

# CHRIST CHURCH

---

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

---

*"Growing by God's Grace as a Family of Faith, Fellowship, and Ministry"*



**THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 5, 2026 | 10:30AM**

---

*"We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus  
as we worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually."*

# WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church gladly welcomes all people. Our clergy, staff, and parishioners are delighted to assist you in learning more about our worship and our community. Restrooms are located in the Parish House to the left of the church. Ushers are available to assist you as needed. If this is your first time visiting with us today, please complete a visitor card (*located in the pew*) and place it in the offering plate. Clipboards containing materials for children are available in the Narthex.

Christ Church is an active and vibrant parish in the heart of Downtown Macon since its founding in 1825. We are a forward-looking parish that values our heritage, liturgy, and outreach to the greater community. To learn more please visit us online via our website at [www.christchurchmacon.com](http://www.christchurchmacon.com). The Parish Office is open from 9a–4p Monday through Thursday. You can reach us by calling (478) 745-0427.

We Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christ Church welcomes all people and no matter where you are on your faith journey, you have a place here. We hope to see you soon.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

### **The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Sunday, July 12

*8 am & 10:30 am in the Church*

### **Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place**

Thursday, July 16

*10:30 am in the Lower Level Activity Room*

### **The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

Sunday, July 19

*8 am & 10:30 am in the Church*

### **The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: A Service of Morning Prayer**

Sunday, July 26

*8 am & 10:30 am in the Church*

### **Compline**

Every Wednesday

*8:45 pm on Facebook*

# THE ENTRANCE RITE

**OPENING VOLUNTARY:** Prelude on 'Materna' (America the Beautiful)

Calvin Hampton (1938–1984)

*The People stand.*

**HYMN IN PROCESSION:** God of our fathers, whose almighty hand

Hymnal, 718

**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

BCP, p. 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE GLORIA**

Hymnal, S 280

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE GRADUAL:** (*Spoken responsively by half verse*)

Psalm 145:8–15

- 8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The Lord is loving to everyone \*  
and his compassion is over all his works.
- 10 All your works praise you, O Lord, \*  
and your faithful servants bless you.
- 11 They make known the glory of your kingdom \*  
and speak of your power;
- 12 That the peoples may know of your power \*  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.
- 14 The Lord is faithful in all his words \*  
and merciful in all his deeds.
- 15 The Lord upholds all those who fall; \*  
he lifts up those who are bowed down.

**THE EPISTLE**

Romans 7:15–25a

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The People stand.*

**HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE:** Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Hymnal, 652

*The People remain standing.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the crowd, “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The People sit.*

**THE SERMON**

The Rev. Harriette Simmons

*The People stand.*

**THE NICENE CREED**

BCP, p. 358

Intercessor: Loving God, we thank and praise you for your steadfast love and for all the blessings you have bestowed upon us, and upon all people. Let us offer our prayers of praise and thanksgiving, silently or aloud.

*Silence may be kept.*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for those serving in the military, especially Alivia, Austin, Cameron, Donald, Georgia, Joe, Lorraine, and Sam.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer**

Intercessor: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for those on our parish prayer list: Bailey, Becca, Bob, Claire, Dave, Dennis, Ed, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Gary, George, Gibson, Gracie Marie, Griffin, Helen, Jaime, JB, John, Kara, Kay, Ken, Kristie, Lee, Libby, Lillian, Lisa, Lowe, Margaret, Matthew, Nancy, Pat, Patricia, Pete, Peter, Phil, Pud,

Rodney, Sammy, Susan, Tommy, Trisha, William, and Wright. Please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

*Silence may be kept.*

Lord, in your mercy  
**People:** Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Peggy Ker Farmer, who died this past week, and Mark Frank, for whom the altar flowers are given today in loving memory, and to the glory of God. May your will for them be fulfilled, and, we pray, may we share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**People:** Hear our prayer

*The Celebrant will conclude with the following Collect:*

Celebrant: Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

*The People remain kneeling.*

**THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION OF SIN**

BCP, p. 360

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.*

*The People stand.*

**THE PEACE**

*The People sit.*

**WELCOME & PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

*We come together as the Body of Christ, we partake in the Body of Christ, to go out into the world to be the Body of Christ. All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you do not wish to partake, you are invited to receive a blessing by crossing your arms at the altar rail. If you are unable to come to the altar, please notify an usher and the elements will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer for healing, please remain at the rail after receiving Communion with your hands in an attitude of prayer and our prayer ministers will pray with you and anoint you with oil for healing.*

## THE OFFERTORY

*The People stand.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** My country, 'tis of thee

Hymnal, 717

**HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION:** Praise God from whom all blessing flow

Hymnal, 380 v. 3

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:** Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, p. 361

**SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS:** Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal, S 125

