

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

BORDENTOWN, NJ



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

‘Gaudete Sunday’

14 DECEMBER 2025

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

We extend a welcome to all visitors who are worshipping with us to-day. Christ Church is truly a beautiful edifice, erected and appointed to the Greater Glory of Almighty God. Herein, you find all things in their proper place; everything focused toward the Altar, the center of our worship. The windows in the Nave depict some of the fathers of the early Church, both in English and Latin. The Rood shows our Saviour, robed as a Priest, with the right hand in Blessing. The Chapel forms a quiet, restful place, where, before the Blessed Sacrament, one may kneel in supplication and reverence. We are proud of our worshipful Church and invite you to share in its benefit. Come in, rest, and pray apart from the world. Surely God is in His Holy Temple.

All who confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, have been baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and are repentant of their sins and believe the Blessed Sacrament to be the true Body and Blood of Christ, are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. We hope that you will enter fully into worship by joining in the prayers, responses, and hymns. Because our worship may be unfamiliar to those not raised in the Episcopal Church, feel free to ask the assistance of those around you in following and participating in the liturgy. If you are in search of a church home, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and service. Please sign the guest register at the church entrance so we may have a record of your visit.

Restrooms are located in the Parish House and are accessible through the double doors by the pulpit, or by exiting the main doors and entering the Parish House by way of the side office door. A **Baby Changing Station** is located in the accessible bathroom in the Parish House. A **restroom for small children** is located in the nursery at the far end of the Parish House.

Pastoral Emergencies such as sickness, hospitalization, or the death of a loved one, should be directed to Fr. Tucker – 732.859.5823. Father is happy to respond to your needs even if you are not a parishioner. Please do not hesitate to call. The **AED** is located to the left of the parish office door.

The Five Traditional Precepts of the Church

1. Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
2. Confession of serious sin at least once a year.
3. Reception of the Blessed Sacrament at least once a year.
4. Observance of the days of fasting and abstinence.
5. Providing for the needs of the Church.

At Christ Church

1. Share the joy and strength in Christ with others.
2. Be present at the Mass unless prevented by travel, illness, or condition.
3. Support the Parish with time, talent and treasure.
4. Find community in the mission and ministry of the Parish.
5. Show Christ in the world by being of service to others.

VIGIL MASS 5.30 PM

The Vigil Mass follows the form found in the Chapel Booklet.

LOW MASS 8.00 AM

The page numbers refer to pages in the red Book of Common Prayer found in your pew.

OPENING SALUTATION & RESPONSE	p. 323
COLLECT FOR PURITY & SUMMARY OF THE LAW	p. 323-24
KYRIE	p. 324
COLLECT (Third Sunday of Advent)	p. 160
LESSON <i>James 5, 7-10</i>	
THE HOLY GOSPEL <i>Matthew 11, 2-11</i>	
SERMON	Mr. Greg Geehern
NICENE CREED	p. 327
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	p. 328-30
CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION	p. 330-32
THE PEACE <i>The People may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.</i>	p. 332
INTENTIONS OF THE MASS	
OFFERTORY	
SURSUM CORDA	p. 333
SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS	p. 334
THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER	p. 334-36
THE LORD'S PRAYER	p. 336
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BLESSING & DISMISSAL	p. 339
THE LAST GOSPEL	

℣. ✠ The beginning of the Holy Gospel according to John.

℟. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

℣. ...full of grace and truth.

℟. **Thanks be to God.**

SUNG MASS

10.00 AM

The page numbers refer to pages in the red 1979 Book of Common Prayer found in your pew.

Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal 1940.

ORGAN “Es is ein Ros’ entsprungen”

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

INTROIT

GAUDETE in Domino semper:
iterum dico, gaudete. Modesta
vestra nota sit omnibus hominibus:
Dominus enim prope est. Nihil solliciti sitis:
sed in omni oratione petitiones vestrae
innotescant apud Deum. *Ps. 85, I.* Benedixisti,
Domine, terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem
Jacob. Gloria Patri...Gaudete...

REJOICE in the Lord alway: and again
I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be
known unto all men: for the Lord is
at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in all
things by prayer let your requests be made
known unto God. *Ps. 86, I.* Lord, thou art
become gracious unto thy land: thou hast
turned away the captivity of Jacob. Glory be to
the Father...Rejoice...

OPENING SALUTATION & RESPONSE

p. 323

COLLECT FOR PURITY & SUMMARY OF THE LAW

p. 323-24

KYRIE – “Communion Service in D”

Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have
mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

§ The Congregation may be seated for the Lessons and Psalm.

