Jesus, God saves us by grace through faith alone. That said, God does not save us to be alone! Rather, he welcomes us into his family, bringing us into relationship with one another. Within this family, Jesus challenges and transforms us as we love one another, share life together, and serve the world around us. At Christ Church, we desire to develop these types of relationships in our Congregational Communities (CC's). While our CC's are not strictly defined by age, they generally reflect the stages of our intergenerational community. Please join us at 9.30 am on Sundays to participate!

EMMAUS: Young Adults and Young Families

Location: Big Room Upstairs

SOJOURNERS: High School Families and Empty Nesters

Location: Room 1

CORNERSTONE: Empty Nesters and Retirees

Location: Room 2

ITEMS *for* PRAYER

HEALTH CONCERNS: Beverly Quine; Branson Bishop; Corky Rogers; Hector Harima; Karen Ferguson; Kathy Kwasnik

BIRTHS: Elias Nathaniel Laman (Steve & Yolanda)

DEATHS: Norma Hughes

CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

December 23 (1.30p)
December 24 (4.30p)
December 24 (5p)
December 30 (10.30a)
January 6 (9.30a)

Carol Singing at Westminster Woods
Cookie Reception
Christmas Eve Service
Worship Service
Congregational Communities Resume

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT WESTMINSTER WOODS

Join us after worship today for a time of singing Christmas carols with the residents at Westminster Woods (25 State Road 13). We will eat a quick lunch at a local restaurant, then head to Westminster Woods to sing carols from 1.30-2p. Families are welcome. We hope you will join us for this festive gathering!

CHRISTMAS EVE RECEPTION AND SERVICE

Our Christmas Eve worship service will take place at 5p on Monday, December 24th. Please join us in the Narthex before the service at 4.30p for cookies and hot apple cider.

SEAMARK RANCH WHITE CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Be a part of the 2018 Seamark Ranch White Christmas! This is an annual collection drive to help stock the Seamark Ranch pantry for the year ahead. We will be collecting donations in the Narthex throughout the Advent season for the following items: Paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, strong paper plates, kitchen trash bags, outdoor trash bags, ziplock style storage bags, laundry detergent, dishwasher detergent.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AND ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES

We will continue to collect 2019 Annual Stewardship pledges and 2019-2020 Capital Campaign pledges through the end of the year. Please feel free to drop them by the church office or place them in the offering plate. Pledge cards are available just inside the entrance to the Sanctuary.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Session will be collecting a special offering that will be designated and distributed to our mission partners and staff members as an end-of-year gift. Labeled envelopes will be inserted in your worship bulletins and will be collected during the offering. Any offerings received in these envelopes will be set aside for this special fund.

CHRIST CHURCH STAFF

Chuck Colson | Pastor | ccolson@christchurchmandarin.org

John Lawler | Assistant Pastor | jlawler@christchurchmandarin.org

Charlotte Reeves | Administrative Assistant | admin@christchurchmandarin.org

Alec Cotton | Youth Director | acotton@christchurchmandarin.org

Allison Ristau | Children's Ministry Coordinator | aristau@christchurchmandarin.org

Andy Zipf | Director of Music | azipf@christchurchmandarin.org



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CHRIST CHURCH
PCA
MANDARIN

ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

ORDER *of* WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday in Advent, 10.30am

ENTER *the* PRESENCE *of* GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Chuck Colson

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE David & Allison Ristau
Please take a moment to prepare your heart for worship, and silence all mobile devices.

⊕ CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 55

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near!
Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts!

Let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him!
And to our God, for he will abundantly pardon!

INVOCATION

HYMN *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Prichard

CONFESSION OF SIN

Prior to the corporate prayer, we take a moment to confess our sins in silence.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

⊕ HYMN *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* GOD REST YE

NICENE CREED

**The "holy catholic and apostolic Church" refers to the entire community of God's redeemed people throughout the world and across the centuries.*

Children, age 3-1st grade, are dismissed for Children's Chapel. They will return to the sanctuary to join their family for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

HEAR *the* WORD *of* GOD

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 132

After the Psalm, we respond:

All men are like grass and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.
The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God stands forever!

⊕ Indicates that the congregation stands.

GOSPEL LESSON John 1.19-34

After the lesson, we respond:

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON *Behold, the Lamb of God* Chuck Colson

RESPOND *to* GOD

INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

After our congregational supplications, we say the prayer our Savior has taught us.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

⊕ GREETING GOD'S PEOPLE

The peace of the LORD be always with you!
And also with you!

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Then, after the offertory, we thank God for his gifts by singing the Doxology.

⊕ **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

CELEBRATE *the* LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THANKSGIVING & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might! Heaven and earth are full of Your glory! Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Then, the pastor continues in prayer by giving thanks to God for our salvation in Jesus Christ and sets apart the bread and wine for the meal.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the outer aisles. All baptized Christians, who are seeking to walk in repentance and faith, are welcome to join us at the table. Children, who are not communing members of the church, are invited to come forward with their families for prayer.

⊕ HYMNS *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Coffin
What Child Is This Dix
Away in a Manger Luther
O Come, All Ye Faithful Oakeley

DEPART *in* PEACE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BENEDICTION

NOTES

MISSIONARY *of the* WEEK

Josh and Anna Dickenson, and their sons, Daniel and Jacob, live in Bundibugyo, Uganda, working with Serge with a focus on using clean water projects as a vehicle for sharing the Gospel. God's heart for the poor has inspired Josh and Anna to live and minister to the Babwisi, Bakongo, and Bwamba tribes in Bundibugyo.