*The People kneel.*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

BCP, p. 362

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION**

BCP, p. 363

**THE GREAT AMEN**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

BCP, p. 364

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**THE FRACTION**

BCP, p. 364

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

**HYMN DURING COMMUNION:** 'Tis the gift to be simple

Hymnal, 554

**VOLUNTARY DURING COMMUNION:** Simple Gifts

arr. Virgil Fox (1912–1980)

*The People kneel.*

**THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

BCP, p. 365

**THE BLESSING**

*The People stand.*

**HYMN IN PROCESSION:** O beautiful for spacious skies

Hymnal, 719

**THE DISMISSAL**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY:** Concert Variations on “The Star-Spangled Banner”

Theme, Variation I, and Variation IV

Dudley Buck (1839–1909)

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

### CELEBRANT & GOSPELER

The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

### PREACHER

The Rev. Harriette Simmons

### VERGER

Sandy Duke

### ACOLYTES

William Martin, *crucifer*

Tim Hoskins, *clergy cross*

Lorraine Smith, *United States flag*

Scott Hoskins, *Episcopal Church flag*

### LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Patrick Dziedzic

Susan Allen

### FLOWER GUILD

Karen Yarbrough

### ALTAR GUILD

Karen Baxley

Peggy Puryear

### HEALING PRAYER MINISTER

Virgil Warren

### USHERS & GREETERS

Bonnie & Hamp Dowling

Jonathan & Liz Hill

Greg & Susie Sutton

### VESTRY WELCOMER

Jeff Powers

### AUDIO/VISUAL TECHNICIAN

David Cline

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

Parish Office Hours | Monday—Thursday 9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm | Closed Friday

## Sunday, July 5: The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

---

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (Spoken) — *Church*
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (With music) — *Church*  
Lemonade on the Lawn— *Cloister Garden*
- 11 am Weekend Lunch (St. Francis Episcopal Church) — *Jones Chapel*

## Monday, July 6

---

*Parish office is closed for Independence Day*

## Wednesday, July 8

---

- 8:45 pm Compline — *Facebook*

## Friday, July 10

---

*Parish office is closed*

## Saturday, July 11

---

- 11 am Weekend Lunch (St. Paul's Episcopal Church) — *Jones Chapel*

## Sunday, July 12: The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

---

- 8 am Holy Eucharist (Spoken) — *Church*
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist & Baptism (With music) — *Church*  
Lemonade on the Lawn— *Cloister Garden*
- 11 am Weekend Lunch (St. Paul's Episcopal Church) — *Jones Chapel*

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please send announcements to [communications@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:communications@christchurchmacon.com))*

## **Alpha Marriage Course Beginning This Fall**

***Wednesdays at 6 pm, September 9 – October 21***

We are offering the Alpha Marriage Course for anyone who would like to strengthen their relationship. Facilitated by Jamie and Ben Walden, and taught by a couple who have been married for over 40 years at Holy Trinity Brompton where it was developed, this course is an opportunity for a “date night” while you work together on your marriage. Each couple will have their own table for two where they will be served dinner while they watch the talk. Throughout the talk there are periods for each couple to have private conversations between themselves using their course workbook as a guide. The topics covered are: Building Strong Foundations, The Art of Communication, Resolving Conflict, The Power of Forgiveness, The Impact of Family-- Past and Present, Good Sex (about communication not a “how to”), Love in Action, and Coping with Times of Separation. We have been using the premarriage version of this course for several years and couples have loved it!

This course will be on Wednesday evenings beginning on September 9th and going through October 21st. We are arranging for childcare to be available if needed. The evening will take 2 hours and we are planning to begin at 6:00 if that works well for the group. To learn more or to sign up please email [Cynthia@christchurchmacon.com](mailto:Cynthia@christchurchmacon.com).



## Choral Residency in Lichfield

*“Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.”  
— Psalm 19:4*

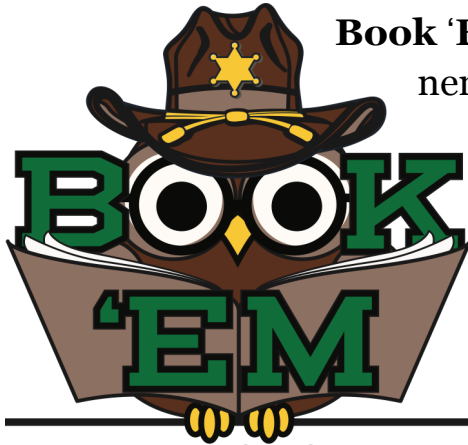
We invite you to be a part of our 2027 pilgrimage to the United Kingdom. Every gift, regardless of size, provides a vital note in the harmony of this residency.