LESSON *Isaiah 35, 1-10*



4 Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob · for his help, * and whose hope is in the LORD his · God:

5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that · therein is; * who keepeth his promise for ev·er;

6 Who helpeth them to right that · suffer wrong; * who feedeth the hun·gry.

7 The LORD looseth men · out of prison; * the LORD giveth sight to the · blind.

8 The LORD helpeth them · that are fallen; * the LORD careth for the right·eous.

9 The LORD careth for the strangers; † he defendeth the father·less and widow: * as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside · down.

EPISTLE *James 5, 7-10*

§ *The Congregation stands for the Sequence Hymn and Gospel.*

HYMN – “Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Bereden väg för Herran



1. Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!____
2. He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heav'n a - bove.____
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - viour's rule em - brace.____



Let ev' - ry hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.____
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.____
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.____



Greet One who comes in Glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 11, 2-11*

NICENE CREED

(Priest) *(Choir & Congregation)*

I be-lieve in one— God * the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of heav-en and earth,

And of all things vi - si-ble and in-vi - si ble: And in one Lord Je - sus Christ,

the on - ly - be-got-ten Son of God; Be-got-ten of his Fa-ther be - fore_ all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, Ver - y God of Ver - y God; Be-got-ten, not made;

Be - ing of one sub-stance with the Fa - ther; By whom all things were made:

Who for us men and for our sal - va - tion came down from heav - en,

And was in-car-nate by the Ho-ly Ghost of the Vir-gin Ma - ry, And was made man:

And was_ cru - ci - fi - ed al - so for_ us un - der Pon-tius Pi - late:

He suf - fer - ed and was bu - ri - ed: And the third day he rose a - gain

ac - cord - ing to the Scrip - tures: And as - cend - ed in - to heav - en,



And sit-teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther: And he shall come a - gain, with glo - ry,
to judge both the quick and the dead, Whose king-dom shall have__ no end.

And I be - lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost, the Lord, and Giv - er of Life,
Who pro-ceed-eth from the Fa-ther and__ the Son; Who with the Fa-ther and the Son
to-gether is wor-ship-ped and glo - ri - fi - ed; Who spake by the pro - phets:
And I be-lieve One Ho-ly Cath-o-lic and A pos-tol-ic Church: I ac-know-ledge one Bap-tism
for the re - mis - sion of sins: And I look for the Re-sur-rec-tion of the dead:
And the Life of the world__ to come. A - - - - - men.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

p. 328-30

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

p. 330-32

THE PEACE *The People may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*

p. 332

OFFERTORY – “Surge, illuminare”

Francesco Corteccia (1504-1571)

SURGE, illuminare Jerusalem: quia venit
lumen tuum: et gloria Domini super te
orta est.

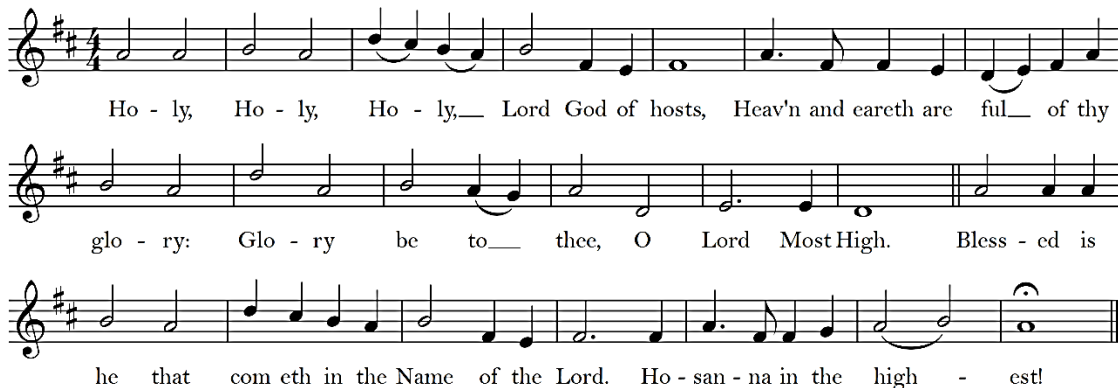
ARISE, shine, Jerusalem, for thy light has
come, and the glory of the Lord hath
risen upon thee.