*To participate in the Lichfield 365, please follow these three simple steps:*

- 1. Claim Your Numbers:** Select your favorite number—or multiple numbers—from the display board. These numbers represent your chosen donation amount (e.g., Number 81 is an \$81 gift). These magnets are yours to keep as a reminder to pray for our choir and pilgrims. We invite you to place them on your refrigerator or in a prominent place in your home.
- 2. Sign the Residency Ledger:** Please record your name, contact information, and the number(s) you have selected in the leather-bound ledger below. This serves as a permanent record of those who are supporting our journey to the historic spires of Lichfield.
- 3. Complete Your Gift:** To ensure the full value of your gift goes toward the residency, we are accepting contributions via Check or Cash only.
  - a. Following your sign-up, you will be contacted individually with a confirmation of your pledge and instructions on how and when to submit your gift.
  - b. Checks should be made payable to Christ Church Episcopal with *“Lichfield 365”* in the memo line.

*Whether you are traveling with us as a pilgrim or supporting us from home, we thank you for being part of this journey.*

# MINISTRY OF THE MONTH: JULY



[www.maconbookem.org](http://www.maconbookem.org)

**Book 'Em** is a local 501(c)(3) corporation which partners with the Bibb County Sheriff's Office to deliver books to children/youth in our community who might otherwise have none. Christ Church parishioner Katie Powers serves as its executive director.

To date, Book 'Em has delivered over 60,000 brand-new books to children/youth in Macon-Bibb County. This partnership with the BCSO helps to foster a positive relationship between our local law enforcement officers and the

community. Most recently Book 'Em held a book distribution at Rosa Taylor Elementary School. Each of the school's 405 students was able to select four brand-new books to keep in an effort to prevent "summer slide."

Every dollar donated goes toward the purchase of new books. Donations can be made via [maconbookem.org](http://maconbookem.org) or by sending a check to **Book 'Em** at 3557 Vineville Avenue, Macon, 31204.

**Why is this so important? More than 43%** of all children in Macon-Bibb are growing up in poverty. Most of these children have very few, if any, books in their homes. Consider this statistic: in low-income neighborhoods there is approximately **one book for every 300 children**. In **middle** income neighborhoods there are approximately **13 books per child in each household**. Access to books is fundamental to developing reading skills. Studies confirm that the number of books in the home directly affects reading achievement levels. Perhaps the most disturbing fact of all is that many municipalities plan the number of jail cells needed in the future by the percentage of students in their schools who cannot read fluently by the end of their 3rd grade year.

For more information about Book 'Em or to make an online donation, visit: [maconbookem.org](http://maconbookem.org)



# VESTRY

Jed Hill, *Senior Warden*  
Rob Wilkin, *Junior Warden*  
Steve Welsh, *Treasurer*  
Chris Hair, *Clerk*

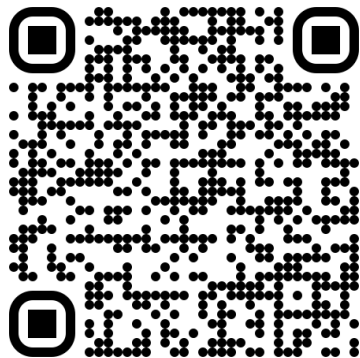
William Baxley  
Jan Beeland  
Margaret Boltja  
Christine Hoskins

Keri Jones  
Molly Muse  
Jeff Powers  
Nancy Wilkerson

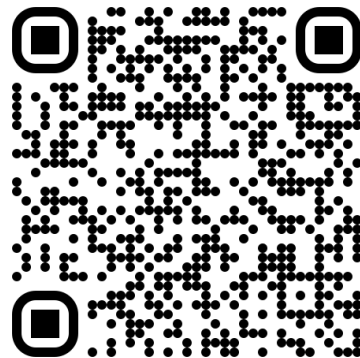
## CLERGY & STAFF

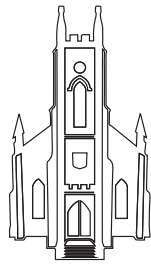
The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*  
The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, *Bishop of Atlanta*  
The Rev. Cynthia C. Knapp, *Rector*  
The Rev. Harriette J. Simmons, *Assisting Priest*  
The Rev. Dr. John F. McCard, *Priest Associate*  
Hope Westervelt, *Director of Youth Ministries*  
Rachel Horkan, *Director of Children's Ministries*  
Jonathan A. Poe, *Director of Music & Liturgy*  
Lacey Chaney, *Associate for Children's Music*  
Nidia Svare *Parish Administrator*  
Timothy Hoskins, *Director of Communications*  
Laurel Eady, *Parish Bookkeeper*  
Hal Brickle, *Director of Weekend Lunch Ministry*  
Robert Hubbard, *Sexton*  
Markisha Carter, *Assistant Sexton*

Scan to donate online:



Fill out a visitor card:





CHRIST  
CHURCH  
EPISCOPAL