HYMN 545 – “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” (Omit v. 3)

Woodbird

SURSUM CORDA *Hymnal 734*

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy
glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is
he that com eth in the Name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

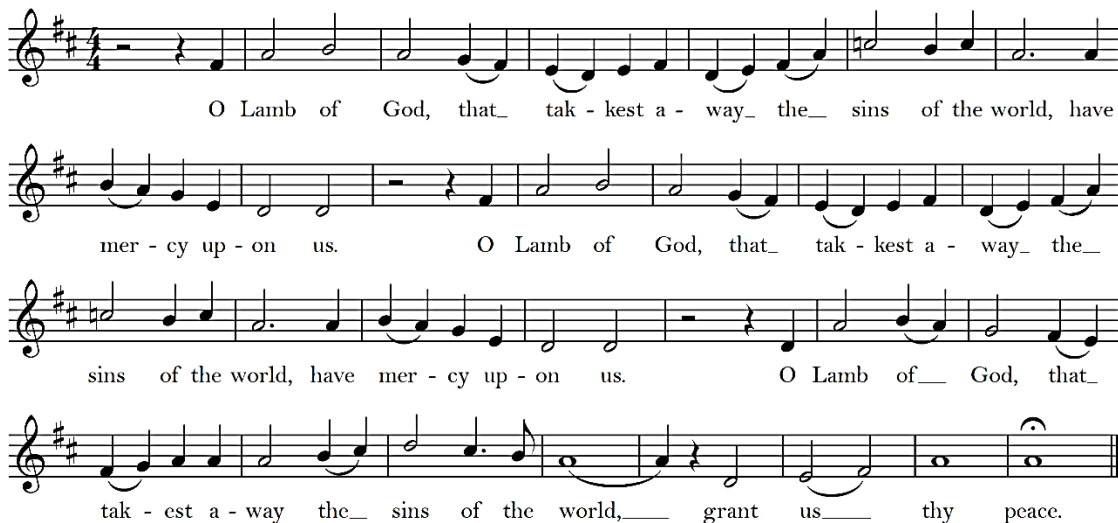
§ The Congregation kneels for the Canon of the Mass.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

p. 334-36

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Hymnal 722*

AGNUS DEI



O Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that
tak - est a - way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

p. 337

COMMUNION

DICITE: Pusillanimes confortamini, et
nolite timere: ecce Deus noster veniet, et
salvabit nos.

SAY to them that are of a fearful heart: be
strong, fear not: behold, our God will
come and save us.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

p. 338

HYMN 153 – “Christ Whose Glory Fills the Sky”

Ratisbon

§ *The Congregation kneels through the Dismissal.*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

p. 339

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

p. 339

§ *The Congregation stands for The Last Gospel.*

THE LAST GOSPEL

℣. ✕ The beginning of the Holy Gospel according to John.

℟. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

℣. ...full of grace and truth.

℟. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 1 – “Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus”

Stuttgart

ORGAN “Improvisation on *Bereden väg för Herran*”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Education: Join us this morning at 9am in the Parish Hall for a Christmas edition of Ask Fr. Matt.

Advent Pageant: Come see our Church School children tell the story of the birth of Jesus on Saturday, December 20th, at 5.30pm. Vigil Mass and Pizza Party to follow – bring a dessert to share!

Christmas Lessons & Carols: Come celebrate Christmas with Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 28, at 7pm.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Wednesday, 24 December – *Christmas Eve*

✕ Family Mass – 6.00 pm

✕ Sung Mass of the Nativity – 11.00 pm

Thursday, 25 December – *Christmas Day*

✕ Low Mass w. Carols – 10.00 am

Donations Needed for Blessing Box: Donations such as toothpaste, deodorant, baby powder, razors, shaving cream, soap, hand sanitizer, shampoo, socks and the like are always needed and can be placed in the basket in the back of the church. Please contact Donna Kirk at the Parish office 609.298.2348 or email office@ccbtown.com with any questions or monetary donations.

PRAYERS & DEDICATIONS

The flowers that decorate the church this week are given in celebration of the anniversary of Fr. Matt's ordination to the priesthood on December 7, 2008, and in loving memory of Steven Borman.



Of your charity, please remember in your prayers...

the sick: Grayson Porter, Robert J. Law, Bob Iero, Cindy Nahill, Alannah Aldea, Suzette Mansell, Amelia Sciortino, Fran Sutter, Christine Fritz, Bruce Kwietnieski-Casais, Reagon Condron, Russell Childs, Patty MacAllister, Scott O'Brien, John Miosz, Sharon Kedzierski, Daryl Albury, and Alexander Ounjian.

and those who have long term illnesses: Kevin Nelson, Marlene Barnhart, Vicky Barbos, The Rev. Donald Muller, Wendy Goldstein, Mark Goldstein Ryan Wiese Theresa Abitz, Robert Abitz, Walt Fell, Lisa Jones, Kathy Buckland, Ellen Murphy, Kimberlee McCafferty, Joseph Carson III, Sava Nedic Marlene Barnhart, Scott Evans, Tess Santos, Beatrix Kwiatkowski, Elaine Morrissey, Rick Sibley, Dennis Russell, Jeffrey McCafferty, Christiana Carty, Dawn Applegate, Barbara Sury, Paul Sootkoos, James Tucker, Caroline Tucker, Donna Fritz, Mark Casais, Christine Nicosia, Kevin Kintner, Anna Sury, Earl Reading, Dixon Leavers, Zachary Birnbaum, Shelly Eberhart, Gary Rutherford, Alice Ward Carriger, Ryan Murray, Justin McCafferty, Zachary McCafferty, Kelly Bergen, Hannah McNinch, Mackenzie Sutter, Daniel Applegate, Jennifer Vigh, Jonathan Okeson, Mary Dallmann, Bob Bernard, Pat Temple, Danielle Morgan, Jai Autar, Emma Burris, Gloria Jones, Kelley Gilger, Lori Forenson, Michael Chahanovich, Sister Angela, Dee Watkins, Marge Lee, Robert Fritz, Lynn Muller, Irene Fithian, Brianne Nicosia, Kathy Gabel, Sean Higgins, and Kelly Zsenak.

and for those in military service: Cara Bradley, USN; Ben Skarzynski, USMC; Chris Neal, USN; Jacob Foerter, USAFR; Nickolas George, USMC; Kevin Preston, USAR.

celebrating a birthday this week: Gia Fox, John Patrick Stibol, and Zachary Neal.

Anyone may contact the office with names of those who are ill and/or hospitalized for inclusion in our prayers. Names will remain on the list for a maximum of four weeks unless we are notified that they should remain for a longer period.

If you would like to remember a loved one in the Altar Flower or Sacramental Candle dedications, please contact the Church Office. The donation for flowers is \$50; the donation for the Sacramental Candle is \$10.

Upcoming Events:

Dec 14 – 9am: Adult Ed.: “Christmas Ask Fr. Matt”

Dec 20 – 5.30pm: Advent Pageant & Pizza Party

Dec 21 – 8.45am: HomeFront Meal Prep

Dec 24 – 6pm: Christmas Eve Family Mass

Dec 24 – 11pm: Sung Mass of the Nativity

Dec 25 – 10am: Christmas Day Mass w. Carols

Dec 28 – 7pm: Christmas Lessons & Carols



Make your Offering online using this QR Code:

Vestry

Ms. Kate Williamson, *Warden* (856.577.1334) ~ Miss Mary Ellen Carty, *Warden* (609.298.4337)

Mrs. Loris Johnson (609.291.5610)

Mrs. Anne Lyon (609.291.8077)

Mrs. Debbie Mallard (609.802.8929)

Mr. Dean Perry (609.758.3115)

Mr. Glenn Perry (609.758.3115)

Mr. Paul Smith (215.806.6687)

Ms. Colleen Suozzo (609.947.1304)

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Canon J. Matthew Tucker, *Rector*

The Rev. David Snyder, *Pastoral Associate*

Mr. Greg Geehern, *Seminarian*

Mr. Stephen C. Bearse, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Mrs. Donna Kirk, *Parish Administrator*

Mrs. SueAnne Jones, *Treasurer*

Mr. Charles Reeder, *Sexton*

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH...

Sunday, 14 December – *The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)*

- ✠ Low Mass – 8.00 am
- ✠ Church School – 8.45 am
- ✠ Adult Education – 9.00 am
- ✠ Sung Mass – 10.00 am
- ✠ Coffee Hour – 11.00 am
- ✠ A.A. Meeting – 7.00 pm

Monday, 15 December – *Nino of Georgia, Missionary, c.332*

{Church Office Closed}

Tuesday, 16 December – *Advent Feria*

- ✠ Low Mass – 12.10pm
- ✠ Girl Scout Meeting – 7.00 pm

Wednesday, 17 December – *Dorothy L. Sayers, Apologist & Spiritual Writer, 1957*

- ✠ A.A. Meeting – 6.00 pm
- ✠ Rosary & Low Mass – 6.30 pm

Thursday, 18 December – *Advent Feria*

- ✠ Low Mass w. Anointing – 10.00 am

Friday, 19 December – *Advent Feria*

- ✠ Low Mass – 12.10 pm

Saturday, 20 December – *Katharina von Bora, Church Reformer, 1552*

- ✠ Advent Pageant & Vigil Mass – 5.30 pm
- ✠ Pizza Party – 6.30 pm

Sunday, 21 December – *The Fourth Sunday of Advent (S. Thomas the Apostle)*

- ✠ Low Mass – 8.00 am
- ✠ Homefront Meal Prep – 8.45 am
- ✠ Sung Mass – 10.00 am
- ✠ Coffee Hour – 11.00 am
- ✠ A.A. Meeting – 7.00 pm

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

A Parish of the Episcopal Church

130 Prince Street, Bordentown, NJ 08505

Office Phone: 609.298.2348 / Email: office@ccbtown.com

Pastoral Emergencies: 732.859.5823

